

TLab User Guide

The T group

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Preface

This document has been derived from the DNS/CHEM document, originally created at the Computational Fluid Dynamics Laboratory at UC San Diego between 1999 and 2004 (<http://www.cfdlab.ucsd.edu/>). The work has been resumed at the Max Planck Institute for Meteorology since 2010 within the research group Turbulent Mixing Processes in the Earth System (<http://www.mpimet.mpg.de/>).

This manual is simply an introduction to the methodology and code, just a small part of the documentation of the set of tools TLab. The major part of the documentation is in the code itself in terms of README files, git version control system and comments within the source files. A set of examples has also been included for the user to get acquainted with the different tools (pre-processing, simulation and post-processing). Please note that, by default, all the different tools are continuously under development, so this document is continuously incomplete – the comments within the source files have always priority.

TLab—an acronym for Turbulence Laboratory—is a set of tools whose aim is **to efficiently solve and analyze a particular set of governing equations with a controlled accuracy**. The accuracy can be controlled in different ways: comparing with analytical solutions, including linear stability analysis; grid convergence studies; balance of transport equations, like integral turbulent kinetic energy or local values at specific relevant locations (e.g., at the wall). Resolution can be measured by the ratio between the grid spacing Δx and the relevant small scales, like the Kolmogorov scale η or the thickness of the diffusion sub-layers next to the wall. For the compact schemes used here, typical values are $\Delta x/\eta \simeq 1-2$; larger values can lead to numerical instability because of the aliasing generated by the non-linear terms. Note that these schemes are non-monotone, but typical out-of-bounds deviations of conserved scalars are below $10^{-6} - 10^{-8}$ relative to the mean variations, and this error is therefore negligibly small compared to the typical error associated with the statistical convergence, of the order of 1 – 5%. The statistical convergence can be estimated by varying the sample size of the data set, e.g. varying the domain size along the statistically homogeneous directions. The efficiency can be measured in different ways but, ultimate, it should be related with the computational time needed to understand a particular problem with a given accuracy, and so the importance of the controlled accuracy. Making the code user-friendly comes after the previous two main priorities: controlled accuracy and efficiency.

Regarding the content of this document, the first chapter describes the mathematical formulation, in particular, the governing equations. The boundary and initial conditions, discussed in chapter 2, are relatively simple for the geometries that we use; the major complexity is its actual implementation. Chapter 3 covers the code structure itself and the input data, the grid being discussed separately in chapter 4, and the postprocessing tools in chapter 5. As already mentioned, this part should be complemented with the examples included in the directory. Chapter 6 cover some major aspects of the numerical algorithms; details thereof, however, are to be found in the papers that are referred to in that part. The parallelization is discussed in chapter 7. So far, this includes only the domain decomposition. Last, scaling studies are included in chapter 8.

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1 Governing equations

1.1 Compressible formulation

The energy equation is written in terms of the specific internal energy (sensible plus formation). Viscosity, thermal conductivity, diffusivity and the specific heat ratio can depend on the temperature. The equation of state corresponding to an ideal gas is assumed.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \partial_t \rho &= -\partial_k(\rho u_k) \\
 \partial_t(\rho u_i) &= -\partial_k(\rho u_i u_k) - \partial_i p + \mathbf{Re}^{-1} \partial_k \tau_{ik} \\
 &\quad + \mathbf{Fr}^{-1} g_i b + \mathbf{Ro}^{-1} \rho \epsilon_{ijk} f_k u_j \\
 \partial_t(\rho e) &= -\partial_k(\rho e u_k) + \mathbf{Re}^{-1} \mathbf{Pr}^{-1} \partial_k(\lambda^* \partial_k T) \\
 &\quad - (\gamma_0 - 1) \mathbf{M}^2 p \partial_k u_k + (\gamma_0 - 1) \mathbf{M}^2 \mathbf{Re}^{-1} \phi \\
 \partial_t(\rho \zeta_i) &= -\partial_k(\rho \zeta_i u_k) - \mathbf{Re}^{-1} \mathbf{Sc}_i^{-1} \partial_k j_{ik}
 \end{aligned} \tag{1.1}$$

with

$$\tau_{ij} \equiv \mu^* [\partial_j u_i + \partial_i u_j - (2/3) \partial_k u_k \delta_{ij}] , \quad \phi \equiv \tau_{ij} \partial_j u_i , \quad j_{ik} \equiv -(\rho D)_i^* \partial_k \zeta_i \tag{1.2}$$

and

$$\mu^* = T^{n_\mu} , \quad \lambda^* = T^{n_\kappa} , \quad (\rho D)_i^* = T^{n_{D,i}} \tag{1.3}$$

and

$$p = (\gamma_0 \mathbf{M}^2)^{-1} \rho T . \tag{1.4}$$

The specific heat ratio, γ , is constant and equal to the reference value $\gamma_0 = 1/(1 - R_0/C_{p0})$ and the dimensionless numbers are defined using the reference scales L_0 , U_0 , ρ_0 and T_0 in the usual way,

$$\mathbf{Re} = \frac{\rho_0 U_0 L_0}{\mu_0} \quad \mathbf{Pr} = \frac{\mu_0}{(\lambda_0/C_{p0})} \quad \mathbf{Sc}_i = \frac{\mu_0}{\rho_0 D_{i0}}$$

and

$$\mathbf{M} = \frac{U_0}{\sqrt{\gamma_0 R_0 T_0}}$$

and

$$\mathbf{Fr} = \frac{U_0^2}{g L_0} \quad \mathbf{Ro} = \frac{U_0}{L_0 f} .$$

The body force is expressed in terms of the body force function $b^e(\rho, e, \zeta_j)$ and needs to be provided; the simplest case, $b^e = \rho$. The vectors g_i and f_i need to be provided and should be unitary, so that the magnitude of the vector is complete determined by the corresponding non-dimensional number. In this compressible case, the centrifugal term should probably be included; not yet studied.

1.1.1 Multi-species compressible flows

$$\begin{aligned}
 \partial_t \rho &= -\partial_k(\rho u_k) \\
 \partial_t(\rho u_i) &= -\partial_k(\rho u_i u_k) - \partial_i p + \mathbf{Re}^{-1} \partial_k \tau_{ik} \\
 &\quad + \mathbf{Fr}^{-1} g_i b + \mathbf{Ro}^{-1} \rho \epsilon_{ijk} f_k u_j \\
 \partial_t(\rho e) &= -\partial_k(\rho e u_k) + \mathbf{Re}^{-1} \mathbf{Pr}^{-1} \partial_k [(\lambda/C_p)^* \partial_k h] \\
 &\quad + \mathbf{Re}^{-1} \mathbf{Pr}^{-1} \partial_k [\sum (\mathbf{Le}_i^{-1} (\rho D)_i^* - (\lambda/C_p)^*) h_i \partial_k Y_i] \\
 &\quad - (\gamma_0 - 1) \mathbf{M}^2 p \partial_k u_k + (\gamma_0 - 1) \mathbf{M}^2 \mathbf{Re}^{-1} \phi \\
 \partial_t(\rho \zeta_i) &= -\partial_k(\rho \zeta_i u_k) - \mathbf{Re}^{-1} \mathbf{Sc}_i^{-1} \partial_k j_{ik}
 \end{aligned} \tag{1.5}$$

and

$$\mu^* = T^{n_\mu}, \quad (\lambda/C_p)^* = T^{n_\kappa}, \quad (\rho D)_i^* = T^{n_{D,i}} \tag{1.6}$$

and

$$\mathbf{Sc}_i = \mathbf{Le}_i \mathbf{Pr} \tag{1.7}$$

and

$$Y_i = Y_i^e(\zeta_j), \quad \sum_1^N Y_i = 1 \tag{1.8}$$

$$h = \sum_1^N h_i Y_i, \quad h_i = \Delta h_i^0 + \int_{T_0}^T C_{pi}(T) dT, \quad e = h - \frac{\gamma_0 - 1}{\gamma_0} \frac{T}{W} \tag{1.9}$$

$$C_p = \sum_1^N C_{pi}(T) Y_i, \quad \gamma = \frac{W C_p}{W C_p - \frac{\gamma_0 - 1}{\gamma_0}}, \quad \frac{1}{W} = \sum_1^N \frac{Y_i}{W_i} \tag{1.10}$$

and

$$p = (\gamma_0 \mathbf{M}^2)^{-1} \frac{\rho T}{W} \tag{1.11}$$

It can be verified that given all the thermo-chemical properties of the components of the mixture as a function of temperature, the previous set of equations are closed. Notice that γ is no longer a constant and depend on the composition of the mixture.

The functions $Y_i^e(\rho, e, \zeta_j)$ need to be provided. The total number of species is N , need not be equal to the total number of scalars transported. (If you want, one set is prognostic variables and the other one is diagnostic variables.) This includes the simplest possible case of $Y_i^e = \zeta_i$. Another case is equilibrium, e.g. Burke-Schumann approximation, where mass fraction of all species is related to the mixture fraction variable, ζ . In this case, the functions $Y_i^e(Z)$ are smoothed around Z_s to reduce the strength of the discontinuity [Higuera and Moser, 1994]. The restriction of unity Lewis number the extra conditions $n_\mu = n_\kappa = n_D$ and $Sc = Pr$. These relationships are obtained by assuming equal diffusivity of all species and a single-step infinitely fast chemical reaction. For further discussion on the formulation see Williams [1985].

1.1.2 Multi-species compressible reacting flows

Add reaction terms to the scalar equations

$$\partial_t(\rho \zeta_i) = -\partial_k(\rho \zeta_i u_k) - \mathbf{Re}^{-1} \mathbf{Sc}_i^{-1} \partial_k j_{ik} + \mathbf{Da}_i w_i \tag{1.12}$$

and \mathbf{Da}_i are the Damköhler numbers. A reaction mechanism needs to be given to obtain $w_i(\rho, e, \zeta_j)$.

1.2 Incompressible formulation

The Boussinesq approximation is used:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= -\partial_k u_k \\ \partial_t u_i &= -\partial_k (u_i u_k) - \partial_i p + \mathbf{Re}^{-1} \partial_k (\mu^* \partial_k u_i) + \mathbf{Fr}^{-1} g_i b + \mathbf{Ro}^{-1} \epsilon_{ijk} f_k u_j \\ \partial_t \zeta_i &= -\partial_k (\zeta_i u_k) + \mathbf{Re}^{-1} \mathbf{Sc}_i^{-1} \partial_k (\mu^* \partial_k \zeta_i) + \mathbf{Da}_i w_i \end{aligned} \quad (1.13)$$

The body force is now the buoyancy and the buoyancy function $b^e(\zeta_i)$ needs to be provided. The buoyancy function is assumed to be normalized by a reference buoyancy (acceleration) b_0 so that $\mathbf{Fr} = U_0^2 / (b_0 L_0)$. (Note that non-dimensional numbers represent the relative magnitude of physical processes and thus they are positive semi-definite; the sign or direction associated with the process, if any, is indicated in the corresponding parameters.)

So far, only the case $\mu^* = 1$ in the equations above has been implemented.

Because of the decoupling between the momentum and the internal energy evolution equations, one of the scalar equations can correspond to the internal energy equation; reaction or phase change processes, as well as radiation processes, can then be formulated as the appropriate source terms $\mathbf{Da}_L w_L$ and $\mathbf{Da}_R w_R$, respectively, in the corresponding scalar equation. Note that the physical meaning of the corresponding (generalized) Damköhler numbers \mathbf{Da}_L and \mathbf{Da}_R is a non-dimensional heat parameter, and not a timescale ratio – which is the correct meaning of the Damköhler numbers appearing in the evolution equations for the components in a compressible mixture. We maintain this inconsistency, instead of introducing new symbols and variables, for code simplicity.

Some scalars can be diagnostic and not prognostic variables, so that there is no evolution equation associated with them. One common example is liquid content in a moist air formulation assuming phase equilibrium. The two global variables `inb_scal` and `inb_scal_array` accounts for that possibility. In principle, this should be specified through the variable `imixture`. The routine `thermodynamics/thermo_initialize` defines the mixture properties. The average statistical data is calculated for all of them, prognostic and diagnostic variables.

Different expressions for the buoyancy and the Coriolis terms are possible depending on the geometry and the definition of the (kinematic) modified pressure.

For the buoyancy (see routine `flow/flow_buoyancy`), the most common expressions are a linear or bilinear relation to the scalar fields as

$$b^e = \alpha_1 \zeta_1 + \alpha_2 \zeta_2 + \dots + \alpha_{\text{inb_scal_array}+1}, \quad (1.14)$$

where the coefficients α_i need to be provided. A quadratic form

$$b^e = -\frac{4\alpha_0}{\alpha_1^2} \zeta_1 (\zeta_1 - \alpha_1), \quad (1.15)$$

is also available, so that the maximum buoyancy α_0 is achieved at $\zeta_1 = \alpha_1/2$.

Note that the buoyancy field is *always* treated as a diagnostic variable and the average statistical data – actually from the momentum source term $\mathbf{Fr}^{-1} b$ – is calculated as an additional scalar field on top of `inb_scal_array` scalars (prognostic plus diagnostic). The only exception occurs when the buoyancy function is merely a linear relation because, in that case, the corresponding statistical information can be easily obtained from the corresponding scalar field.

In case of the Coriolis force term, the case that is currently implemented is that of an Ekman layer forming when a flow in geostrophic balance is bounded by a (smooth) solid wall perpendicular to the

angular velocity vector. The direction Ox_2 is defined along the angular velocity, so that $f_1 = f_3 = 0$. The momentum equation reads then

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t u_1 &= -\partial_k(u_1 u_k) - \partial_1 p + \mathbf{Re}^{-1} \partial_k(\mu^* \partial_k u_1) + \mathbf{Fr}^{-1} g_1 b + \mathbf{Ro}^{-1} f_2(u_{3,g} - u_3) \\ \partial_t u_2 &= -\partial_k(u_2 u_k) - \partial_2 p + \mathbf{Re}^{-1} \partial_k(\mu^* \partial_k u_2) + \mathbf{Fr}^{-1} g_2 b \\ \partial_t u_3 &= -\partial_k(u_3 u_k) - \partial_3 p + \mathbf{Re}^{-1} \partial_k(\mu^* \partial_k u_3) + \mathbf{Fr}^{-1} g_3 b + \mathbf{Ro}^{-1} f_2(u_1 - u_{1,g})\end{aligned}\quad (1.16)$$

The geostrophic velocity vector $(u_{1,g}, u_{2,g}, u_{3,g}) = (\cos \alpha, 0, -\sin \alpha)$ is defined in terms of the input parameter α (rotation angle around Ox_2), to be provided.

Radiation heating or cooling can be considered as an additional source term $\mathbf{Da}_R r \delta_{i\beta}$ in the right-hand side of one of the evolution equations, where \mathbf{Da}_R is the corresponding non-dimensional heat parameter and the radiation function $r^e(\zeta_j)$, to be provided, is normalized by the corresponding (dimensional) heat parameter Q . So far, $\mathbf{Da}_R = 1$ (to be added at the end of the input list of the Damköhler numbers?). One possible formulation is a one-dimensional bulk model (see routine `flow/flow_radiation`), which is represented by radiation functions of the form

$$r^e = \alpha_0 \zeta_\gamma \exp \left[-\alpha_1^{-1} \int_z^\infty \zeta_\gamma(z') dz' \right]. \quad (1.17)$$

The scalar indices $\{\beta, \gamma\}$ and the parameters $\{\alpha_0, \alpha_1\}$ need to be provided. Default values are $\beta = 1$ and $\gamma = \text{inb_scal_array}$. The scalar fields can be average profiles, instead of instantaneous values, and non-linear mapping functions can be specified.

For complex thermodynamics (e.g., airwater), the field $\zeta_{\text{inb_scal_array}}$ is calculated from a nonlinear mapping applied on the field

$$\xi = 1 + \alpha_1 \zeta_1 + \dots + \alpha_{\text{inb_scal}} \zeta_{\text{inb_scal}}. \quad (1.18)$$

The parameter $\alpha_{\text{inb_scal}+1}$ is the smoothing parameter of the nonlinear mapping

2 Boundary and Initial Conditions

2.1 Background profiles

The general form is given as a function of the coordinate x_2 according to

$$f(x_2) = f_{\text{ref}} + \Delta f g(\xi), \quad \xi = \frac{x_2 - x_{2,\text{ref}}}{\delta}, \quad (2.1)$$

where the set of parameters $\{f_{\text{ref}}, \Delta f, x_{2,\text{ref}}, \delta\}$ need to be provided, as well as the normalized profile $g(\xi)$.

Possible forms are given in table 2.1 and figure 2.1. There are shear-like and jet-like profiles. In the former case, the normalized profiles vary between $-1/2$ and $+1/2$, so that equation (2.1) represents a variation of order Δf around the reference value f_{ref} across a distance of order δ centered around the position $x_{2,\text{ref}}$. The sign of δ can be used to impose the symmetric form, if needed. The gradient thickness is defined by

$$\delta_g = \frac{\Delta f}{|df/dx_2|_{\text{max}}} = \delta \frac{1}{|dg/d\xi|_{\text{max}}}. \quad (2.2)$$

In the case in which the profile is used to define the mean velocity, this thickness is known as vorticity thickness. It is very often more convenient to define the problem in terms of the gradient thickness instead of the thickness parameter δ . The reason to keep it in terms of δ in the code is simply for compatibility with the previous versions.

The second group of profiles deliver a jet-like shape. In that case, Δf provides the maximum difference with respect to the reference level f_{ref} . The integral thickness is defined by

$$\delta_i = \frac{1}{\Delta f} \int (f - f_{\text{ref}}) dx_2 = \delta \int g(\xi) d\xi. \quad (2.3)$$

According to the implementation currently used, shown in table 2.1, typical values are $2 - 3\delta$.

