

# **Implicit Neural Representations for surrogate modeling of transonic aerodynamics.**

**1st Workshop on Machine Learning for Fluid Dynamics.**

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[1] Isae-Supaero, Toulouse. [2] Airbus, Toulouse

**AIRBUS**



# **Introduction and Objectives**

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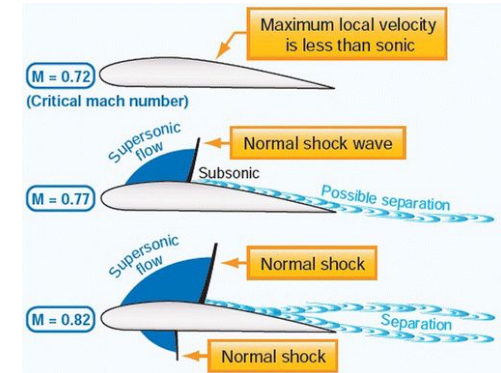
*Surrogate Modeling of Transonic Flows*

# Introduction - Transonic Flows

Transonic Flows are of paramount importance in commercial and military aviation.

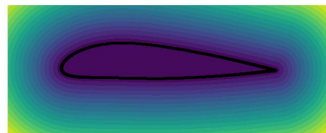
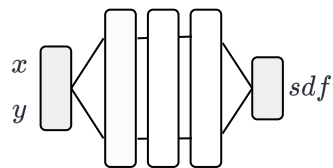
Accurate wing design for transonic conditions can lead to significant **drag reduction** and fuel savings.

Challenges in developing surrogate models for transonic flows are represented by the presence of **shock waves**.

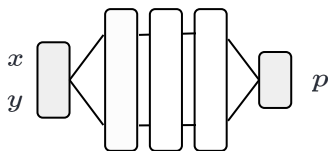


# Introduction - Implicit Neural Representations.

Neural Networks can continuously approximate signals on general domains: **Implicit Neural Representation (INRs)**.

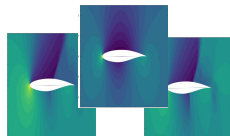
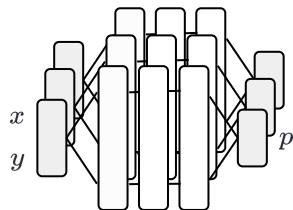


A **shape** can be parametrized by a NN that outputs the **Signed Distance Function** value at each point [2].

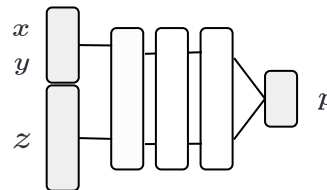


Similarly, for a **physical field** on a mesh (es. a pressure field) [3].

**Distinct NN for each sample**




**Latent code conditioning**



[2] Park, Jeong Joon, et al. "DeepSDF: Learning continuous signed distance functions for shape representation." *Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF conference on computer vision and pattern recognition*. 2019.

[3] Serrano, Louis, et al. "Operator Learning with Neural Fields: Tackling PDEs on General Geometries." *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems* 36 (2024).



# Introduction - Objectives

Demonstrate the potential of an INR based approach in predicting transonic aerodynamics, namely the shock region.

Compare the approach with traditional and state of the art surrogate models.

Analyze the effect of the INR architecture, namely in terms of input encoding.

Show the advantages of using a multiscale Implicit Neural Representation architecture.

# Methodology

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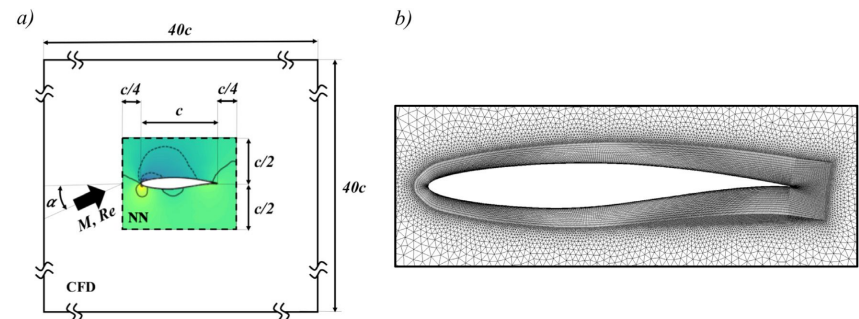
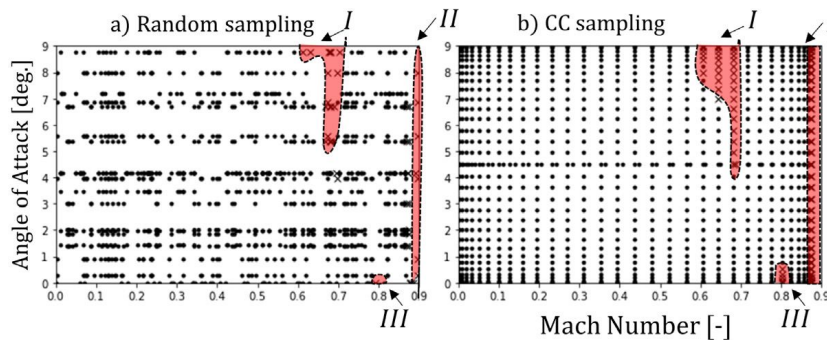
# Methodology - RAE 2822 Dataset.

~1000 RANS simulations on the transonic RAE2822 airfoil [6].

Mach Number in the range [0.2,0.9].

AoA in the range [0 deg, 9 deg].

Fixed triangular, unstructured mesh ~27000 nodes



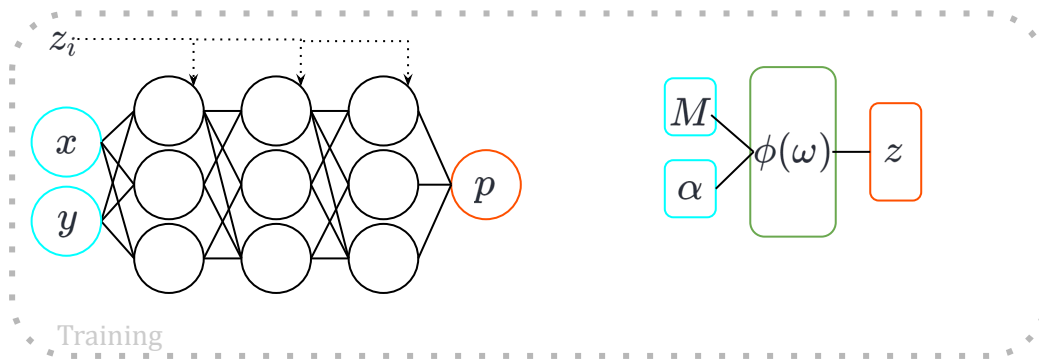
# Methodology - INR Model Overview

Dataset consists of multiple pressure field samples  $\{X_i\}_{i=1,\dots,M}$  where each sample consists of coordinate and pressure values tuples:  $X_i = \{(\mathbf{x}_j, p_j)\}_{j=1,\dots,N}$

**Latent codes**  $\{z_i\}_{i=1,\dots,M}$  and **network weights** are jointly learnt:  $\operatorname{argmin}_{\theta, \{z_i\}_{i=1}^M} \sum_{i=1}^M (\sum_{j=1}^N \mathcal{L}(f_{\theta}(z_i, \mathbf{x}_j), p_j))$

At training time, a subset of nodes is **dynamically subsampled** to speed up training.

The latent space dynamics is learnt with a regressor (MLP)  $\phi(\omega)$





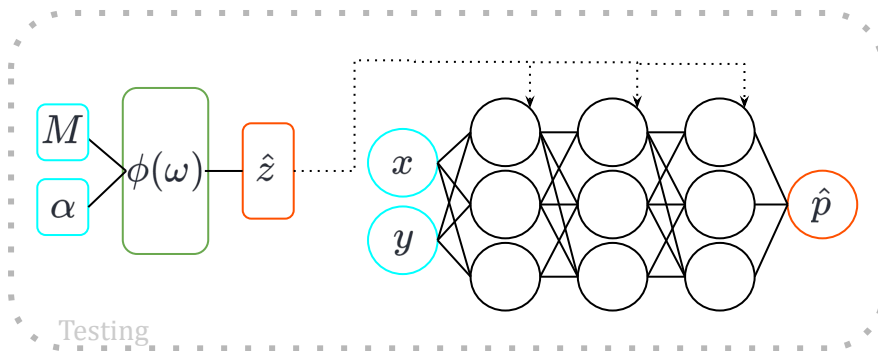
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# Methodology - Multiscale Architecture

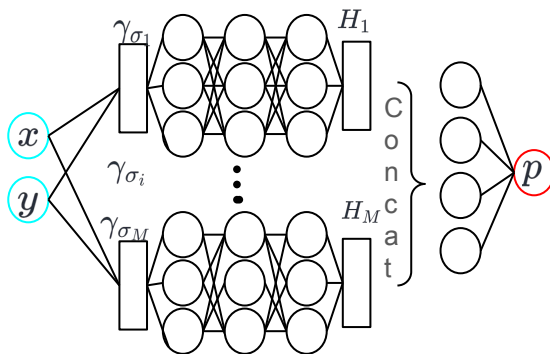
**Fourier Feature Networks** [5] perform positional encoding via the Fourier Basis functions. The standard deviation controls the **kernel bandwidth** and the overfitting behaviour of the model.