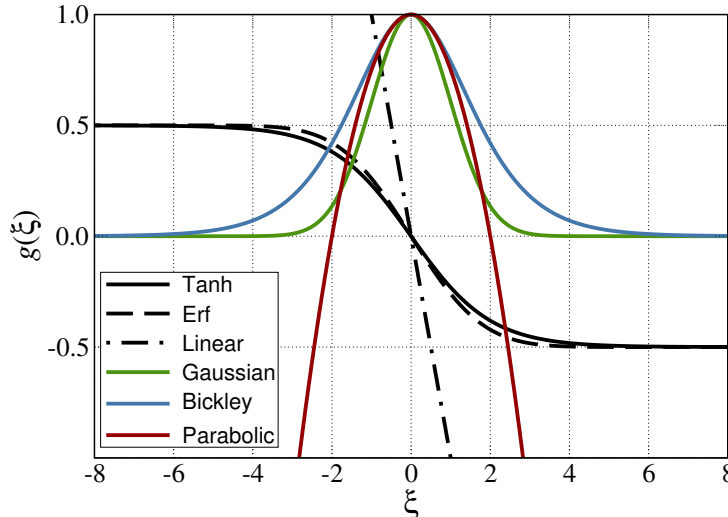


Figure 2.1: Different normalized profiles used in equation (2.1). The black profiles provide shear-like backgrounds, the green lines provide jet-like backgrounds. These background profiles are used consistently for the boundary and initial conditions and aims at the study of different canonical flows, free and wall-bounded, shear- and buoyancy-driven.

Type	$g(\xi)$	δ_g/δ	δ_i/δ	Notes
Hyperbolic tangent	$(1/2)\tanh(-\xi/2)$	4		Used in shear layer because it is the reference profile commonly used in linear stability analysis. The parameter δ is equal to the momentum thickness. Used because of available linear stability analysis.
Error function	$(1/2)\text{erf}(-\xi/2)$	$2\sqrt{\pi}$		Used in diffusion dominated problems because it is a solution of the diffusion equation.
Linear	$-\xi$	1		Varying Δf along δ .
Ekman	$1 - \exp(\xi)\cos(\xi)$ $-\exp(\xi)\sin(\xi)$	1		Velocity component along geostrophic wind. Normal component.
Gaussian	$\exp(-\xi^2/2)$	1.65	$\sqrt{2\pi}$	Gaussian bell with standard deviation equal to δ .
Bickley	$1/\cosh^2(\xi/2)$		4	Bell shape used in the linear stability of jets. Used because of available linear stability analysis.
Parabolic	$(1 + \xi/2)(1 - \xi/2)$		8/3	Parabola crossing the reference value at $x_{2,ref} \pm 2\delta$. Used for Poiseuille and channel flows. The thickness δ_i is calculated using only the positive part of the profile in the integral.

Table 2.1: Different normalized profiles used in equation (2.1). The third column contains the gradient thickness δ_g , defined by equation (2.2), written explicitly as a function of the thickness parameter δ . The fourth column contains the integral thickness δ_i , defined by equation (2.3)

2.2 Initial conditions

There are several reasons to construct elaborated initial conditions beyond simply white random noise. For instance, to ascertain the duration of the initial transient before the flow enters into the fully developed turbulent regime; we can do that by varying the initial conditions and for that we need certain control of those initial conditions. We can also control certain aspects of that transient by using results from stability analysis and exciting or not certain modes; white noise simply excites all of them equally, and also that higher frequency content is dissipated much faster, which might render the energy amount that we use in the initialization misleading. In this respect, it maybe appropriate to say that the control of the duration of that transient is relatively difficult; on the other hand, the peak of turbulence intensities can be indeed controlled, if necessary e.g. because of resolution constraints. Third, it provides us with another tool to validate the code and algorithms, since we can compare results with analytical solutions.

The first step is to defined a mean background profile according to the previous section. For instance, a hyperbolic tangent profile for the mean streamwise velocity, $\bar{u}_1(x_2)$, while all other mean velocity components are set to zero. The upper stream has a velocity $u_{1,ref} - \Delta u/2$ and the lower stream has a velocity $u_{1,ref} + \Delta u/2$ (see figure 2.1). The mean density (or the mean temperature) can be similarly initialized, and a mean pressure is set to a uniform value p_o . The mean scalar can be similarly initialized.

In addition to the mean values, broadband fluctuations are used to accelerate the transition to turbulence. This is achieved by generating a random field on which is imposed an isotropic turbulence spectrum of one of the following forms,

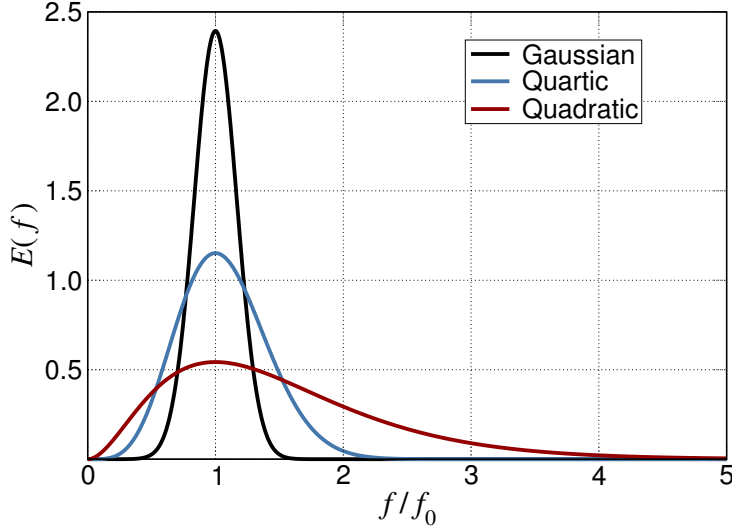


Figure 2.2: Different power spectral densities available as initial conditions, equation (2.4). Normalized such that all of them have equal integral. The Gaussian profile is plotted for the case $\sigma/f_0 = 1/6$ typically used in the simulations.

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(f) &= 1 \\
 E(f) &= (f/f_0)^2 \exp[-2(f/f_0)] \\
 E(f) &= (f/f_0)^4 \exp[-2(f/f_0)^2] \\
 E(f) &= \exp[-(1/2)(f/f_0 - 1)^2/(\sigma/f_0)^2]
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.4}$$

where f is the spatial frequency and f_0 is the peak spatial frequency. The extent of the turbulence is limited in the cross-stream direction by an exponential decay over a specified thickness of the order of the initial shear layer thickness. The solenoidal constraint is imposed on this random turbulent field. Such quasi-incompressible fluctuations minimize compressibility transients Erlebacher et al. [1990]. The pressure fluctuations are obtained from the Poisson equation for incompressible flow.

2.3 Boundary conditions

2.3.1 Compressible formulation

For non-periodic directions, the treatment of the boundary conditions in the periodic formulation is done in characteristic form [Thompson, 1987, 1990, Lodato et al., 2008].

2.3.2 Incompressible formulation

To be developed.

2.3.3 Buffer zone

Buffer or sponge zones can be considered at the beginning and at the end of the directions Ox and Oy . These are simply defined by specifying the number of points over which they extend. We can consider a filter or a relaxation form.

Regarding the relaxation form, we simply add

$$\left(\frac{\delta \mathbf{q}}{\delta t} \right)_b = -\tau_q^{-1}(\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{q}_0), \quad \left(\frac{\delta \mathbf{s}}{\delta t} \right)_b = -\tau_s^{-1}(\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{s}_0) \tag{2.5}$$

to the right-hand sides of the transport equations [Hu, 1996]. The relaxation times $\tau(\mathbf{x})$ are defined in terms of a power function as

$$\tau_q^{-1} = \alpha_1(n - n_0)^{\alpha_2}, \quad \tau_s^{-1} = \beta_1(n - n_0)^{\beta_2} \quad (2.6)$$

where n is the coordinate normal to the corresponding boundary and n_0 the coordinate where the buffer region begins. The coefficients α_i and β_i need to be provided, the exponents being preferably larger or equal than 2 so that the pressure equation has a continuous right-hand side. The reference fields $\mathbf{q}_0(\mathbf{x})$ and $s_0(\mathbf{x})$ also need to be provided and it can be any general field. Normally, a reference field is created at some moment in the simulation (generally the initial time) as an average of the corresponding region in the flow and scalar fields.

3 Code

The root directory contains the sources for the common libraries, and the directory `tools` contains the sources for the specific binaries: the main code in `tools/dns`, and the preprocessing and postprocessing tools.

Files `README` and `TODO` contain additional information. To compile, read `INSTALL`.

Directory `examples` contains a few examples to get acquainted with using the code.

3.1 Executables

Simulation	
<code>dns.x</code>	main program used to run a simulation. It will read its input from the file <code>dns.ini</code> that the user must supply. An example file is located in <code>examples</code> . All standard output is written to <code>dns.log</code> and <code>dns.out</code> . Errors are reported to <code>dns.err</code> and warnings to <code>dns.war</code> . In order to run the simulation you must provide with an initial flow and scalar fields. and a grid file. Sources in <code>tools/dns</code> .
Preprocessing	
<code>inigrd.x</code>	generates the grid by reading the parameters of the <code>dns.ini</code> file, section <code>[IniGridOx]</code> , <code>[IniGridOy]</code> and <code>[IniGridOz]</code> . Sources in <code>tools/initialize/grid</code> .
<code>inirand.x</code>	generates the <code>scal.rand</code> or <code>flow.rand</code> file that contains a pseudo-random, isotropic field that will be used by the following program to generate flow or scalar initial fields. The parameters are described in <code>dns.ini</code> , section <code>[Broadband]</code> . Sources in <code>tools/initialize/rand</code>
<code>iniscal.x</code>	generates the <code>scal.ics</code> file by reading the parameters of the <code>dns.ini</code> file, section <code>[IniFields]</code> . Sources in <code>tools/initialize/scal</code> .
<code>iniflow.x</code>	generates the <code>flow.ics</code> file by reading the parameters of the <code>dns.ini</code> file, section <code>[IniFields]</code> . Sources in <code>tools/initialize/flow</code> .
Postprocessing	
<code>averages.x</code>	calculates main average profiles and conditional averages (outer intermittency). Sources in <code>tools/statistics/averages</code> .
<code>spectra.x</code>	calculates 1D, 2D and 3D spectra and co-spectra of main variables. Correlations should be included here. Sources in <code>tools/statistics/spectra</code> .
<code>pdfs.x</code>	calculates PDFs, joints PDFs and conditional PDFs. Sources in <code>tools/statistics/pdfs</code> .
<code>visuals.x</code>	calculates different fields and exports data for visualization (default is <code>ensight</code> format). Sources in <code>tools/plot/visuals</code> .

3.2 Scripts

Sources in scripts/python.

Python	
xdmf.py	Create XDMF file with fields data for visualization tools, such as ParaView. Argument is the list of binary files to be included in the XDMF file. Edit the file to set grid size.
xdmfplanes.py	Create XDMF file with planes data for visualization tools, such as ParaView. Argument is the list of binary files to be included in the XDMF file. Edit the file to set grid size and plane parameters.
stats2nc.py	Construct NetCDF files from a list of ASCII statistics files.

3.3 Input file dns.ini

The following tables describe the different blocks appearing in the input file `dns.ini`. The first column contains the tag. The second column contains the possible values, the first one being the default one and the word *value* indicating that a numerical value needs to be provided. The third column describes the field. This data is read in the file `*_READ_GLOBAL` and in the files `*_READ_LOCAL` of each of the tools; the variable corresponding to each field should be also read there.

Data is case insensitive.

		[Version]
Major	<i>value</i>	Major version number. An error is generated if different from the value set in <code>DNS_READ_GLOBAL</code> .
Minor	<i>value</i>	Minor version number. A warning is generated if different from the value set in <code>DNS_READ_GLOBAL</code> .

		[Main]
Type	temporal, spatial	Temporally evolving or spatially evolving simulation.
Flow	shear, jet, isotropic	Flow geometry, mainly related to initial and boundary conditions.
CalculateFlow	yes, no	Execute code segments affecting flow variables.
CalculateScal	yes, no	Execute code segments affecting scalar variables.
Equations	internal, total, incompressible	Define system of equations to be solved.
Mixture	None, AirVapor, AirWater, AirWaterLinear	Defines the mixture to be used for the thermodynamics.
TermAdvection	divergence, convective, skewsymmetric	Formulation of advection terms.
TermViscous	divergence, explicit	Formulation of viscous terms.
TermDiffusion	divergence, explicit	Formulation of diffusion terms.
TermBodyForce	None, Explicit, Homogeneous, Linear, Bilinear, Quadratic	Formulation of body force terms (see mappings/fi_buoyancy).
TermCoriolis	None, Explicit, Normalized	Formulation of Coriolis terms.
TermRadiation	None, Bulk1dGlobal, Bulk1dLocal	Formulation of radiation terms (see operators/opr_radiation).
SpaceOrder	CompactJacobian4, CompactJacobian6, CompactDirect6	Finite difference method used for spatial derivatives.
TimeOrder	RungeKuttaExplicit3, RungeKuttaExplicit4, RungeKuttaDiffusion3	Runge-Kutta method used for time advancement.
TimeStep	<i>value</i>	If positive, constant time step to be used in time marching scheme.
TimeCFL	<i>value</i>	Courant number for the advection part.

		[Iteration]
--	--	-------------

Start	<i>value</i>	Initial iteration. The corresponding files <i>flow.*</i> and <i>scal.*</i> will be read from disk.
End	<i>value</i>	Final iteration at which the algorithm will be stopped.
Restart	<i>value</i>	Iteration-step frequency to write the restart files to disk.
Statistics	<i>value</i>	Iteration-step frequency to calculate statistics.
IteraLog	<i>value</i>	Iteration-step frequency to write the log-file <i>dns.out</i> .
SavePlanes	<i>value</i>	Iteration-step frequency to write plane data to disk.
RunAvera	no, yes	Save running averages to disk (spatially evolving simulations).
RunLines	no, yes	Save line information to disk (spatially evolving simulations).
RunPlane	no, yes	Save plane information to disk (spatially evolving simulations).
StatSave	<i>value</i>	Iteration-step frequency to accumulate statistics (spatially evolving simulations).
StatStep	<i>value</i>	Iteration-step frequency to save statistics to disk (spatially evolving simulations).

[Parameters]

Reynolds	<i>value</i>	Reynolds number Re (see section 1).
Prandtl	<i>value</i>	Prandtl number Pr .
Froude	<i>value</i>	Froude number Fr .
Rossby	<i>value</i>	Rossby number Ro .
Mach	<i>value</i>	Mach number Ma .
Gama	<i>value</i>	Ratio of specific heats γ .
Schmidt	<i>value1, value2, ...</i>	List of Schmidt numbers Sc_i . The number of values defines the number of scalars. If a mixture is defined in the block [Main], then consistency is checked.
Damkohler	<i>value1, value2, ...</i>	List of Damkohler numbers Da_i .

[Control]

FlowLimit	yes, no	Monitor and eventually force the thermodynamic fields to be within a prescribed interval.
MinPressure	<i>value</i>	Lower bound for the pressure interval.
MaxPressure	<i>value</i>	Upper bound for the pressure interval.
MinDensity	<i>value</i>	Lower bound for the density interval.
MaxDensity	<i>value</i>	Upper bound for the density interval.
ScalLimit	yes, no	Monitor and eventually force the scalar fields to be within a prescribed interval.
MinScalar	<i>value</i>	Lower bound for the scalar interval.
MaxScalar	<i>value</i>	Upper bound for the scalar interval.

[Grid]

I _{max}	<i>value</i>	Number of points along the O_x direction (first array index).
J _{max}	<i>value</i>	Number of points along the O_y direction (second array index).
K _{max}	<i>value</i>	Number of points along the O_z direction (third array index). If set equal to 1, then 2D simulation.
I _{max} (*)	<i>value</i>	Number of points per processor (MPI task) along the O_x direction (MPI parallel mode).
J _{max} (*)	<i>value</i>	Number of points per processor (MPI task) along the O_y direction (MPI parallel mode). So far, this value is set equal to the total size because only a 2D decomposition has been implemented.
K _{max} (*)	<i>value</i>	Number of points per processor (MPI task) along the O_z direction (MPI parallel mode).
XUniform	yes, no	If yes, no Jacobian information is needed in O_x direction.
YUniform	yes, no	If yes, no Jacobian information is needed in O_y direction.
ZUniform	yes, no	If yes, no Jacobian information is needed in O_z direction.
XPeriodic	yes, no	Periodicity along O_x direction.
YPeriodic	yes, no	Periodicity along O_y direction.
ZPeriodic	yes, no	Periodicity along O_z direction.

[BoundaryConditions]		
VelocityImin	none, noslip, freeslip	Velocity boundary condition at x_{\min} (incompressible mode).
VelocityImax	none, noslip, freeslip	Velocity boundary condition at x_{\max} (incompressible mode).
Scalar#Imin	none, dirichlet, neumman	Scalar boundary condition at x_{\min} (incompressible mode). The symbol # is the number of the scalar.
Scalar#Imax	none, dirichlet, neumman	Scalar boundary condition at x_{\max} (incompressible mode). The symbol # is the number of the scalar.
Similarly in the other directions I and J.		
Compressible-case information to be filled.		

[BufferZone]		
Type	none, relaxation, filter, both	Type of buffer or sponge layer to use.
LoadBuffer	no, yes	If no, then create reference buffer fields from the current fields and save them to disk. If yes, then read the necessary buffer fields from disk. E.g., for the upper boundary, the file name to be searched for would be flow.bcs.jmax and scal.bcs.jmax.
PointsImin	value	Number of points in the Ox direction at x_{\min} .
PointsImax	value	Number of points in the Ox direction at x_{\max} .
PointsUJmin	value	Number of points in the Oy direction at y_{\min} for the velocity fields.
PointsUJmax	value	Number of points in the Oy direction at y_{\max} for the velocity fields.
PointsEJmin	value	Number of points in the Oy direction at y_{\min} for the thermodynamic fields.
PointsEJmax	value	Number of points in the Oy direction at y_{\max} for the thermodynamic fields.
PointsSJmin	value	Number of points in the Oy direction at y_{\min} for the scalar fields.
PointsSJmax	value	Number of points in the Oy direction at y_{\max} for the scalar fields.
ParametersU	value1, value2, ...	Set of parameters defining strength and exponent of the relaxation term in the flow and thermodynamic fields, section 2.3.3.
ParametersS	value1, value2, ...	Set of parameters defining strength and exponent of the relaxation term in the scalar fields, section 2.3.3.

[Flow]		
Pressure	value	Reference mean pressure.
Density	value	Reference mean density.
VelocityX	value	Reference mean velocity along Ox .
VelocityY	value	Reference mean velocity along Oy .
VelocityZ	value	Reference mean velocity along Oz .
ProfileVelocity	None, Linear, Tanh, Erf, Ekman, EkmanP	Function form of the mean velocity profile, typically along the direction Ox .
YCoordVelocity	value	Coordinate along Oy of the reference point of the profile, relative to the total scale, equation (2.1).
ThickVelocity	value	Reference profile thickness, equation (2.1).
DeltaVelocity	value	Reference profile difference, equation (2.1).
DiamVelocity	value	Reference profile diameter (jet mode).
Similarly for density or temperature		

[Scalar]		
ProfileScalar#	None, Linear, Tanh, Erf, LinearErf	Function form of the mean profile.
MeanScalar#	value	Reference mean scalar.
YCoordScalar#	value	Coordinate along Oy of the reference point of the profile, relative to the total scale.
ThickScalar#	value	Reference profile thickness.
DeltaScalar#	value	Reference profile difference.
DiamScalar#	value	Reference profile diameter (jet mode).

[BodyForce]		
Vector	<i>value1, value2, value3</i>	Components of the buoyancy unitary vector (g_1, g_2, g_3) in section 1.
Parameters	<i>value1, value2, ...</i>	Set of parameters defining the buoyancy function $b^e(s_i)$.

[Rotation]		
Vector	<i>value1, value2, value3</i>	Components of the angular velocity vector (f_1, f_2, f_3) in section 1.
Parameters	<i>value1, value2, ...</i>	Set of parameters defining the Coriolis force term.

[Radiation]		
Scalar	<i>value</i>	Index of scalar field on which the effect of radiation heating or cooling is acting.
Parameters	<i>value1, value2, ...</i>	Set of parameters defining the radiation function $r^e(s_i)$.

[IniFields]		
Velocity	None, VelocityDiscrete, VelocityBroadband, VorticityBroadband, PotentialBroadband	Type of initial velocity field.
Temperature	None, PlaneBroadband, PlaneDiscrete	Type of initial temperature field.
Scalar	None, LayerDiscrete, LayerBroadband, PlaneDiscrete, PlaneBroadband, DeltaDiscrete, DeltaBroadband, FluxDiscrete, FluxBroadband	Type of initial scalar field.
ForceDilatation	yes, no	Force the velocity field to satisfy the solenoidal constraint.
ThickIni	<i>value[1, value2, ...]</i>	Thickness of fluctuation shape profile. The mean profile is set by the corresponding values in [Flow] and [Scalar]. In case of the scalar, as many values as scalars should be provided. You can differentiate between flow and scalar values by using ThickIniK and ThickIniS.
YCoordIni	<i>value[1, value2, ...]</i>	Coordinate along Oy of the reference point of the fluctuation shape profile, relative to the total scale. The mean profile is set by the corresponding values in [Flow] and [Scalar]. In case of the scalar, as many values as scalars should be provided. You can differentiate between flow and scalar values by using YCoordIniK and YCoordIniS. The default values are those specified in [Flow] and [Scalar].
NormalizeK	<i>value</i>	Maximum value of the profile of the turbulent kinetic energy.
NormalizeP	<i>value</i>	Maximum value of the profile of the pressure root-mean-square.
NormalizeS	<i>value1, value2, ...</i>	Maximum value of the profile of the scalar root-mean-square.
Mixture	None, Equilibrium, LoadFields	Type of mixture with which to initialize the thermodynamic fields.

[Broadband]		
Type	None, Physical, Phase	Randomness is set in physical space, or in the phase in frequency space.
Distribution	uniform, gaussian	Type of probability density function (PDF).
Seed	<i>value</i>	Seed for the random generator.
Covariance	<i>value1, value2, ...</i>	Flow covariance matrix.
Spectrum	uniform, quadratic, quartic, gaussian	Form of the power spectral density, equation (2.4).
f0	<i>value</i>	Parameters defining the functional form of the power spectral density.

[Discrete]		
Type	Varicose, Sinuous, Gaussian	Form of the perturbation.
2DAmpl	<i>value1, value2, ...</i>	Amplitude of 2D modes. The number of values sets the number of modes, beginning from the first.
2DPhi	<i>value1, value2, ...</i>	Corresponding phases.
Broadening	<i>value</i>	Lateral extension of the perturbation.
XLength	<i>value</i>	In spatial simulations, longitudinal extension of the inflow perturbation.

[PostProcessing]		
Files	<i>value1, value2, ...</i>	Iterations to be postprocessed.
Subdomain	$i_1, i_2, j_1, j_2, k_1, k_2$	Grid block to be postprocessed.
Partition	$\alpha_1[, \alpha_2], \beta_1, ..., \beta_{n-1}$	Type of partition defined by values $\{\alpha_1[, \alpha_2]\}$. The first parameter defines the conditioning field: 1. external field, 2. scalar field, 3. enstrophy, 4. magnitude of scalar gradient. The second parameter chooses between a relative or an absolute threshold values. Set of thresholds $\{\beta_1, ..., \beta_{n-1}\}$ to define the partition of the conditioning field into n zones.
ParamAverages	$\alpha_1[, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4]$	Main option α_1 (see tools/statistics/averages.f90); block size α_2 ; gate level α_3 ; maximum order of the moments α_4 .
ParamPdfs	$\alpha_1[, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4]$	Main option α_1 (see tools/statistics/pdfs.f90); block size α_2 ; gate level α_3 ; number of bins α_4 .
ParamSpectra	$\alpha_1[, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4]$	Main option α_1 (see tools/statistics/spectra.f90); block size α_2 ; save full spectra α_3 ; average over iterations α_4 .
ParamVisuals	$\alpha_1, \alpha_2, ...$	List of fields to be calculated (see tools/plot/visuals.f90).

[Inflow]		
Type	None, Discrete, BroadbandPeriodic, BroadbandSequential	Type of inflow forcing to use in a spatially evolving simulation.
Adapt	<i>value</i>	Interval in global time units for starting the inflow forcing.

4 Grid

The equations are solved using Cartesian co-ordinates and the grid is structured. The grid is constructed by building up the three directions separately (in a 2D case, Oz has simply one node). Each direction is broken into segments, and each of those segments is built with specified generation algorithms. The first node in each direction is set at zero.

The executable is `inigrid.x` and the data in `dns.ini` is specified in the blocks `[IniGridOx]`, `[IniGridOy]` and `[IniGridOz]`. Once created, basic information about the grid is saved into the file `grid.sts`. Grid transformations can be done with `transgrid.x`; the corresponding sources are in the `tools/transform` sub-directory.

[IniGridOx]		
Segments	<i>value</i>	Number of segments in that direction.
Periodic	yes, no	If yes, a uniform mesh is done with a number of points equal to the sum of the points of all segments, and over a length equal to the sum of the length of all segments, regardless the input options for each segment. The last plane in that direction is dropped, so that the last point does not match the scale (the latter is a bit larger).
Mirrored	yes, no	If yes, this direction is created with the corresponding options and then it is mirrored with respect to the origin. The final scale is the double of that set in the input file <code>dns.ini</code> and the first node is moved to zero. In the case of mirroring the number of points is always even.
Scales_#	<i>value</i>	Physical end of the segment number #.
Points_#	<i>value</i>	Number of points in the segment number #. This number includes the first and the last points of the present segment, which are common with the adjacent ones. (E.g., if one direction has three segments with 11, 16 and 6 points each, the total number of points in that direction will be 31, 30 steps.)
Opts_#	<i>value1, value2, ...</i>	List of options for the generation algorithm: 0 Uniform grid. 4 Geometric progression. Not used in a loooong time. 5 Explicit mapping: hyperbolic tangent of the space step. 6 Explicit mapping: hyperbolic tangent of the stretching factor.
Vals_#	<i>value1, value2, ...</i>	List of constants for the different generation algorithms.

4.1 Generation algorithms

4.1.1 Explicit mappings

A basic grid is considered first with uniform spacing, that is $\{s_j = h_0(j-1) : j = 1, \dots, n\}$.

In case of a hyperbolic tangent (i.e. `opts=5`), the mapping is

$$\frac{dx}{ds} = 1 + \frac{h_1/h_0 - 1}{2} \left[1 + \tanh \left(\frac{s - s_{t1}}{2\delta_1} \right) \right] \quad (4.1)$$

that is, the grid step $\Delta x = dx/dj$ varies between the uniform values h_0 and h_1 , the transition

occurring at $s = s_{t1}$ and over a length δ_1 . The space step h_0 corresponds to that of the initial uniform grid. The parameters s_{t1} , h_1/h_0 and δ_1 are provided in the corresponding `vals` record of the `dns.ini` file.

The mapping can be written explicitly as

$$x = s + (h_1/h_0 - 1)\delta_1 \{\ln(1 + \exp[(s - s_{t1})/2]) + C\} \quad (4.2)$$

where C is the integration constant, defined such that $x = 0$ for $s = 0$. The final extension obeys the relationship

$$x_{\max} = s_{\max} + (h_1/h_0 - 1)\delta_1 \ln \left[\frac{\exp(s_{\max}/\delta_1) + 1}{1 + \exp(-s_{t1}/\delta_1)} \right], \quad (4.3)$$

where $s_{\max} = (n - 1)h_0$.

Two transitions are possible if the `opts` record is set to 5, 2. The mapping is then

$$\frac{dx}{ds} = 1 + \frac{h_1/h_0 - 1}{2} \left[1 + \tanh \left(\frac{s - s_{t1}}{2\delta_1} \right) \right] + \frac{h_2/h_0 - 1}{2} \left[1 + \tanh \left(\frac{s - s_{t2}}{2\delta_2} \right) \right]. \quad (4.4)$$

In case of `opts=6` a hyperbolic tangent variation of the stretching factor $f = d/dx(\Delta x)$ (so defined, $f + 1$ an approximation to the ratio $(\Delta x)_{j+1}/(\Delta x)_j$) is imposed by solving the linear equation

$$\frac{d^2x}{ds^2} - (f/h_0) \frac{dx}{ds} = 0, \quad (4.5)$$

where f is given by

$$f = \frac{\Delta f_1}{2} \left[1 + \tanh \left(\frac{s - s_{t1}}{2\delta_1} \right) \right] \quad (4.6)$$

and the parameters s_{t1} , Δf_1 and δ_1 are provided in the list `vals`. The non-dimensional parameter f then varies from 0 to Δf_1 ; values smaller than 0.1 are recommended (less than 10% stretching). A first integral of this problem leads to

$$\frac{dx}{ds} = \left[1 + \exp \left(\frac{s - s_{t1}}{\delta_1} \right) \right]^{\delta_1(\Delta f_1/h_0)}. \quad (4.7)$$

This equation for $x(s)$ needs to be solved numerically, but already shows that this mapping leads to an exponential growth of the space step Δx and the grid $x(s)$. Note that δ_1 admits negative values.

As before, two transitions are possible if the `opts` record is set to 6, 2,

$$f = \frac{\Delta f_1}{2} \left[1 + \tanh \left(\frac{s - s_{t1}}{2\delta_1} \right) \right] + \frac{\Delta f_2}{2} \left[1 + \tanh \left(\frac{s - s_{t2}}{2\delta_2} \right) \right], \quad (4.8)$$

which implies

$$\frac{dx}{ds} = \left[1 + \exp \left(\frac{s - s_{t1}}{\delta_1} \right) \right]^{\delta_1(\Delta f_1/h_0)} \left[1 + \exp \left(\frac{s - s_{t2}}{\delta_2} \right) \right]^{\delta_2(\Delta f_2/h_0)}. \quad (4.9)$$

4.1.2 Geometric progression

For each segment i the geometric ratio r_i is given (input variable `val1`). The rest of the constraints are the number of points in each segment, n_i and the total length in that direction, L . The first step of the first segment is initialized to 1 (this number does not matter because of the final scaling), and then the first segment is generated. The last step size is taken as the first one for the second

segment, and the sequence continue until the last segment. A final rescaling adjusts the physical length of the grid in that direction.

The length of each segment in the grid is saved into `grid.sts`. For calculating them, if we denote the length of each segment by l_i , we have

$$l_i = h_i^1(1 + r_i + r_i^2 + \dots + r_i^{n_i-2}) = h_i^1 \frac{1 - r_i^{n_i-1}}{1 - r_i} = h_i^1 C_i \quad (4.10)$$

The first step h_i^1 of each segment is related to the previous one by

$$h_{i+1}^1 = h_i^1 r_i^{n_i-1} \quad (4.11)$$

and the equation to close the problem is

$$L = \sum_{seg} l_i = h_1^1 \left(C_1 + r_1^{n_1-1} C_2 + r_1^{n_1-1} r_2^{n_2-1} C_3 + \dots \right) \quad (4.12)$$

5 Post-Processing Tools

5.1 Averages

See file `dns/tools/statistics/averages`.

Allows for conditional analysis.

5.2 Probability density functions

See file `dns/tools/statistics/pdfs`.

Allows for conditional analysis.

5.3 Conditional analysis

To be developed.

5.4 Spatially coarse grained data at full time resolution

Data can be saved at full temporal resolution with a user-defined spatial coarse graining. In that mode, on top of the standard output, a single file is generated for each horizontal data point per restart. This allows to maintain full flexibility and at the same time to avoid parallel I/O at this stage. For small strides (see table), this approach may produce a large number of files which can cause problems if the data is not converted to netCDF immediately after a simulation is run. The files can be merged into a netCDF file with the script `scripts/python/tower2nc.py`.

[SaveTowers]		
Stride	<i>value1, value2, value3</i>	Strides along the directions <i>Ox</i> , <i>Oy</i> and <i>Oz</i> .

For example, Stride=0,0,0 would not save any data; Stride=1,1,1 would save all points, but it more efficient to use `Iteration.Restart=1`; Stride=16, 1,16 would save vertical profiles every 16x16 horizontal point. A Stride of 0 has no effect whatsoever (no output will be generated). *Note: vertical corse graining is not tested, but should work.*

File name

The file name contains crucial information which is not stored elsewhere. Hence, files should not be renamed. Output files are named by the following scheme

```
tower .      iloc  ×      kloc  .      t_start  -      t_end  .      ivar
tower .  000015  ×  000015  .  000001  -  000010  .      1
```

Only one scalar is supported, and the variables (*ivar*) are

Inner direction of write →					
it_{start}	$t(it_{\text{start}})$	$v_{ivar}(y_1)$	$v_{ivar}(y_2)$	\dots	$v_{ivar}(ny)$
$it_{\text{start}} + 1$	$t(it_{\text{start}} + 1)$	$v_{ivar}(y_1)$	$v_{ivar}(y_2)$	\dots	$v_{ivar}(ny)$
\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots		\vdots
$it_{\text{end}} - 1$	$t(it_{\text{end}} - 1)$	$v_{ivar}(y_1)$	$v_{ivar}(y_2)$	\dots	$v_{ivar}(ny)$
it_{end}	$t(it_{\text{end}})$	$v_{ivar}(y_1)$	$v_{ivar}(y_2)$	\dots	$v_{ivar}(ny)$

Figure 5.1: Internal organization of tower files.

- 1–3 velocities (u, v, w)
- 4 pressure (p)
- 5 scalar1 (s_1)

In case of multiple scalars, only the first one will be output.

File structure

The file consists of $nt = it_{\text{end}} - it_{\text{start}} + 1$ records. Irrespective of the iteration being an integer, all data is saved in double precision real format, i.e. one record has $(ny + 2) * 8 \text{ Bytes}$. The whole file has $8 * (it_{\text{end}} - it_{\text{start}} + 1) * (ny + 2) \text{ Bytes}$.

netCDF output

The python script

`tlab/scripts/python/tower_merge.py`

is available to bundle tower files from one restart into a single netCDF file which is then self-descriptive through its Meta-data. The script handles tower files of multiple restarts, but it will generate one netCDF file per restart. The python script is executed in the directory where the tower file resides. It relies on

- availability of **all** tower files belonging to one restart,
- the grid file used for the simulation,
- the `dns.ini` used for the simulation (restart etc. does not matter, but the value of `Stride` in the section `[SaveTowers]` must not change),
- a properly installed `netCDF4-python` library. (On ZMAW computers, it may be necessary to load a particular python module).

The script is not thread-safe, i.e. it may only be run once at the same time on the same system. This is ascertained by a lock in the form of an empty file which is touched in the working directory.

The script moves tower files to a directory named `towerdump_<TIME_STAMP>`. Once the script exited successfully and integrity of the netCDF file was checked, this directory may be tarred and archived or removed. Should, for any reason, the script exit before successful completion, the files that were already moved to the towerdump **must be copied back** before the script is run again.