To enhance convergence to the high frequency components and to limit at the same time overfitting, inspired by [6] we propose a multiscale FF-NN architecture:

- Multiple Gaussian encodings are operated on the input coordinates:

$$\gamma_{\sigma_i}(v) = [\sin(2\pi \mathbf{B}_{\sigma_i} v), \cos(2\pi \mathbf{B}_{\sigma_i} v)] \quad b_{\sigma_i} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_i^2) \quad i = 1, \dots, M$$

- The intermediate outputs  $H_i \quad i = 1, \dots, M$  are concatenated and passed through a final linear layer.



[5] Tancik, Matthew, et al. "Fourier features let networks learn high frequency functions in low dimensional domains." *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems* 33 (2020)

[6] Wang, Sifan, Hanwen Wang, and Paris Perdikaris. "On the eigenvector bias of Fourier feature networks: From regression to solving multi-scale PDEs with physics-informed neural networks." *Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering* 384 (2021): 113938.

# Results and Discussion

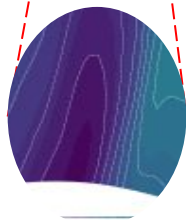
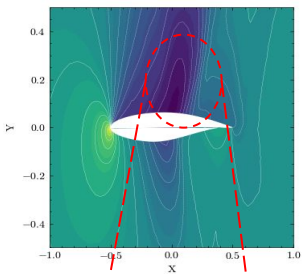
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*RAE2822 Airfoil Dataset*

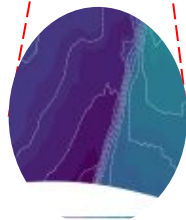
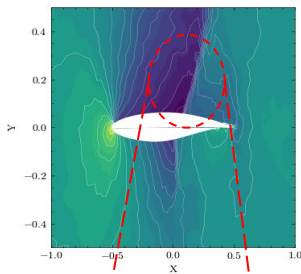
# Results and Discussion

$$\alpha = 3.96[deg], M = 0.82$$

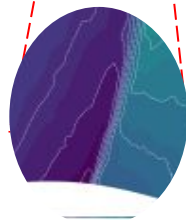
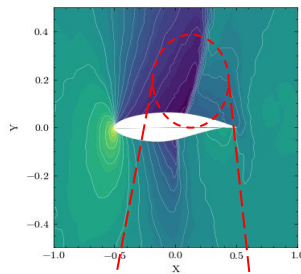
POD + GPR



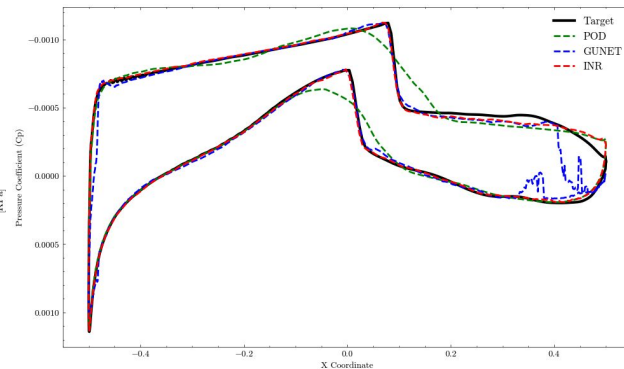
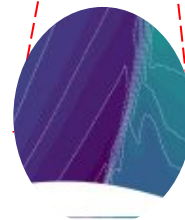
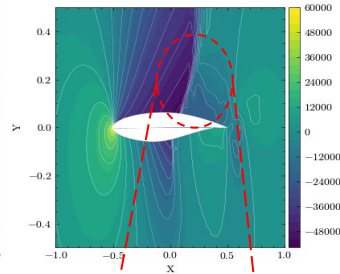
GUNET