5.5 Two-point statistics

See file `dns/tools/statistics/spectra`. Based on package FFTW Frigo and Johnson [2005].

Given two scalar fields $\{a_{nm} : n = 1, \dots, N, m = 1, \dots, M\}$ and similarly b_{nm} , we calculate the one-dimensional co-spectra $\{E_0^x, E_1^x, \dots, E_{N/2}^x\}$ and $\{E_0^z, E_1^z, \dots, E_{M/2}^z\}$ normalized such that

$$\langle ab \rangle = E_0^x + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{N/2-1} E_n^x + E_{N/2}^x = E_1^z + 2 \sum_{m=0}^{M/2-1} E_m^z + E_{M/2}^z \quad (5.1)$$

The mean value is removed, such that the left-hand side is $\langle a'b' \rangle$. The Nyquist frequency energy content $E_{N/2}^x$ and $E_{M/2}^z$ is not written to disk, only the $N/2$ values $\{E_0^x, E_1^x, \dots, E_{N/2-1}^x\}$ and the $M/2$ values $\{E_0^z, E_1^z, \dots, E_{M/2-1}^z\}$. When $a \equiv b$, then we obtain the power spectral density.

The sum above can be interpreted as the trapezoidal-rule approximation to the integral $(L/2\pi) \int_0^{\kappa_c} 2E(\kappa) d\kappa$, where $\kappa_c = \pi/h$ is the Nyquist frequency, $\Delta\kappa = \kappa_c/(N/2) = 2\pi/L$ is the uniform wavenumber spacing, $h = L/N$ is the uniform grid spacing and L is the domain size. Hence, the physical spectral function at wavenumber $\kappa_n = n\Delta\kappa$ (equivalently, wavelength L/n) is $2E_n/\Delta\kappa$.

Due to the relatively large size of the files, we split the calculations is the auto-spectra and the cross-spectra. The corresponding files containing the one-dimensional spectra along the direction Ox are `xsp` and `xCsp`, respectively, and similarly along the direction Oz . The two-dimensional co-spectra E_{nm} can also be written to disk, though the additional memory requirement can be a difficulty.

The one-dimensional cross-correlations $\{C_0^x, C_1^x, \dots, C_{N-1}^x\}$ and $\{C_0^z, C_1^z, \dots, C_{M-1}^z\}$ are normalized by $a_{\text{rms}}b_{\text{rms}}$, so that $C_0^x = C_0^z = 1$ when $a \equiv b$ and we calculate the auto-correlations. The auto-correlations are even functions and therefore only $\{C_0^x, C_1^x, \dots, C_{N/2-1}^x\}$ and $\{C_0^z, C_1^z, \dots, C_{M/2-1}^z\}$ are written to disk (note that we also dropped the last term $C_{N/2}^x$ and $C_{M/2}^z$).

The corresponding files containing the one-dimensional cross-correlations along the direction Ox are `xcr` and `xCcr`, and similarly along the direction Oz . The two-dimensional cross-correlation C_{nm} can also be written to disk, though the additional memory requirement can be a difficulty.

Both form a Fourier pair according to

$$E_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} (a_{\text{rms}}b_{\text{rms}}C_n) \exp(-i\omega_k n), \quad a_{\text{rms}}b_{\text{rms}}C_n = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} E_k \exp(i\omega_k n),$$

where $\{\omega_k = (2\pi/N)k : k = 0, \dots, N-1\}$ is the scaled wavenumber and $i = \sqrt{-1}$ is the imaginary unit. Therefore,

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} C_n = \frac{E_0}{a_{\text{rms}}b_{\text{rms}}}, \quad (5.2)$$

relation that can be used to relate integral scales ℓ to the Fourier mode E_0 , as follows. First, for the auto-correlation function, we can re-write

$$\frac{1}{N/2} \sum_{n=0}^{N/2-1} C_n = \frac{E_0}{a_{\text{rms}}^2} + \frac{1 - C_{N/2}}{N} \quad (5.3)$$

because

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} C_n = \frac{1}{N} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{N/2-1} C_n + C_{N/2} + \sum_{n=N/2+1}^{N-1} C_n \right) = \frac{1}{N} \left(2 \sum_{n=0}^{N/2-1} C_n + C_{N/2} - 1 \right),$$

since, from periodicity, $C_N = C_0 = 1$ and, from the symmetry of the auto-correlation sequence, $\sum_{n=N/2+1}^N C_n = \sum_{n=0}^{N/2-1} C_n$. Therefore, if we use a trapezoidal rule to define the integral length scale

as

$$\ell = h \left(\frac{C_0 + C_{N/2-1}}{2} + \sum_1^{N/2-2} C_n \right), \quad (5.4)$$

where $h = L/N$ is the grid spacing and L is the domain size, we obtain

$$\ell = \frac{L}{2} \left(\frac{E_0}{a_{\text{rms}}^2} - \frac{2C_{N/2}}{N} \right) \simeq \frac{L}{2a_{\text{rms}}^2} E_0. \quad (5.5)$$

This result applies to both directions Ox and Oz , providing relations between ℓ^x and E^x , and ℓ^z and E^z . Each case needs to use the corresponding domain size, L^x and L^z .

These relations show that the integral length scales can be obtained directly from the spectral information without the need to calculate the correlation functions. However, the statistical convergence of those integral scales might be too poor and alternative definitions might be more useful. Also, correlation functions provide information about the degree of de-correlation achieved with a particular domain size, and about the structural organization of the flow in terms of different properties.

5.6 Summary of budget equations for second-order moments

5.6.1 Reynolds Stresses

Reynolds averages are indicated by a line and $u' = u - \bar{u}$. Favre averages are used for quantities per unit mass and are indicated by a tilde, e.g. $\tilde{u} = \overline{\rho u} / \bar{\rho}$ and $u'' = u - \tilde{u}$ and $\widetilde{u''^2} = \overline{\rho u''^2} / \bar{\rho}$. In case of constant density, Favre and Reynolds averages coincide.

The momentum equation written in non conservative form is

$$\rho \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial t} + \rho u_k \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial \tau_{ik}}{\partial x_k} + b g_i - \epsilon_{imk} c_m \rho u_k \quad (5.6)$$

where the non-dimensional numbers Re , Fr and Ro are included in the corresponding tensors τ , g and c for notational convenience.

Multiplying by u_j'' and averaging

$$\overline{\rho u_j'' \frac{\partial (\tilde{u}_i + u_i'')}{\partial t}} + \overline{\rho u_j'' (\tilde{u}_k + u_k'') \frac{\partial (\tilde{u}_i + u_i'')}{\partial x_k}} = -\overline{u_j'' \frac{\partial p}{\partial x_i}} + \overline{u_j'' \frac{\partial \tau_{ik}}{\partial x_k}} + \overline{b u_j'' g_i} - \epsilon_{imk} c_m \overline{\rho u_j'' (\tilde{u}_k + u_k'')} \quad (5.7)$$

noting that $\overline{\rho u_j''} = 0$ we can simplify Eq. (5.7) to

$$\overline{\rho u_j'' \frac{\partial u_i''}{\partial t}} + \overline{\rho u_j'' u_k'' \frac{\partial \tilde{u}_i}{\partial x_k}} + \overline{\rho u_j'' \frac{\partial u_i''}{\partial x_k} \tilde{u}_k} + \overline{\rho u_k'' u_j'' \frac{\partial u_i''}{\partial x_k}} = -\overline{u_j'' \frac{\partial p}{\partial x_i}} + \overline{u_j'' \frac{\partial \tau_{ik}}{\partial x_k}} + \overline{b u_j'' g_i} - \epsilon_{imk} c_m \overline{\rho u_j'' u_k''} \quad (5.8)$$

adding Eq. (5.8) with the indexes exchanged we get

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\rho \frac{\partial (u_i'' u_j'')}{\partial t}} + \overline{\rho \frac{\partial (u_i'' u_j'')}{\partial x_k} \tilde{u}_k} &= -(\overline{\rho u_k'' u_i'' \frac{\partial \tilde{u}_j}{\partial x_k}} + \overline{\rho u_k'' u_j'' \frac{\partial \tilde{u}_i}{\partial x_k}}) - \overline{\rho u_k'' \frac{\partial (u_i'' u_j'')}{\partial x_k}} \\ &\quad - (\overline{u_j'' \frac{\partial p}{\partial x_i}} + \overline{u_i'' \frac{\partial p}{\partial x_j}}) + (\overline{u_j'' \frac{\partial \tau_{ik}}{\partial x_k}} + \overline{u_i'' \frac{\partial \tau_{jk}}{\partial x_k}}) \\ &\quad + (\overline{b u_j'' g_i} + \overline{b u_i'' g_j}) \\ &\quad - (\epsilon_{imk} c_m \overline{\rho u_j'' u_k''} + \epsilon_{jmk} c_m \overline{\rho u_i'' u_k''}) \end{aligned} \quad (5.9)$$

From the continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\rho u_k)}{\partial x_k} = 0 \quad (5.10)$$

and multiplying by $u''_i u''_j$ and averaging

$$\overline{u''_i u''_j \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}} + \overline{u''_i u''_j \frac{\partial(\rho u''_k)}{\partial x_k}} + \overline{u''_i u''_j \frac{\partial(\rho \tilde{u}_k)}{\partial x_k}} = 0 \quad (5.11)$$

defining

$$R_{ij} = \frac{\overline{\rho u''_i u''_j}}{\bar{\rho}} \quad (5.12)$$

and adding Eqs. (5.9) and (5.11) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial(\bar{\rho} R_{ij})}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\bar{\rho} \tilde{u}_k R_{ij})}{\partial x_k} = & -\bar{\rho} \left(R_{ik} \frac{\partial \tilde{u}_j}{\partial x_k} + R_{jk} \frac{\partial \tilde{u}_i}{\partial x_k} \right) - \left(\frac{\partial(\overline{\rho u''_i u''_j u''_k})}{\partial x_k} \right) \\ & - \left(\overline{u''_i \frac{\partial p'}{\partial x_j} + u''_j \frac{\partial p'}{\partial x_i}} \right) + \left(\overline{u''_i \frac{\partial \tau'_{jk}}{\partial x_k} + u''_j \frac{\partial \tau'_{ik}}{\partial x_k}} \right) \\ & - \left(\bar{u}_i'' \frac{\partial \bar{p}}{\partial x_j} + \bar{u}_j'' \frac{\partial \bar{p}}{\partial x_i} \right) + \left(\bar{u}_i'' \frac{\partial \bar{\tau}_{jk}}{\partial x_k} + \bar{u}_j'' \frac{\partial \bar{\tau}_{ik}}{\partial x_k} \right) \\ & + (\bar{b} u''_j g_i + \bar{b} u''_i g_j) - \bar{\rho} c_m (\epsilon_{imk} R_{jk} + \epsilon_{jmk} R_{ik}) \end{aligned} \quad (5.13)$$

The pressure and viscous terms can be decomposed as:

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\overline{u''_i \frac{\partial p'}{\partial x_j} + u''_j \frac{\partial p'}{\partial x_i}} \right) &= \left(\frac{\partial(\overline{u''_i p'})}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial(\overline{u''_j p'})}{\partial x_i} \right) - \overline{p' \left(\frac{\partial u''_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u''_j}{\partial x_i} \right)} \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \left(\overline{u''_i p' \delta_{jk} + u''_j p' \delta_{ik}} \right) - \overline{p' \left(\frac{\partial u''_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u''_j}{\partial x_i} \right)} \\ \left(\overline{u''_i \frac{\partial \tau'_{jk}}{\partial x_k} + u''_j \frac{\partial \tau'_{ik}}{\partial x_k}} \right) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \left(\overline{u''_i \tau'_{jk} + u''_j \tau'_{ik}} \right) - \left(\frac{\partial u''_i}{\partial x_k} \tau'_{jk} + \frac{\partial u''_j}{\partial x_k} \tau'_{ik} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (5.14)$$

Finally, the Reynolds stress equation reads:

$$\frac{\partial R_{ij}}{\partial t} = C_{ij} - F_{ij} + P_{ij} + B_{ij} - \varepsilon_{ij} + \frac{1}{\bar{\rho}} \left(\Pi_{ij} - \frac{\partial T_{ijk}}{\partial x_k} + \Sigma_{ij} \right) \quad (5.15)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_{ij} &= -\tilde{u}_k \frac{\partial R_{ij}}{\partial x_k} && , \text{ advection} \\
 F_{ij} &= \epsilon_{imk} c_m R_{jk} + \epsilon_{jmk} c_m R_{ik} && , \text{ Coriolis redistribution} \\
 P_{ij} &= -\left(R_{ik} \frac{\partial \tilde{u}_j}{\partial x_k} + R_{jk} \frac{\partial \tilde{u}_i}{\partial x_k} \right) && , \text{ turbulent shear production} \\
 B_{ij} &= \frac{1}{\bar{\rho}} \left(\overline{b u_j''} g_i + \overline{b u_i''} g_j \right) && , \text{ turbulent buoyancy production} \\
 \varepsilon_{ij} &= \frac{1}{\bar{\rho}} \left(\overline{\tau_{jk}' \frac{\partial u_i''}{\partial x_k}} + \overline{\tau_{ik}' \frac{\partial u_j''}{\partial x_k}} \right) && , \text{ turbulent dissipation} \\
 T_{ijk} &= \overline{\rho u_i'' u_j'' u_k''} + \overline{p' u_i' \delta_{jk}} + \overline{p' u_j' \delta_{ik}} - (\overline{\tau_{jk}' u_i''} + \overline{\tau_{ik}' u_j''}) && , \text{ turbulent transport} \\
 \Pi_{ij} &= p' \left(\frac{\partial u_i''}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j''}{\partial x_i} \right) && , \text{ pressure strain} \\
 \Sigma_{ij} &= \overline{u_i''} \left(\frac{\partial \bar{\tau}_{jk}}{\partial x_k} - \frac{\partial \bar{p}}{\partial x_j} \right) + \overline{u_j''} \left(\frac{\partial \bar{\tau}_{ik}}{\partial x_k} - \frac{\partial \bar{p}}{\partial x_i} \right) && , \text{ mean flux}
 \end{aligned}$$

Depending on symmetries, many of these terms are zero (within statistical convergence) and substitutes for ensemble average can be used, like plane averages of time averages. Note that if $b \equiv \rho$, then $B_{ij} = 0$. The mean flux term is sometimes written as $\Sigma_{ij} = D_{ij} - G_{ij}$, the first term grouping the mean viscous stress contributions and the last term the mean pressure contributions. In cases of constant density, then $\overline{u_j''} = 0$ and $\Sigma_{ij} = D_{ij} = G_{ij} = 0$.

Contracting indices, the budget equation for the turbulent kinetic energy $K = R_{ii}/2$ reads

$$\frac{\partial K}{\partial t} = C + P + B - \varepsilon + \frac{1}{\bar{\rho}} \left(\Pi - \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_k} + \Sigma \right) \quad (5.16)$$

Note that $F_{ii} = 0$, always. If the flow is solenoidal, then $\Pi = 0$.

5.6.2 Energy Equation

To be developed (before in terms of the pressure)

5.6.3 Scalar Variance

Similarly, the equation for the scalar r.m.s. is obtained from the scalar conservation equations,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\rho \zeta) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}(\rho \zeta u_k) = -\frac{\partial j_k}{\partial x_k} + w$$

multiplying by ζ'' and averaging

$$\overline{\rho \zeta'' \frac{\partial \zeta''}{\partial t}} + \overline{\rho \zeta'' u_k'' \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial x_k}} + \overline{\rho \zeta'' \frac{\partial \zeta''}{\partial x_k} \tilde{u}_k} + \overline{\rho \zeta'' u_k'' \frac{\partial \zeta''}{\partial x_k}} = -\overline{\zeta'' \frac{\partial j_k}{\partial x_k}} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \left(\overline{j_k' \zeta''} \right) + \overline{j_k' \frac{\partial \zeta''}{\partial x_k}} + \overline{w \zeta''} \quad (5.17)$$

Adding the mass conservation equation multiplied by $\frac{1}{2}\zeta''^2$ and averaging

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\overline{\rho\zeta''^2}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}(\tilde{u}_k \overline{\rho\zeta''^2}) = \\ -2\overline{\rho\zeta''u_k''} \frac{\partial \tilde{\zeta}}{\partial x_k} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \left(\overline{\rho\zeta''^2 u_k''} + 2\overline{j_k' \zeta''} \right) + \overline{2j_k' \frac{\partial \zeta''}{\partial x_k}} - 2\overline{\zeta'' \frac{\partial \tilde{j}_k}{\partial x_k}} + 2\overline{w\zeta''} \end{aligned} \quad (5.18)$$

Defining

$$R_{\zeta\zeta} = \frac{\overline{\rho\zeta''^2}}{\bar{\rho}} \quad (5.19)$$

$$R_{k\zeta} = \frac{\overline{\rho\zeta''u_k''}}{\bar{\rho}} \quad (5.20)$$

the previous transport equation can be further simplified to

$$\frac{\partial R_{\zeta\zeta}}{\partial t} + \tilde{u}_k \frac{\partial R_{\zeta\zeta}}{\partial x_k} = P_{\zeta\zeta} - \chi + \frac{1}{\bar{\rho}} \left(-\frac{\partial T_{\zeta\zeta k}}{\partial x_k} + D_{\zeta\zeta} + Q_{\zeta\zeta} \right) \quad (5.21)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} P_{\zeta\zeta} &= -2R_{k\zeta} \frac{\partial \tilde{\zeta}}{\partial x_k} && , \text{turbulent production} \\ \chi &= -\frac{2}{\bar{\rho}} \overline{j_k' \frac{\partial \zeta''}{\partial x_k}} && , \text{turbulent dissipation} \\ T_{\zeta\zeta k} &= \overline{\rho\zeta''^2 u_k''} + 2\overline{j_k' \zeta''} && , \text{turbulent transport} \\ D_{\zeta\zeta} &= -2\overline{\zeta'' \frac{\partial \tilde{j}_k}{\partial x_k}} && , \text{mean flux} \\ Q_{\zeta\zeta} &= 2\overline{w\zeta''} && , \text{source} \end{aligned}$$

6 Numerical Algorithms

The system of equations is written as

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{q}}{\partial t} = \mathbf{f}_q(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{s}, t), \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{s}}{\partial t} = \mathbf{f}_s(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{s}, t), \quad (6.1)$$

where \mathbf{q} and \mathbf{s} are the flow and scalar vectors. For the compressible formulation,

$$\mathbf{q} = (\rho, \rho u_1, \rho u_2, \rho u_3, \rho e)^T, \quad \mathbf{s} = (\rho s_1, \rho s_2, \dots)^T, \quad (6.2)$$

and \mathbf{f}_q and \mathbf{f}_s are the corresponding right-hand side of the equations. The energy equation can be also solved in terms of the total energy per unit volume $\rho(e + v^2/2)$ instead of the internal energy per unit volume ρe . If the incompressible equations are solved, then

$$\mathbf{q} = (u_1, u_2, u_3)^T, \quad \mathbf{s} = (s_1, s_2, \dots)^T. \quad (6.3)$$

The basic formulation is the method of lines, so that the algorithm is a combination of different spatial operators needed to calculate the right-hand side of the equations (typically, derivatives) and a time marching scheme. An implicit treatment of the diffusive terms in the incompressible case has also been implemented.

6.1 Spatial operators

Spatial operators are based on finite difference methods (FDM). There are two levels of operator routines. The low-level libraries contains the basic algorithms and is explained in this section. It consists of the FDM kernel library `fdm` and three-dimensional operators in the `operators` library. (The latter is still part of the general `dns` library but it should be migrated into its own `operators` library. The file name starts, generally, with `opr_`.) The high-level library `fields` is composed of routines that are just a combination of the low-level routines.

6.1.1 Derivatives

Spatial derivatives are calculated using fourth- or sixth-order compact Padé schemes as described by Lele [1992] and extended by Shukla and Zhong [2005] for non-uniform grids. The routines `PARTIAL_X`, `PARTIAL_Y` and `PARTIAL_Z`, and correspondingly `PARTIAL_XX`, `PARTIAL_YY` and `PARTIAL_ZZ` manage these operations. The kernels of the specific algorithms are in the library `fdm`.

We restrict ourselves to the 5-point stencils

$$a_{-1}s'_{j-1} + a_0s'_j + a_{+1}s'_{j+1} = \frac{1}{h}(b_{-2}s_{j-2} + b_{-1}s_{j-1} + b_0s_j + b_{+1}s_{j+1} + b_{+2}s_{j+2}), \quad (6.4)$$

and similarly for the second-order derivative, where the components of the n -dimensional vectors $\mathbf{s} = (s_j)$, $\mathbf{s}' = \delta_x \mathbf{s} = (s'_j)$ and $\mathbf{s}'' = \delta_{xx} \mathbf{s} = (s''_j)$ are, respectively, approximations to the values $\{s(x_j) : j = 1, \dots, n\}$ of a function $s(\cdot)$ defined on a finite interval $[x_1, x_n]$ and its first- and

second-order derivatives evaluated at those same points $\{x_j\}$. The coefficients for the first-order derivative are given in table 6.1. Global schemes are constructed as a combination of n of these formulae, using biased finite differences at the boundaries in case of non-periodicity. We define the global algorithm (35653) by using the centered scheme C6 at the $(n - 4)$ interior points, and the biased schemes B5 at $j = 2$ and B3 at $j = 1$ with the corresponding symmetric counterpart at $j = n - 1$ and $j = n$, respectively Carpenter et al. [1993]. Those global schemes can be represented as

$$A_1 \delta_x \mathbf{s} = (1/h) B_1 \mathbf{s}, \quad A_2 \delta_{xx} \mathbf{s} = (1/h^2) B_2 \mathbf{s} \quad (6.5)$$

where $h = (x_n - x_1)/(n - 1)$ is a reference space step and the square matrices $A = (a_{ij})$ and $B = (b_{ij})$ are narrow banded, namely, tri-diagonal and penta-diagonal, respectively. (At the boundary points, 1 or 2 additional points in the right-hand sides can be used to increase the order, which in theory increases the bandwidth of the matrices. However, it can be handled locally without a penalty in memory requirements nor computational time.) If periodic boundary conditions are used, these are imposed at x_{n+1} and not at x_n , i.e. $s(x_{n+1}) = s(x_1)$. The size of the domain is then $L = n(x_n - x_1)/(n - 1) = nh$ instead of $x_n - x_1 = (n - 1)h$, and we do not save the information at x_{n+1} . The matrices A and B are then circulant instead of banded. In any of both cases, standard Thomas' algorithm is used to solve those linear systems efficiently. In particular, an LU decomposition is performed during the initialization and equations can be normalized such that the right-hand side contains always at least one diagonal of just ones, so as to save memory and computational time (see routine `fdm_initialize`). Conceptually, it is sometimes advantageous to think about equation (6.5) as the definition of linear finite-difference operators $\delta_x : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, $\mathbf{s}' = \delta_x \mathbf{s} = (1/h)(A_1^{-1} B_1) \mathbf{s}$, and $\delta_{xx} : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, $\mathbf{s}'' = \delta_{xx} \mathbf{s} = (1/h^2)(A_2^{-1} B_2) \mathbf{s}$. Then, we can use some results from linear algebra [Mellado and Ansorge, 2012].

	a_{-1}	a_0	a_{+1}	b_{-2}	b_{-1}	b_0	b_{+1}	b_{+2}	t
C2	0	1	0	0	$-1/2$	0	$1/2$	0	$1/3! h^2 s^{(3)}$
C4	$1/4$	1	$1/4$	0	$-3/4$	0	$3/4$	0	$-1/5! h^4 s^{(5)}$
C6	$1/3$	1	$1/3$	$-1/36$	$-7/9$	0	$7/9$	$1/36$	$4/7! h^6 s^{(7)}$
B1	0	1	0	0	0	-1	1	0	$1/2! h s^{(2)}$
B3	0	1	2	0	0	$-5/2$	2	$1/2$	$-2/4! h^3 s^{(4)}$
B5	$1/6$	1	$1/2$	0	$-10/18$	$-1/2$	1	$1/18$	$-2/6! h^5 s^{(6)}$

Table 6.1: Coefficients of the finite-difference formulae (6.4). The first three rows are centered differences, the last three are biased differences. The matrix A_1 in (6.5) is constructed in terms of the coefficients $\{a_i\}$, the matrix B_1 in terms of $\{b_i\}$. The last column contains the leading order term of the local truncation error defined by (6.6).

The local truncation error of the FDM approximation to the first-order derivative in (6.5) is defined by

$$\mathbf{t}_1 = \frac{1}{h} B_1 \begin{pmatrix} s(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ s(x_n) \end{pmatrix} - A_1 \begin{pmatrix} \frac{ds}{dx}(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ \frac{ds}{dx}(x_n) \end{pmatrix}, \quad (6.6)$$

which yields $\epsilon = -A_1^{-1} \mathbf{t}_1$ as the discretization errors $\{\epsilon_j = ds/dx(x_j) - s'_j : j = 1, \dots, n\}$. The explicit expression for the components of \mathbf{t} can be found in table 6.1. Similarly for the second-order derivative, vector \mathbf{t}_2 (to be written).

For notational convenience in the following discussion on Fourier analysis, we change the index so that it varies between $j = 0$ and $j = n - 1$. We can define a new sequence of numbers $\{\hat{s}_k\}_0^{n-1}$ from $\{s_j\}_0^{n-1}$ by

$$\hat{s}_k = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} s_j \exp(-i\omega_k j), \quad s_j = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \hat{s}_k \exp(i\omega_k j), \quad (6.7)$$

where $\{\omega_k = (2\pi/n)k : k = 0, \dots, n-1\}$ is the scaled wavenumber and $i = \sqrt{-1}$ is the imaginary unit. We use the library FFTW in the code for this transformation ¹. Note that $\hat{s}_{k+n} = \hat{s}_k$ because $\exp(-i2\pi j) = 1$ for any integer number j , so that we can write

$$s_j = \sum_{-n/2+1}^{n/2} \hat{s}_k \exp[i\omega_k j] . \quad (6.8)$$

The expression above coincides with the Fourier series $\sum_{-n/2}^{n/2} \hat{s}_k \exp[i\kappa_k x]$ of the function $s(x)$ over the interval $[0, L]$ particularized at the grid points $\{x_n\}$ provided that the spectral content of the function $s(x)$ beyond the Nyquist frequency $\kappa_{n/2} = (2\pi/L)(n/2) = 2\pi/(2h) = \pi/h$ is zero. Then we have the relation $\kappa_k h = \omega_k$ between the wavenumber $\kappa_k = (2\pi/L)k$ and the scaled wavenumber ω_k . In principle, both $\{\hat{s}_k\}$ from $\{s_j\}$ are complex numbers; however, the sequence $\{\hat{s}_k\}$ is typically real and we only need to know the Fourier modes between $k = 0$, the mean value, and $k = n/2$, the Nyquist frequency, because of the symmetry. Then, ω_k varies between 0 and π and κ_k varies between 0 and π/h . A third quantity sometimes used in the discussion is the number of points per wavelength $PPW_k = (L/k)/h = 2\pi/\omega_k$; for a given wavelength L/k , or wavenumber κ_k , reducing the grid step h and thus increasing resolution – increasing PPW_k – means reducing the scaled wavenumber ω_k towards zero.

The previous framework allows us to understand the FDM using the so-called von Neumann analysis. We know that the exact values of $\{s'_j\}$ and $\{s''_j\}$ under the conditions stated above are

$$s'_j(x_j) = \sum_0^{n-1} (i\omega_k/h) \hat{s}_k \exp(i\omega_k j) , \quad s''_j(x_j) = \sum_0^{n-1} (-\omega_k^2/h^2) \hat{s}_k \exp(i\omega_k j) , \quad (6.9)$$

having simply used the previous relation $\kappa_k = \omega_k/h$. The FDM approximations can be written as

$$s'_j = \sum_0^{n-1} (\lambda_1/h) \hat{s}_k \exp(i\omega_k j) , \quad s''_j = \sum_0^{n-1} (\lambda_2/h^2) \hat{s}_k \exp(i\omega_k j) . \quad (6.10)$$

The deviation of the complex functions $\lambda_1(\omega)$ and $\lambda_2(\omega)$ from the exact values $i\omega$ and $-\omega^2$ measures the FDM discretization error (see figure 6.1). One possible way to quantify this error is by means of the resolving efficiency, defined as the number of points per wavelength PPW required to maintain errors in the corresponding transfer function below a specified level (or, equivalently, a specified error in the dispersion velocity of the linear advection problem). In these terms, for the first-order derivative, an error of 1% requires 4 PPW in the case of the implicit compact scheme used in the DNS, whereas the second-order explicit central scheme requires 25 PPW [Lele, 1992, Lomax et al., 1998]. This difference is even higher if the common reference error of 0.1% is retained, for which the previous finite difference schemes require 6 PPW and 100 PPW, respectively. The corresponding resolution requirements for the second-order derivative using a compact scheme are similar to those of the first-order derivative; the second-order central explicit FDM improves slightly and only needs 18 PPW for 1% error and 67 PPW for 0.1% error. (These errors in the transfer function can be understood as errors in the exponential rate of decrease of a given wave caused by the diffusion operator.) However, these are theoretical values based on linear analysis of the algorithm and resolution studies are always required to ascertain this error. Last, we also note that, as we increase resolution, h decreases and ω_k moves towards the origin in figure 6.1 for a fixed wavenumber κ_k ; the departure at the origin of the approximation from the exact value gives then the order of the FDM.

It is also useful to use the notation

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}} = W \mathbf{s} \quad \mathbf{s} = W^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{s}} . \quad (6.11)$$

¹visit <http://www.fftw.org/>

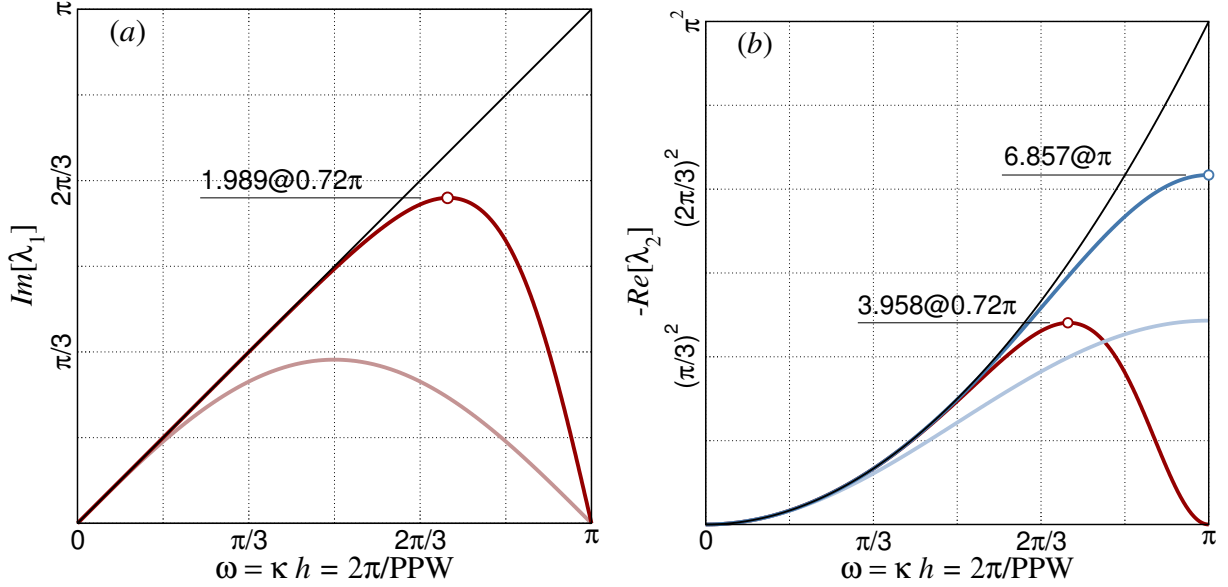


Figure 6.1: Modified wavenumbers of the FDM approximations s' and s'' to the first- and second-order derivatives, left (red) and right (blue), respectively. (Equivalently, transfer functions associated to the linear operators $\delta_x : A_1^{-1}B_1$ and $\delta_{xx} : A_2^{-1}B_2$.) Black lines indicate the exact value and light colors indicate the second-order central FDM. The red line in panel (b) corresponds to the operator $\delta_x \delta_x = (A_1^{-1}B_1)^2$. The interval $[-\pi, 0]$ is simply the anti-symmetric and symmetric extension of the curves in panels (a) and (b), respectively. The number inside the figure give the maximum values, to be considered in the time-marching scheme.

for the discrete Fourier transform (DFT) defined by equation (6.7), where W is the DFT matrix. Let us consider the first-order derivative in equation (6.5). Then, we can write

$$\hat{s}' = W s' = [(1/h)W(A_1^{-1}B_1)W^{-1}]Ws = (1/h)\Lambda_1 \hat{s}. \quad (6.12)$$

From this relation between the vectors \hat{s}' and \hat{s} and equation (6.10), we deduce that the array Λ_1 is diagonal with $\{\lambda_k\}_0^{n-1}$ as diagonal elements. Moreover, since W is invertible, W represents just a similarity transformation – a change of base – and therefore we know that the matrices $A_1^{-1}B_1$ and Λ_1 have the same eigenvalues. Hence, $\{\lambda_k\}_0^{n-1}$ is simply the set of eigenvalues of $A_1^{-1}B_1$; figure 6.1 shows the curve through the imaginary part of half of them. In the complex plane, the numbers $\{\lambda_{1,k}\}_0^{n-1}$ corresponding to the first-order derivative move in the imaginary axis, and the numbers $\{\lambda_{2,k}\}_0^{n-1}$ corresponding to the second-order derivative move in the negative part of the real axis. This exercise might not be relevant for the periodic case because we can obtain $\{\lambda_k\}_0^{n-1}$ easily by substituting equation (6.7) into equation (6.4), but it is clarifying for the non-periodic cases because the equivalent of figure 6.1 is simply the spectrum of $A_1^{-1}B_1$, in general, a set of points in the complex plane.

It is also interesting to note that one option to calculate the FD approximation to the second-order derivative is always $\delta_x \delta_x s = (A_1^{-1}B_1)^2$, that is, to apply consecutively twice the FD approximation to the first-order derivative. However, the spectral transfer function of the FD operator $\delta_x \delta_x$ falls to zero at the Nyquist frequency, as shown in figure 6.1, which results in a very poor representation of the diffusion terms at the high wavenumbers. This property can become very important because the errors derived from the aliasing in calculating the non-linear terms accumulate and the use of filter might become unavoidable in order to have stable simulations. Hence, it is advisable to use a direct discretization of the second-order derivative operator.