INR



CFD

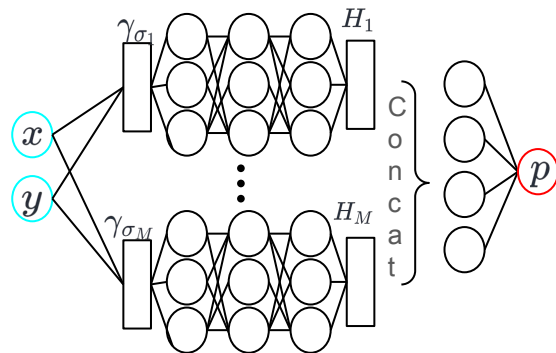
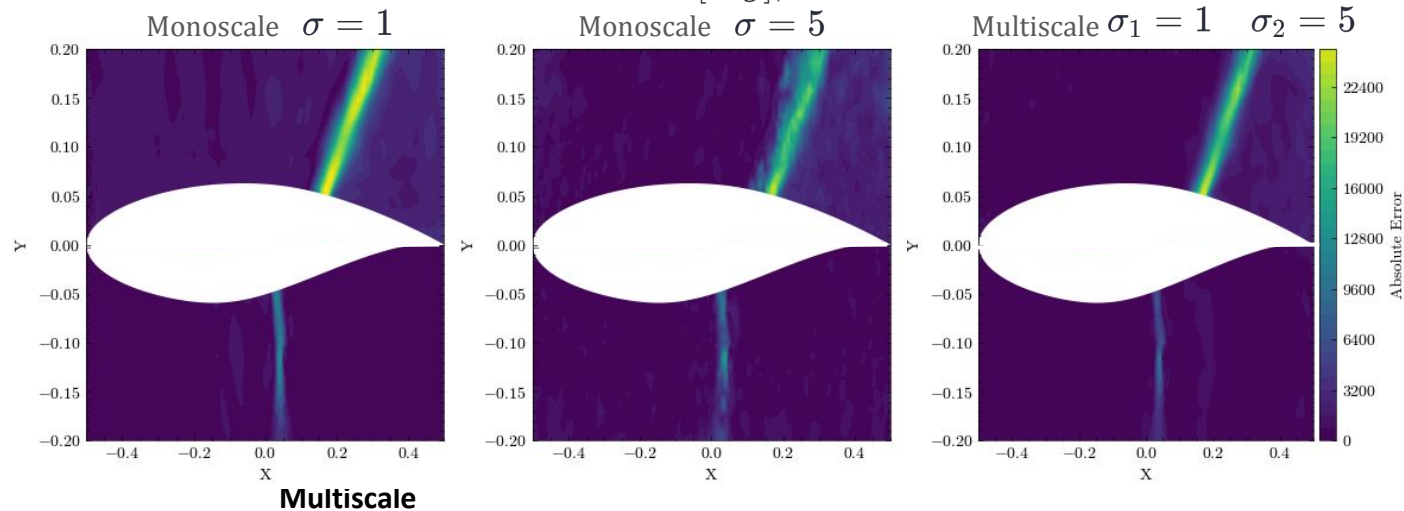


MSE  
(Non Normalized Outputs, Factor  $10^6$ )

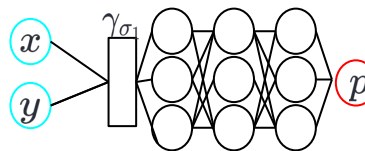
INR (MultiScale)	GUNET	POD + GPR
1.51	4.1	3.2

# Results and Discussion

$$\alpha = 7.68[deg], M = 0.86$$



Monoscale



MSE (Non Normalized Outputs, Factor 10e6)		
$\sigma = 1$	$\sigma = 5$	$\sigma_1 = 1 \quad \sigma_2 = 5$
1.61	1.67	1.51

# **Conclusions and Recommendations**



# Conclusions

Implicit Neural Representations have been demonstrated to accurately model the transonic flow over an airfoil.

The shock region non linearities are properly reconstructed with similar accuracy to Multiscale Graph Unet.

The model can be trained at lower resolutions with similar performance (approximate discretization invariance).

Feature Encoding with larger frequencies improve shocks capturing accuracy but lead to more noisy outputs.

The model can benefit from a multiscale architecture which performs multiple encodings.



# Recommendations

The approach should be demonstrated for learning complex aerodynamics on manifolds in 3D.

The frequency encoding should be adapted to the frequency spectrum of the training dataset.

Discretization invariance is an important aspect that should be investigated for extension to large mesh simulations where full graph training is not feasible.