Last, a uniform grid $\{x_j = x_1 + (j-1)h : j = 1, \dots, n\}$ has been considered so far. If a non-uniform grid $\{x_j : j = 1, \dots, n\}$ is employed instead, we can define $x' = (1/h)A_1^{-1}B_1 x$ from the mapping between the computational and the physical domains and the calculation of the approximation $\delta_x s$

to the first-order derivative is given by

$$(A_1 D_1) \delta_x \mathbf{s} = (1/h) B_1 \mathbf{s} , \quad (6.13)$$

that is, A should be replaced by AD_1 , where $D_1 = \text{diag}(\mathbf{x}')$ is a diagonal matrix with $\{x'_j\}$ as diagonal elements. Similarly, for the FD approximation to the second-order derivative, we obtain

$$(A_2 D_1^2) \delta_{xx} \mathbf{s} = (1/h) B_2 \mathbf{s} - (A_2 D_2) \delta_x \mathbf{s} , \quad (6.14)$$

where $D_2 = \text{diag}(\mathbf{x}'')$ is again a diagonal matrix with $\{x''_j\}$ as diagonal elements; these elements are the components of the vector $\mathbf{x}'' = (1/h^2) A_2^{-1} B_2 \mathbf{x}$. As a result of using this Jacobian formulation for non-uniform grids, we need to calculate the approximation to the first-order derivative in order to calculate $\delta_{xx} \mathbf{s}$. In general, that is not a problem because we need both, the first- and the second-order derivatives, in all the transport equations.

We could reformulate the calculation of the second derivative as

$$(A_2 D_1^2) \mathbf{s}^* = (1/h) B_2 \mathbf{s} , \quad (6.15a)$$

$$\delta_{xx} \mathbf{s} = \mathbf{s}^* - (D_1^{-2} D_2) \delta_x \mathbf{s} , \quad (6.15b)$$

where $D_1^{-2} D_2$ is a diagonal matrix and could be precomputed. This formulation is clearer, but not faster.

A direct formulation of compact FD approximation to the second-order derivative for non-uniform grids is needed, however, when using the implicit temporal scheme for the diffusion terms in order to solve exactly the corresponding Helmholtz equations, without any approximation. Such a direct formulation leads to the system form (6.5). We followed Shukla and Zhong [2005].

6.1.2 Advection and Diffusion

The non-linear advection terms can be formulated in conservative, convective and skew-symmetric forms [Blaisdell et al., 1996, Kravchenko and Moin, 1997]. The molecular transport terms can be formulated in the conservative and non-conservative forms (this latter if transport coefficients are constant).

In the convective formulation, the routines `OPR_BURGERS_*` combine the first and second-order derivative operators as

$$f = \epsilon s'' - u s' \quad (6.16)$$

where s is a scalar field, u a velocity field, and ϵ is the diffusivity. The combination reduces transpositions, either locally or across processors. The reason is that, in general, we need 2 transpositions for s'' , forward and backward, and similarly for s' , which amounts to 4 transpositions. In the combined form, we need 1 forward transposition for s and 1 for u , and then 1 backward transposition for the result f . In total, 3 transpositions. The addition and multiplication operations are done in transposed space. If $u = s$, then it is only 2 transpositions that we need. When $u \neq s$, then the transposed velocity needs to be passed through the arguments in case it is needed.

We could reformulate the calculation of \mathbf{f} by combining the linear operation with the calculation of the second derivative, which yields

$$\epsilon^{-1} (A_2 D_1^2) \mathbf{f} = (1/h) B_2 \mathbf{s} - A_2 (D_2 + \epsilon^{-1} D_1^2 \mathbf{u}) \delta_x \mathbf{s} , \quad (6.17)$$

or

$$\epsilon^{-1} (A_2 D_1^2) \mathbf{f}^* = (1/h) B_2 \mathbf{s} , \quad (6.18a)$$

$$\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{f}^* - (\epsilon D_1^{-2} D_2 + \mathbf{u}) \delta_x \mathbf{s} , \quad (6.18b)$$

where $\epsilon D_1^{-2} D_2$ is a diagonal matrix and could be precomputed. This formulation is clearer, but not sure if faster, and we need more memory because $\epsilon D_1^{-2} D_2$ varies with ϵ .

6.1.3 Filters

See file `dns/opr_filter`. The kernels of the specific algorithms are in the library `filters`. Used in previous version for long-term stability, now mainly used for post-processing and large-eddy simulations.

6.1.4 Fourier transform

See file `dns/opr_fourier`. It is based on the FFTW library and it has been already discussed in the previous section (see text around equation (6.7)). It is used in the pre-processing (generation of the initial random field), in the post-processing (spectral analysis), and also during the simulation (Poisson and Helmholtz solvers).

The Fourier transform is applied by default to an array `imax_total × (jmax_total+2) × kmax_total`. The reason to add two additional planes `{jmax_total+1, jmax_total+2}` is that we need them for the boundary conditions of the Poisson equations, and we make that the standard procedure. If not needed, then these two planes contain simply zeros.

The sequence of transformations is $Ox \rightarrow Oz \rightarrow Oy$. The transformed field contains the Nyquist frequency, so it needs an array `(imax_total/2+1) × (jmax_total+2) × kmax_total` of complex numbers.

Given the scalar field s , the power spectral density $\{E_0, E_1, \dots, E_{N/2}\}$ is normalized such that

$$\langle s^2 \rangle = E_0 + 2 \sum_{n=0}^{N/2-1} E_n + E_{N/2} . \quad (6.19)$$

The mean value is typically removed, such that the left-hand side is s_{rms}^2 . The Nyquist frequency energy content $E_{N/2}$ is not written to disk, only the $N/2$ values $\{E_0, E_1, \dots, E_{N/2-1}\}$.

6.1.5 Poisson equation

See file `dns/opr_poisson`. Given the scalar field s , obtain the scalar field f such that

$$\nabla^2 f = s , \quad (6.20)$$

complemented with appropriate boundary conditions. The current version only handles cases with periodic boundary conditions along Ox and Oz . It performs a Fourier decomposition along these two directions, to obtain a set of finite difference equations along Oy of the form

$$\delta_x \delta_x \mathbf{f}|_j - (\lambda_1/h)^2 \mathbf{f}|_j = \mathbf{s}|_j , \quad j = 2, \dots, n-1 , \quad (6.21)$$

$\lambda_1 \in \mathbb{R}$, where boundary conditions need to be provided at $j = 1$ and $j = n$. The algorithm is described in Mellado and Ansorge [2012]. These routines are in the source file `dns/opr_fde_pool`.

6.1.6 Helmholtz equation

See file `dns/opr_helmholtz`. Given the scalar field s , obtain the scalar field f such that

$$\nabla^2 f + \alpha f = s, \quad (6.22)$$

complemented with appropriate boundary conditions. The current version only handles cases with periodic boundary conditions along Ox and Oz . The algorithm is similar to that used for the Poisson equation. It performs a Fourier decomposition along these two directions, to obtain the a set of finite difference equations along Oy of the form

$$\delta_{xx} \mathbf{f}|_j - (\lambda_2/h^2 - \alpha) \mathbf{f}|_j = \mathbf{s}|_j, \quad j = 2, \dots, n-1, \quad (6.23)$$

$\lambda_2 \in \mathbb{R}$, where boundary conditions need to be provided at $j = 1$ and $j = n$. The difference is that, for the Helmholtz equation, we also include the case in which the second-order derivative is implemented in terms of the δ_{xx} FDM operator, not only the $\delta_x \delta_x$ FDM operator.

6.2 Time marching schemes

See file `tools/dns/time_rungekutta`. The time advancement is based on Runge-Kutta methods (RKM).

6.2.1 Explicit schemes

We can use three- or five-stages, low-storage RKM that gives third- or fourth-order accurate temporal integration, respectively [Williamson, 1980, Carpenter and Kennedy, 1994]. The essential feature is that only two levels are needed at a time, reducing thereby the number of three-dimensional arrays compared to the convectional Runge-Kutta schemes. In particular, the implementation is

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{h} \leftarrow \mathbf{h} + \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{s}, t + C_M \tau) \\ \mathbf{s} \leftarrow \mathbf{s} + B_M \tau \mathbf{h} \\ \mathbf{h} \leftarrow A_M \mathbf{h} \end{array} \right\} M \text{ times,}$$

where $M = 3$ or $M = 5$, $C_1 = 0$ and we do not need the last step for the last stage. The stability properties for the biased finite difference schemes are considered in Carpenter et al. [1993]. The incompressible formulation follows Wilson et al. [1998].

The analysis of the dissipative and dispersive errors associated with the RKM are based on linear analysis, assuming that the right-hand side can be diagonalized to reduce the problem to a set of ODEs of the form

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = \lambda s, \quad (6.24)$$

where s can be a complex function (of the real variable t) after the diagonalization of the original system (6.1), and λ is the corresponding eigenvalue, a complex number. Given the initial condition s^n at t_n , the RKM provides an approximation s^{n+1} to $s(t_{n+1})$, where the time step is $\tau = t_{n+1} - t_n$. The ratio provides the amplification factor $r = s^{n+1}/s^n$. The exact amplification factor is $\exp(\lambda\tau)$, whereas that from the discrete method is

$$r = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^p c_k (\lambda\tau)^k, \quad (6.25)$$

the coefficients depending on the RKM method and p being the number of stages. The region of absolute stability is the region of the complex plane $\lambda\tau$ for which $|r| < 1$. In addition, we can compare the approximation with the exact value

$$\frac{r}{\exp(\lambda\tau)} = \rho \exp(i\theta) , \quad (6.26)$$

such that $\rho(\lambda)$ and $\theta(\lambda)$ represents the dissipation (or amplitude) and the dispersion (or phase) error, respectively [Hu et al., 1996].

Figure 6.2 shows the stability region along with the dissipation and dispersion errors for the fourth-order five-step Runge-Kutta method that we use in the code, for which

$$r = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^4 \frac{1}{k!} (\lambda\tau)^k + \frac{1}{200} (\lambda\tau)^5 . \quad (6.27)$$

The equation above shows the forth-order accuracy, since the first term deviation from the Taylor series of the exponential function is proportional to $(\lambda\tau)^5$. (The five zeros of this polynomial are enclosed by the light blue closed regions in panel (a).) Also, The crossing points of the boundary of the stability region with the real and imaginary axis are $(\lambda\tau)_r \simeq -4.65$ and $(\lambda\tau)_i \simeq \pm 3.34$. These numbers are important to determine the maximum CFL numbers associated with the advection-diffusion equation, which is the basis for many non-reacting flows (a source term adds an additional constraint for stability). For instance, assuming periodic boundary conditions for simplicity, we can diagonalize the original system to the set of equations

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = (iu\lambda_1/h - \nu\lambda_2/h^2)s , \quad (6.28)$$

according to the eigenvalue analysis discussed in section 6.1.1. In the expression above, u is a constant representing an advection velocity and ν is the viscosity. The expression in parenthesis is λ and it needs to fall within the stability region shown in figure 6.2 for the algorithm to be stable. Then, we obtain the conditions

$$\frac{\nu\tau}{h^2} < \frac{|(\lambda\tau)_r|}{\max \lambda_2} , \quad \frac{c\tau}{h} < \frac{|(\lambda\tau)_i|}{\max \lambda_1} . \quad (6.29)$$

The left-hand side in the expressions above are the CFL numbers CFL_d and CFL_a for the diffusion and the advection operators, respectively, and the right-hand side provide the upper bounds $CFL_{d,max} = 0.68$ and $CFL_{a,max} = 1.68$ having used for $\max \lambda_2$ and $\max \lambda_1$ the values shown in figure 6.1.

However, in addition to stability, a relatively small error is also desired. Figure 6.2 shows the dissipation and dispersion parts of it separately, as obtained from its definition in (6.26). Dark colors indicate the regions of the complex plane where the eigenvalues of the operators need to fall in order to have less than 1% error; light colors correspond to less than 10% error. That figure explains the reason to use CFL numbers that are smaller than the maximum allowed. The value $0.7CFL_{a,max} \simeq 1.2$ is used in the code by default, which corresponds to less than 10% error in the advection operator (imaginary axis). Note however that this error occurs for the wavenumbers in figure 6.1 at the maximum λ_1 ; wavenumbers corresponding to more than 4 PPW fall approximately within 1% error. The same applies in the real axis for the diffusion operator. The code uses by default 1/4 of the limit in the imaginary axis, that is, about $CFL_d < 0.3$.

The dissipation and dispersion error maps corresponding to the third-order Runge-Kutta scheme are shown in figure 6.3. The maximum CFL numbers to guarantee stability for the advection and diffusion operators are $CFL_{a,max} = 1.73/1.989 = 0.871$ and $CFL_{d,max} = 2.57/6.857 = 0.366$, respectively.

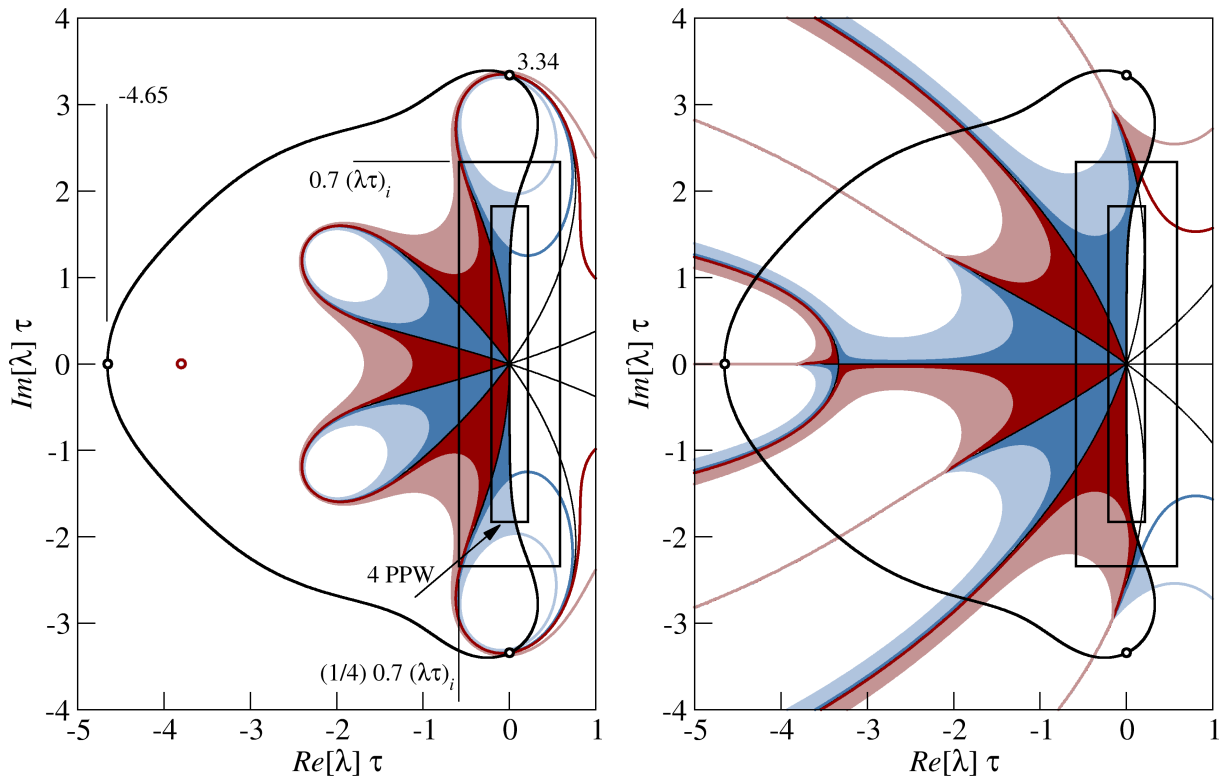


Figure 6.2: Dissipation error (left) associated with the fourth-order explicit Runge-Kutta scheme: dark blue, $0.99 < \rho < 1$; light blue, $0.90 < \rho < 0.99$; dark red, $1 < \rho < 1.01$; light red, $1.01 < \rho < 1.10$. Dispersion error (right) associated with the Runge-Kutta scheme: dark blue, $-0.01 < \theta/\pi < 0$; light blue, $-0.10 < \theta/\pi < -0.01$; dark red, $0 < \theta/\pi < 0.01$; light red, $0.01 < \theta/\pi < 0.10$. Black contour line indicates the stability region

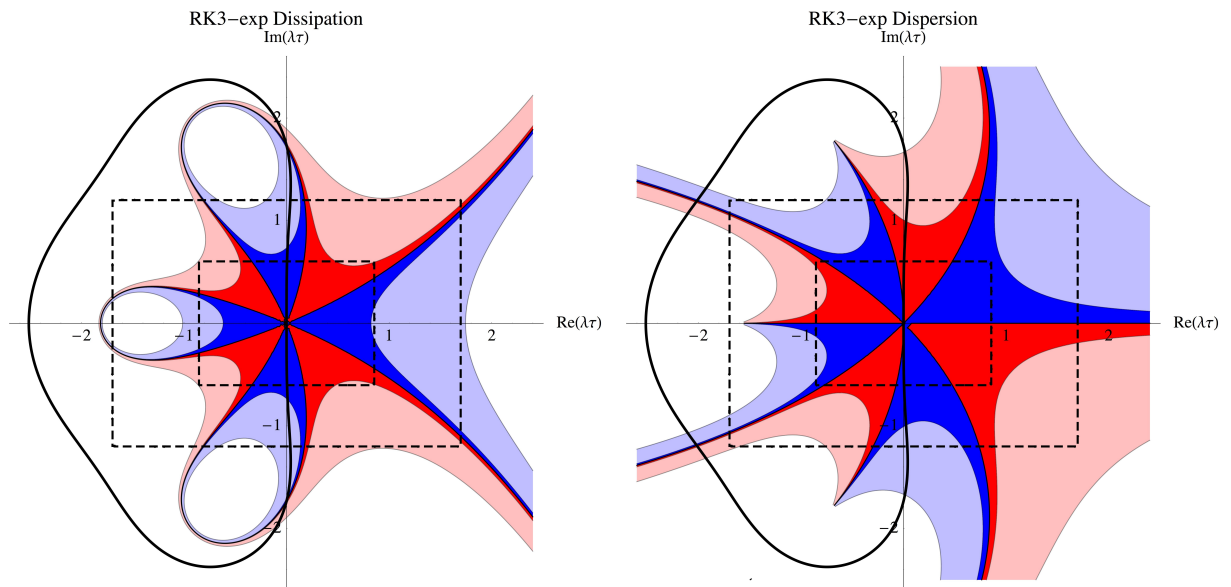


Figure 6.3: Dissipation error (left) associated with the third-order explicit Runge-Kutta scheme: dark blue, $0.99 < \rho < 1$; light blue, $0.90 < \rho < 0.99$; dark red, $1 < \rho < 1.01$; light red, $1.01 < \rho < 1.10$. Dispersion error (right) associated with the Runge-Kutta scheme: dark blue, $-0.01 < \theta/\pi < 0$; light blue, $-0.10 < \theta/\pi < -0.01$; dark red, $0 < \theta/\pi < 0.01$; light red, $0.01 < \theta/\pi < 0.10$. Black contour line indicates the stability region

This periodic case is easier because the eigenvalues can be obtained analytically and both the diffusion and advection operator have the same eigenvectors. In general, as long as the right-hand side of the equations can be written as the same of linear operators, we would need to make the spectral decomposition for each of them and make sure that the eigenvalues fall in the stability region of the boxes in figure 6.2.