**Thanks for listening!**

**Reach out at: [giovanni.catalani@airbus.com](mailto:giovanni.catalani@airbus.com)**

# Appendix

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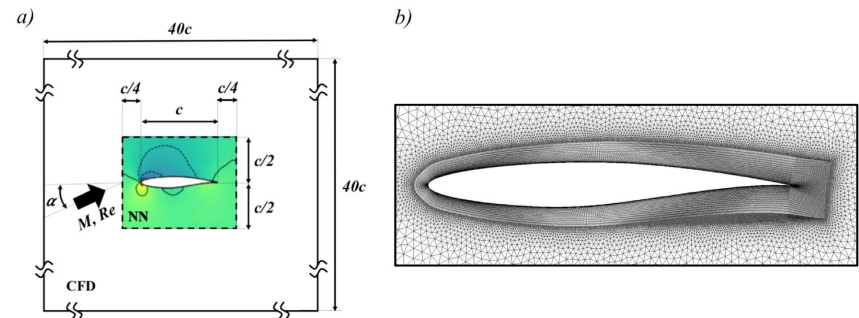
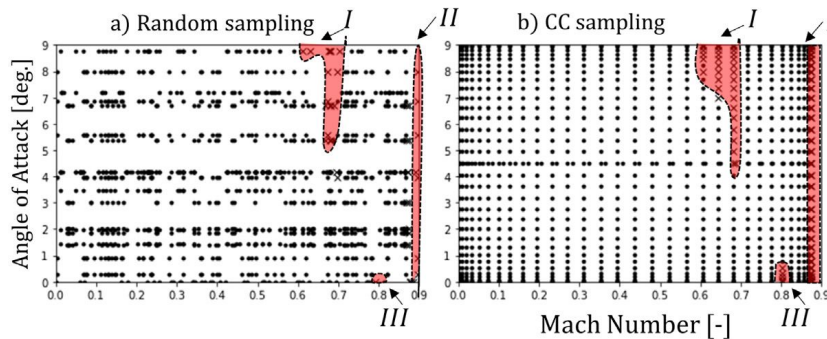
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Mach Number in the range [0.2,0.9].

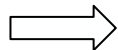
AoA in the range [0 deg, 9 deg].

Fixed triangular, unstructured mesh ~27000 nodes

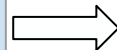


# Appendix - Fourier Feature Networks

Simple MLPs are characterized by **spectral bias**: slow convergence to high frequency feature



Positional encoding: **Fourier Feature Networks** [5] perform positional encoding via the Fourier Basis functions.

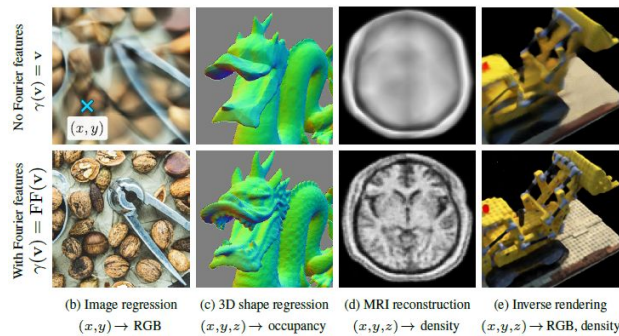
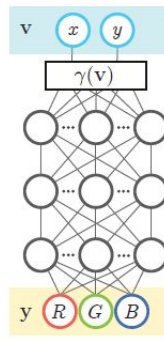


Fourier Feature mapping make the regression kernel function **stationary**. Convergence to higher frequency content of the data is enhanced.

## Gaussian Encoding

$$\gamma(v) = [a_1 \cos(2\pi b_1^T v), a_1 \sin(2\pi b_1^T v), \dots, a_m \cos(2\pi b_m^T v), a_m \sin(2\pi b_m^T v)]^T$$
$$b \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$$

The standard deviation controls the **kernel bandwidth** and the overfitting behaviour of the model.