For instance, consider the advection equation inside the domain $[0, 1]$ with a positive advection velocity u and (therefore) the boundary condition imposed at the left boundary $x_1 = 0$, that is

$$\left. \begin{aligned} ds/dt|_j &= -u \delta_x s|_j \quad j = 2, \dots, n \\ s_1 &= \alpha \end{aligned} \right\}, \quad u \geq 0. \quad (6.30)$$

We know that $\delta_x s = (1/2)A_1^{-1}B_1 s$, but we only need a relation involving the last $n-1$ components of the vector s , not all of them. This can be obtained by introducing the following block matrices [Lomax et al., 1998, Mellado and Ansorge, 2012]

$$A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \mathbf{a}_{12}^T \\ \mathbf{a}_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad B_1 = \begin{pmatrix} b_{11} & \mathbf{b}_{12}^T \\ \mathbf{b}_{21} & B_{22} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then, eliminating s'_1 in the original system, yields

$$hA_{22}^R \begin{pmatrix} s'_2 \\ \vdots \\ s'_n \end{pmatrix} = B_{22}^R \begin{pmatrix} s_2 \\ \vdots \\ s_n \end{pmatrix} + s_1 \mathbf{b}_{21}^R, \quad (6.31)$$

where the $(n-1) \times (n-1)$ matrices $\{A_{22}^R, B_{22}^R\}$ and the column vector $\mathbf{b}_{21}^R \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$ are

$$A_{22}^R = A_{22} - \frac{1}{a_{11}} \mathbf{a}_{21} \mathbf{a}_{12}^T, \quad B_{22}^R = B_{22} - \frac{1}{a_{11}} \mathbf{a}_{21} \mathbf{b}_{12}^T, \quad \mathbf{b}_{21}^R = \mathbf{b}_{21} - \frac{b_{11}}{a_{11}} \mathbf{a}_{21}. \quad (6.32)$$

Note that A_{22}^R and B_{22}^R have the same bandwidths as A and B , respectively. The element s'_1 can be calculated by

$$s'_1 = \frac{1}{ha_{11}} \begin{pmatrix} b_{11} & \mathbf{b}_{12}^T \end{pmatrix} s - \frac{1}{a_{11}} \mathbf{a}_{12}^T \begin{pmatrix} s'_2 \\ \vdots \\ s'_n \end{pmatrix}. \quad (6.33)$$

Then, the original equation can be written as

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} s_2 \\ \vdots \\ s_n \end{pmatrix} = -(u/h)(A_{22}^R)^{-1} B_{22}^R \begin{pmatrix} s_2 \\ \vdots \\ s_n \end{pmatrix} + \alpha \mathbf{b}_{21}^R, \quad (6.34)$$

so that the set of complex numbers $-(u\tau/h)\text{eig}\{(A_{22}^R)^{-1}B_{22}^R\}$ have to fall inside the stability region in figure 6.2. This set of eigenvalues is shown in figure 6.4 for the scheme (35653) used in the code by default, normalized by the prefactor $u\tau/h$. We see that the spectra is dominated by a form relatively close to that of the periodic boundary conditions, which was purely imaginary, and the CFL condition is therefore the same. It happens that some other biased FD formulae at the boundary points can mode part of the spectra into the positive real part of the complex plane, which would lead to unstable algorithms [Carpenter et al., 1993].

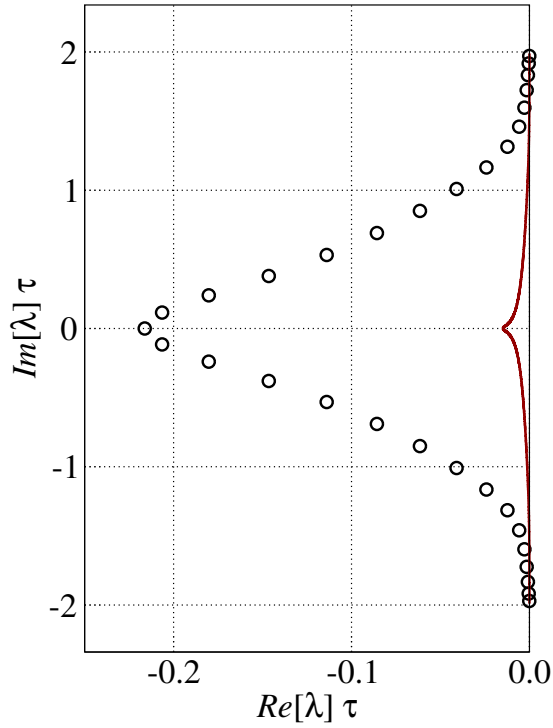


Figure 6.4: Spectra of the matrix $-\{(A_{22}^R)^{-1} B_{22}^R\}$ describing the advection operator in problem (6.30) for two different problem sizes: black, $n = 32$; ref, $n = 1024$. As the number of grid points is increased, the role of the boundary conditions decrease and the spectra tends towards that corresponding to periodic boundary conditions, which is purely imaginary (see figure 6.1). Note, however, that deviation from the imaginary axis of the eigenvalues is relatively small even for the small size $n = 32$, in the context of the dissipation- and dispersion-error regions shown in figure 6.2.

6.2.2 Implicit schemes

To be developed. See Spalart et al. [1991].

The dissipation and dispersion error maps corresponding to the third-order implicit Runge-Kutta scheme are shown in figure 6.5. The algorithm is unconditionally stable but we need to control accuracy of the diffusion operator for which it is used. The reference value $CFL_d = 1.7$ as it gets most of the eigenvalues within the 1%-error region.

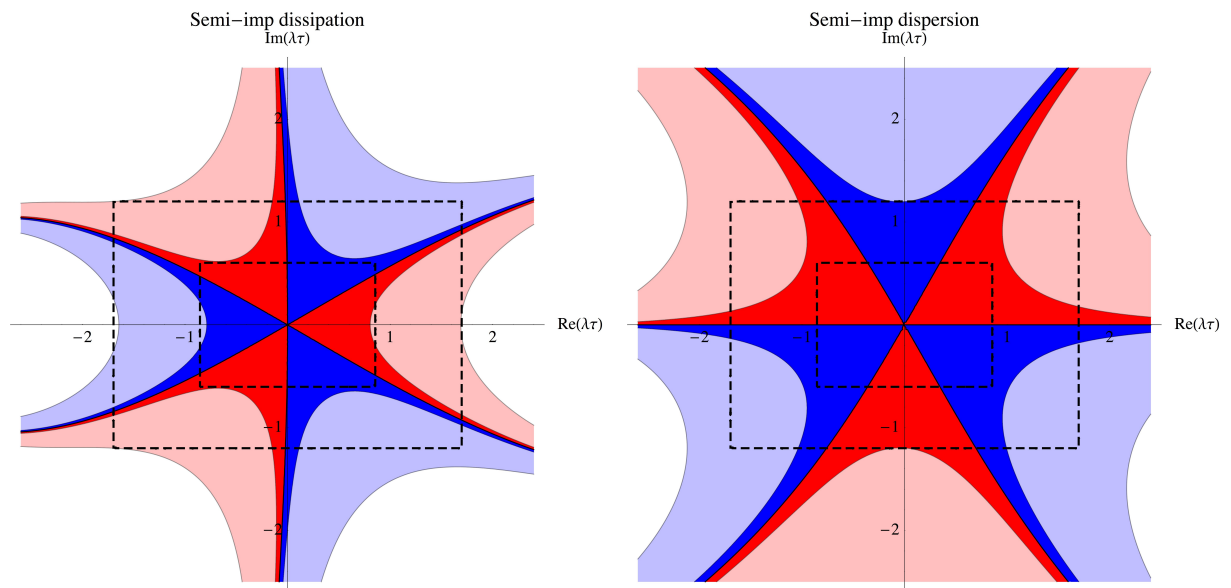


Figure 6.5: Dissipation error (left) associated with the third-order implicit Runge-Kutta scheme: dark blue, $0.99 < \rho < 1$; light blue, $0.90 < \rho < 0.99$; dark red, $1 < \rho < 1.01$; light red, $1.01 < \rho < 1.10$. Dispersion error (right) associated with the Runge-Kutta scheme: dark blue, $-0.01 < \theta/\pi < 0$; light blue, $-0.10 < \theta/\pi < -0.01$; dark red, $0 < \theta/\pi < 0.01$; light red, $0.01 < \theta/\pi < 0.10$.

7 Parallelization

7.1 Domain decomposition

The domain decomposition is performed along the first and last indexes, typically i and k , respectively, that is, along directions Ox and Oz . Initially, the code only supported 1D decomposition along Oz , the outer-most index. The reason to chose that direction was to simplify I/O and to maintain homogeneity in the serial part of the algorithm (the largest part) for the cases with periodicity along that direction (boundary conditions where only needed in the other two directions, for instance, in a spatially evolving flow like a jet). When the domain decomposition was extended to a second direction, we chose Ox , the reason being again to keep the algorithm equal in every task in the cases where homogeneity and periodicity apply along those two directions. Figure 7.1 sketches this 2D decomposition and summarizes part of the main code variables. We will use the term MPI task or simply task (instead of processor, node, core, ...) – that is, we decompose the problem into $\text{ims_npro_i} \times \text{ims_npro_k}$ tasks. The mapping is established at read/write time and details follow below. For each task, each array can be interpreted as $\text{jmax} \times \text{kmax}$ lines of size imax , as illustrated in figure 7.1.



Figure 7.1: Domain decomposition of the global array of size $\text{imax_total} \times \text{jmax_total} \times \text{kmax_total}$ into the local arrays of size $\text{imax} \times \text{jmax} \times \text{kmax}$ using ims_npro_i MPI tasks along the first (inner-most) index and ims_npro_k along the last (outer-most) index. The structure in memory is shown in a two-dimensional array where the inner-most index runs up to imax and the outer-most index runs up to $\text{jmax} \times \text{kmax}$; it can also be interpreted as kmax pages of size $\text{imax} \times \text{jmax}$.

Two main transpositions are needed to perform the derivatives or any other implicit operation in which we only need a set of complete lines along the desired direction contiguously in memory. This is represented in figure 7.2. For instance, if we need a derivative along Ox of the field in array a ,

we can interpret the algorithm as follows. Consider that array as $j_{\max} \times k_{\max}$ lines of size i_{\max} , as illustrated before in figure 7.1. Divide $j_{\max} \times k_{\max}$, the outer index, by ims_npro_i , so as to have precisely ims_npro_i blocks (or colors) of size i_{\max} times whatever number you got before. Each of those blocks is send to the corresponding processor. This operation is masked by creating an appropriate MPI type, which is done during the initialization of the MPI part of the code. The constraint we impose is that the ratio $j_{\max} \times k_{\max} / ims_npro_i$ needs to be an integer – take this into account when defining the grid. (This constraint could be avoided using padding, but we do not do it in these main transposition operations.)

Let us consider now an implicit operation along Oz . For this case, each of the pages $i_{\max} \times j_{\max}$ needs to be divided by the number of tasks ims_npro_k , and this ratio is what needs to be an integer. It is also seen in figure 7.2 that now we need a stride in the MPI type. The rest of the transposition algorithm is similar to the previous case. The code variables containing the corresponding MPI types for the transposition operations described in the previous and this paragraphs are `DNS_MPI_I_PARTIAL` and `DNS_MPI_K_PARTIAL`, respectively.

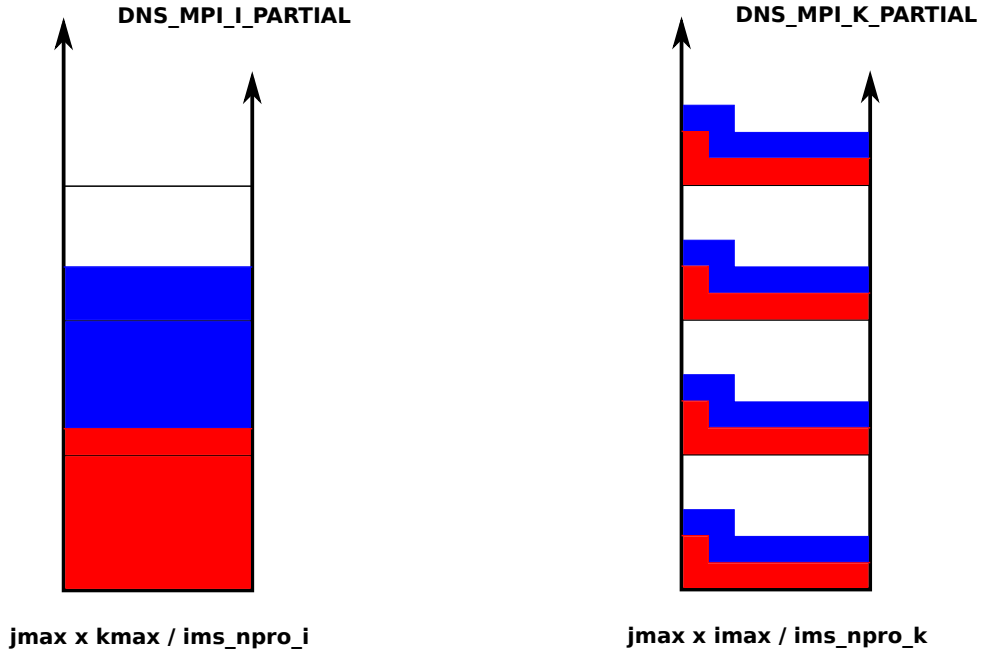


Figure 7.2: Memory management in transposition operations, from sketch in figure 7.1. Each color indicates the block of memory that goes into a common task. Based on these graphs, the offsets, strides and sizes in the MPI derived types are defined. The ratios at the bottom need to be an integer. You have as many colors as tasks involved in the corresponding transposition.

The I/O is done using `MPI_IO` library. We read

$$ims_npro = ims_npro_i \times ims_npro_k$$

contiguous blocks of contiguous data, each block into one task. The corresponding state is precisely equal to that obtained after the `PARTIAL_I` transposition, and so the only additional thing we need to do is an inverse transposition of that type, and we already have the structure described in figure 7.1. By this procedure we also defined the mapping, which is sketched in figure 7.3. From that mapping we see that a task ims_pro contains the block given by

$$\begin{aligned} ims_pro_i &= \text{MOD}(ims_pro, ims_npro_i) \\ ims_pro_k &= \text{INT}(ims_pro, ims_npro_i) \end{aligned}$$



Figure 7.3: Mapping.

When needed, the information defining the boundary conditions is read from disk using a similar procedure. we just need to define new MPI types for the transposition along Ox according to the specific size of the corresponding arrays. This is done inside the I/O routines, as appropriate.

For the transpositions required in the Poisson equation, the procedure is similar to the main algorithms defined above and shown in figures 7.1 and 7.2, although two additional planes in Oy containing the boundary conditions, one at the bottom and one at the top, and one in Ox for the pseudo-Nyquist frequency are added (pseudo meaning that only one should be added, but space is reserved in each processor along that direction to keep the algorithm homogeneous; this could be redefined). For these cases, padding is used inside each pages (defined above) so that the only constraints in the grid are those imposed before in the two major kinds of transposition. Hence, for a transposition along Oz , the same structure as shown in figure 7.2 is used but with a page of size `isize_txc_dimz` instead of $\text{imax} \times \text{jmax}$, such that `isize_txc_dimz` is a multiple of $2 \times \text{ims_npro_k}$, (the factor of 2 for real and imaginary parts of the same complex number to remain in the same processor) and larger than $(\text{imax}+2) \times (\text{jmax}+2)$.

The same description applies to the transposition along Ox . The only difference here is that a second type is added for the transformation without the Nyquist frequency. This is used for instance for the first forward transposition of data. *More here?*

8 Scaling

For spatial discretization implicit schemes are used. Hence, the calculation of a derivative always involves communication amongst all processors in a line along which a derivative is computed. From ad-hoc considerations it is not clear which is the optimum two-dimensional domain-decomposition. While for small numbers of cores one would expect the network latency of an MPI call to dominate, for larger numbers it is the number of processors involved in the call that makes MPI calls expensive. Therefore, below a certain threshold, a 1D decomposition is expected to be beneficial. Where this turnover takes place is subject to many factors such as the CPU clock speed, network latency, MPI implementation, number of grid points, etc.

We briefly introduce now definitions and notation used in the rest of this section. We define $Q := q_x \times q_y \times q_z$, the number of grid points, as a measure of the size of the simulations and choose in the following to label simulations by Q . To label the simulations, we use the common abbreviations

$$k = 2^{10}; \quad M = 2^{20}; \quad G = 2^{30} \quad (8.1)$$

for readability. The memory necessary to save one 3D array in double precision data format is $8 \times Q$ Byte. The scaling of the code is discussed in terms of speedup S and efficiency η defined as

$$S := \frac{T}{T_{\text{ref}}} \quad \eta = \frac{T}{NT_{\text{ref}}} \times 100\%, \quad (8.2)$$

where T is the real time to run a particular case, N the number of processors and the subscript 'ref' indicates a reference value.

The code has been instrumented to measure the real time that is necessary to perform one stage of the multi-stage Runge-Kutta time-stepping scheme. This corresponds essentially to the evaluation of the right-hand-side term of the governing equations solved. The pre-processor flag `-DUSE_PROFILE` activates it and data is written into the log file `dns.log`. The aim is to remove the overhead time associated with I/O and initialization.

8.1 Scaling on the cluster `jugene@fz-juelich.de`

Performance of the DNS code has been measured for various geometries varying the total number of grid points by two orders of magnitude. Many-core scaling properties of the DNS code, version 5.6.6 on the machine `jugene@fz-juelich.de` (site Jülich Supercomputing Center) were investigated. All simulations have been run in SMP mode using 4 OpenMP threads, reaching up to up to 8k MPI tasks distributed over 8k nodes (1 rack contains 1k nodes), using 4 cores per node (i.e. 32k cores in total). Linear scaling is observed for up to 4096 MPI tasks using about 6-8 M grid points per processor (domains of 24-32 G grid points). The maximum efficiency is usually reached when simulations are carried out within one mid-plane. In this case, a slightly super-linear scaling (with respect to the reference at 32 nodes) is observed for the standard domain sizes of up to 4 G grid points.

The code has been run for 2 iterations, i.e. 10 Runge-Kutta stages using the fourth-order, five-stages algorithm, and the variance of measured times was found to be of the order of 1%. The cases considered here are listed in Table 8.1.

Name	q_x	q_y	q_z	Q
1024x0384	1024	1024	384	384 M
2048x0192	2048	2048	192	768 M
2048x1024	2048	2048	1024	4 G
3072x1536	3072	3072	1536	12 G
4096x1536	4096	4096	1536	24 G
4096x2048	4096	4096	2048	32 G

Table 8.1: Geometry and labels of the 3D cases.

8.1.1 Strong Scaling

The total number of MPI tasks (nodes) available to a simulation are distributed as $N = \text{ims_npro} = \text{ims_npro_k} \times \text{ims_npro_i}$ in the directions of k (z) and i (x). A series of measurements has been carried out to determine the optimum configuration for the six cases listed in table 8.1. Scaling matrices are shown in Figures 8.1 and 8.2 for the different cases. In these matrices the number of processors is constant along diagonals from the lower left to the upper right. In every matrix, the diagonal for $N = 1k$ MPI tasks is outlined by solid borders. In each of these diagonals, the best and worst configurations are marked by green, respectively red, color. In these matrices, the speed-up and efficiency is for strong scaling, and always calculated with respect to the time T_{ref} for the lowest number of cores with the lowest ims_npro_i . Efficiency η and speed-up S are calculated as above. The shapes used in the simulations, that is, the relative connection among mid-planes, is $1 \times 1 \times 1$, $2 \times 1 \times 1$, $2 \times 2 \times 1$, $2 \times 2 \times 2$, $4 \times 2 \times 2$, ordered from 1 mid-plane (512 nodes) to 16 mid-planes (8192 nodes).

8.1.2 Scaling from 32 to 8192 nodes

A strong scaling analysis over the entire range of nodes from 32 to 8192 is not possible. Hence, we restrict ourselves to a scaling analysis where we consider the number of grid points that is handled per processor and time unit. A straightforward definition for a metric of performance P is

$$P := \frac{Q}{NT}, \quad (8.3)$$

the number of grid points processed per node and per time. T is the time needed by each of the cases to advance exactly the same amount of instructions in the main algorithm, e.g. one stage of the Runge-Kutta scheme. P is a metric that makes performance comparable over *almost* arbitrary problem sizes and numbers of cores.

Note, that the caveat here is the operation count for the Fourier transforms which goes as $q_i \log q_i$ and $q_i \approx Q^{1/3}$ if domains are expanded by the same factor in each direction. Hence, for the overall operation count of the Fourier transforms Σ_{FFT} we get

$$\frac{\Sigma_{\text{FFT}}}{q_i^2} \propto 3q_i \log q_i = Q^{1/3} \log Q \Rightarrow \Sigma_{\text{FFT}} \propto Q \log Q. \quad (8.4)$$

For the range of Q considered here, this effect is, however, small since the super-linear contribution of Σ_{FFT} is only $\frac{\log 32G}{\log 384M} \approx 1.2$ and the FFT accounts for a negligible part of the computational time

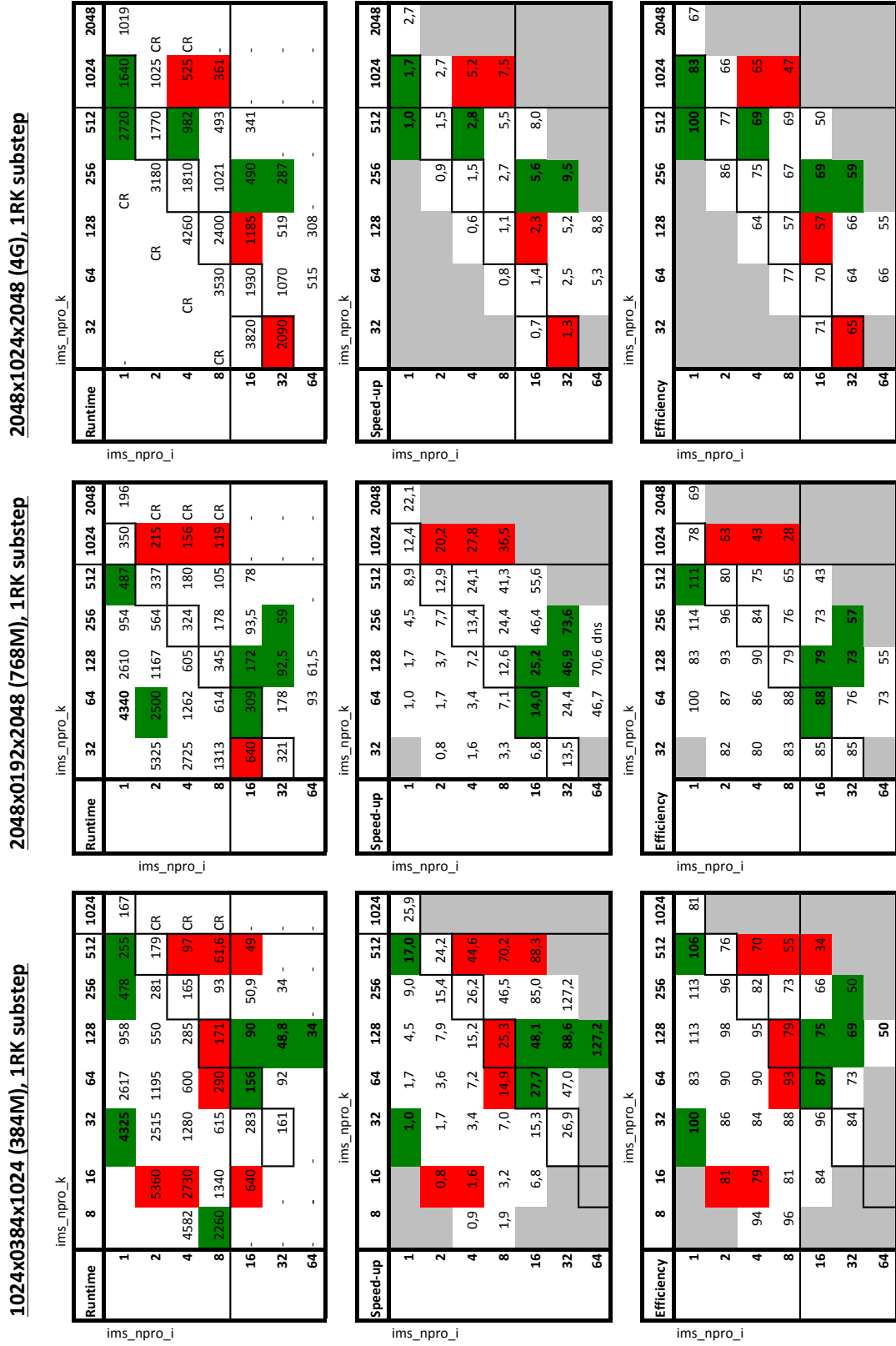


Figure 8.1: Matrices for scaling and 2D domain decomposition. Time is in hundredth of a second per single Runge-Kutta stage. In the time-matrices, simulations that crashed because of too little memory (above diagonals) and page problems (below diagonals) are marked by CR. If no measurement for a certain configuration was attempted, the cell is left empty. For speed-up and efficiency all configurations not available are marked gray.



Figure 8.2: More cases. Same legend as in Figure 8.1.

T		Efficiency w.r.t 32 cores of smallest case					
Q [M]		384	768	4.096	13.824	24.576	32.768
N [k]							
1/32	4.325						
1/16	2260	4340					
1/8	1340	2500					
1/4	478	954					
1/2	270	487	2720				
1/1	156	309	1640				
2/1	90	172	982	3410			
4/1	48,8	93	490	1710	2115	2820	
8/1	34	59	287	1006	1400	1740	

S (Speed-up)		P (Megapoints per k-procs per 0.01 seconds)					
Q [M]		384	768	4.096	13.824	24.576	32.768
N [k]							
1/32	1,0						
1/16	1,9	2,0					
1/8	3,2	3,5					
1/4	9,0	9,1					
1/2	16,0	17,8	17,0				
1/1	27,7	28,0	28,1				
2/1	48,1	50,3	47,0	45,7			
4/1	88,6	93,0	94,1	91,1	130,9	130,9	
8/1	127,2	146,6	160,7	154,8	197,7	212,1	

Q [M]		384	768	4.096	13.824	24.576	32.768
N [k]							
1/32	2,84						
1/16	2,72	2,83					
1/8	2,29	2,46					
1/4	3,21	3,22					
1/2	2,84	3,15	3,01				
1/1	2,46	2,49	2,50				
2/1	2,13	2,23	2,09	2,03			
4/1	1,97	2,06	2,09	2,02	2,90	2,90	
8/1	1,41	1,63	1,78	1,72	2,19	2,35	

Figure 8.3: Scaling results in term of Speed-Up S_W , Efficiency E_W and Performance P as defined above.

(1% – 5% of the computational part, which is 0.5%-2.5% of the overall time). The operation count of the rest of the algorithms is linear.

Given P , one can compute a virtual efficiency and speed-up η_v and S_v as

$$\eta_v := \frac{P}{P_{\text{ref}}}; \quad S_v := \frac{N}{N_{\text{ref}}} \frac{P}{P_{\text{ref}}} \quad (8.5)$$

with respect to a reference. Here, we use the same reference for all simulations and cases, namely, the 32×1 decomposition of the case with $Q = 384$ M. For larger numbers of cores N and simulation sizes Q we always choose the optimum configuration which is marked by green color in Figures 8.1 and 8.2.

The scaling as described in the above paragraph is summarized in the tables shown in Figure 8.3. The first table contains the real time needed for one Runge-Kutta stage, measure in hundredths of a second. As already said before, these data is simply collected from the matrices on Figures 8.1 and 8.2. The other 3 tables in Figure 8.3 contain the corresponding values of P , η_v and S_v . Figure 8.4 shows the speed-up S_v . In the upper panel there is one line for each cases. Note, that the definition of S_v does **not imply that cases start on the linear scaling line**. In this case, it is part of the measurements and simply means that $\eta_v \approx 100\%$ or $P \approx P_{\text{ref}}$.

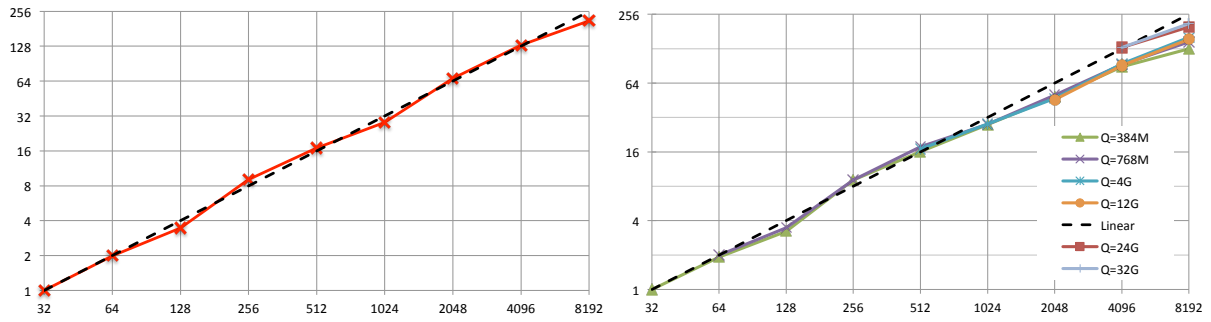


Figure 8.4: Upper panel: S_W versus number of nodes for all geometries. Lower panel: maximum speedup for a given number of processors $\max(S_W)|_N$; axes as in upper panel.

8.2 Scaling on the cluster blizzard@dkrz.de

To be done.

9 Profiling

We include here results from profiling to identify where to put the effort to further optimize the code. The diagrams shown below have been constructed with `gprof2dot.py`¹.

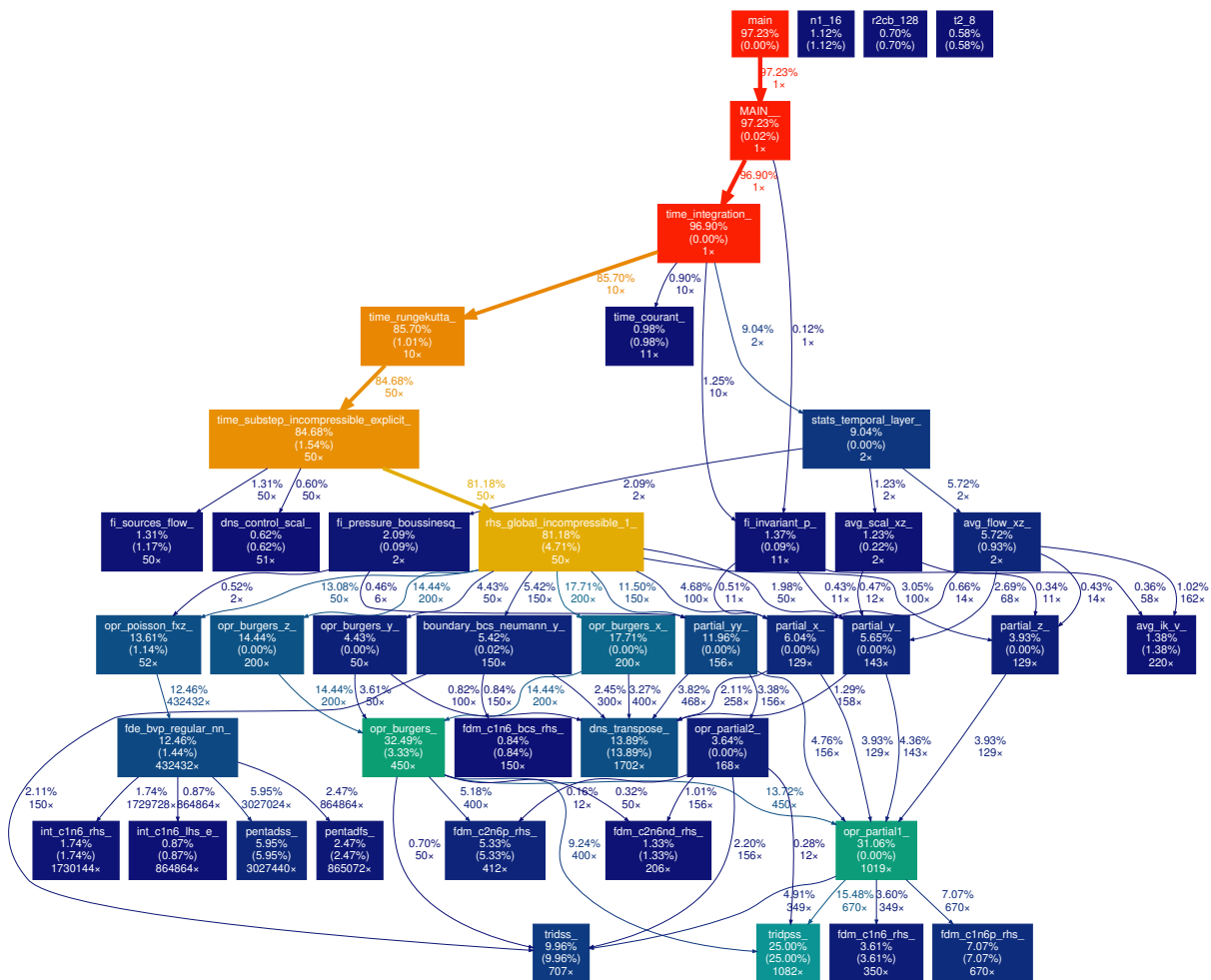


Figure 9.1: From example/Case33 running 10 iterations. Profiling data obtained from `gfortran -pg` and processed with `gprof`, running the command `gprof path/to/your/executable | gprof2dot.py | dot -Tpdf -o output.pdf`.

¹<https://github.com/jrfonseca/gprof2dot>

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