# Appendix - Baseline Methods

## Proper Orthogonal Decomposition + Gaussian Process Regression

### POD Formulation

$$\max_{\phi_1, \dots, \phi_M} \sum_{j=1}^M \sum_{i=1}^M |\langle \mathbf{p}^{(j)}, \phi_i \rangle|^2$$

$$\mathbf{p}^{(j)} = \sum_{l=1}^N a_{lj} \phi_l \text{ for } j = 1, \dots, M$$

$$a_{lj} = \langle \phi_l, \mathbf{p}^{(j)} \rangle.$$

### Gaussian Process Regression

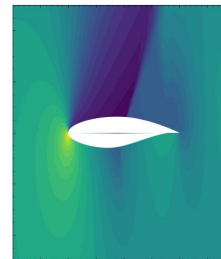
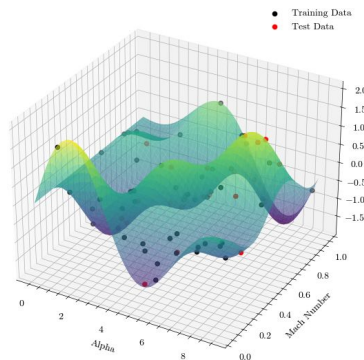
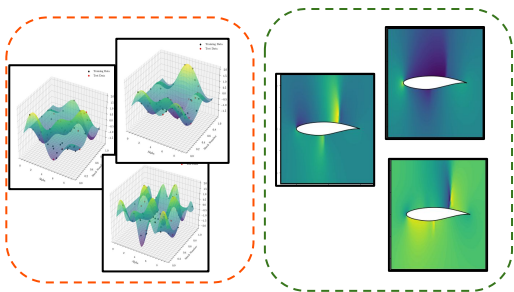
$$\{\hat{a}_{lj}\}_{l=1, \dots, r} = f^{GPR}(\mu_j)$$

Radial Basis Function Kernel with optimized hyperparameters [7].

### Final Prediction

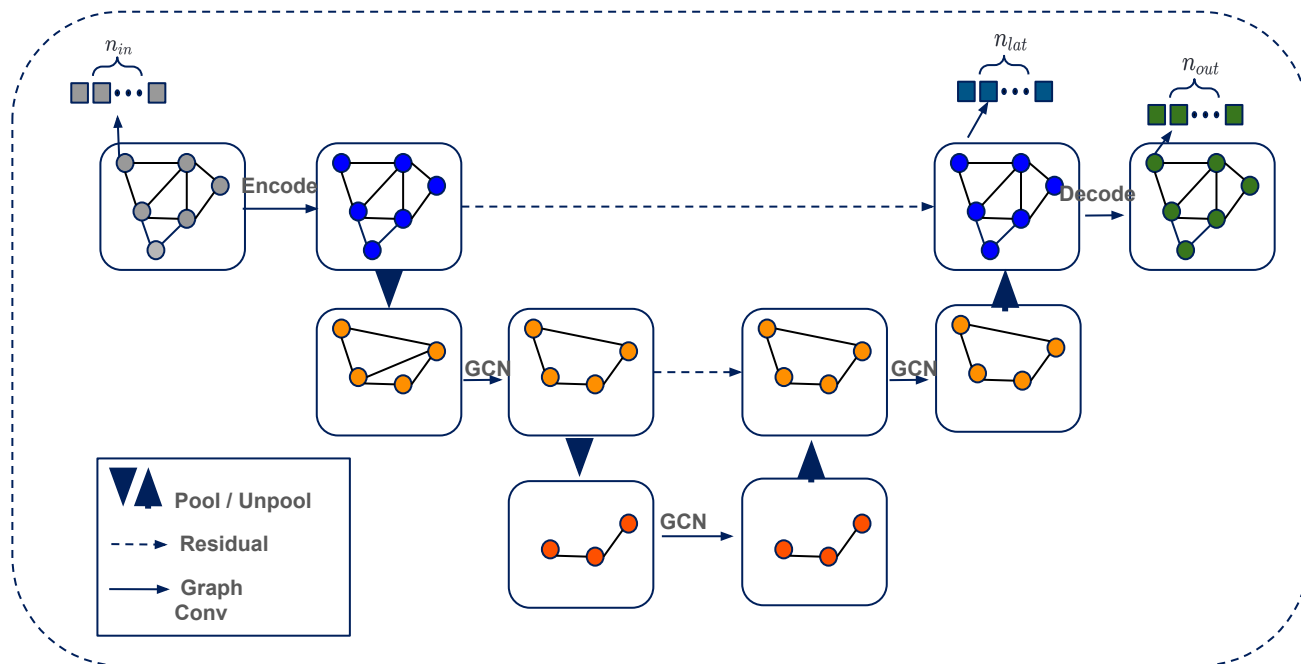
$$\hat{\mathbf{p}}^{(j)} = \sum_{l=1}^r \hat{a}_{lj} \phi_l$$

r=128 component are retained (latent dimension)



# Appendix - Baseline Methods

Graph UNET [8]



Encoder - Process - Decode

SageConvolution Layers

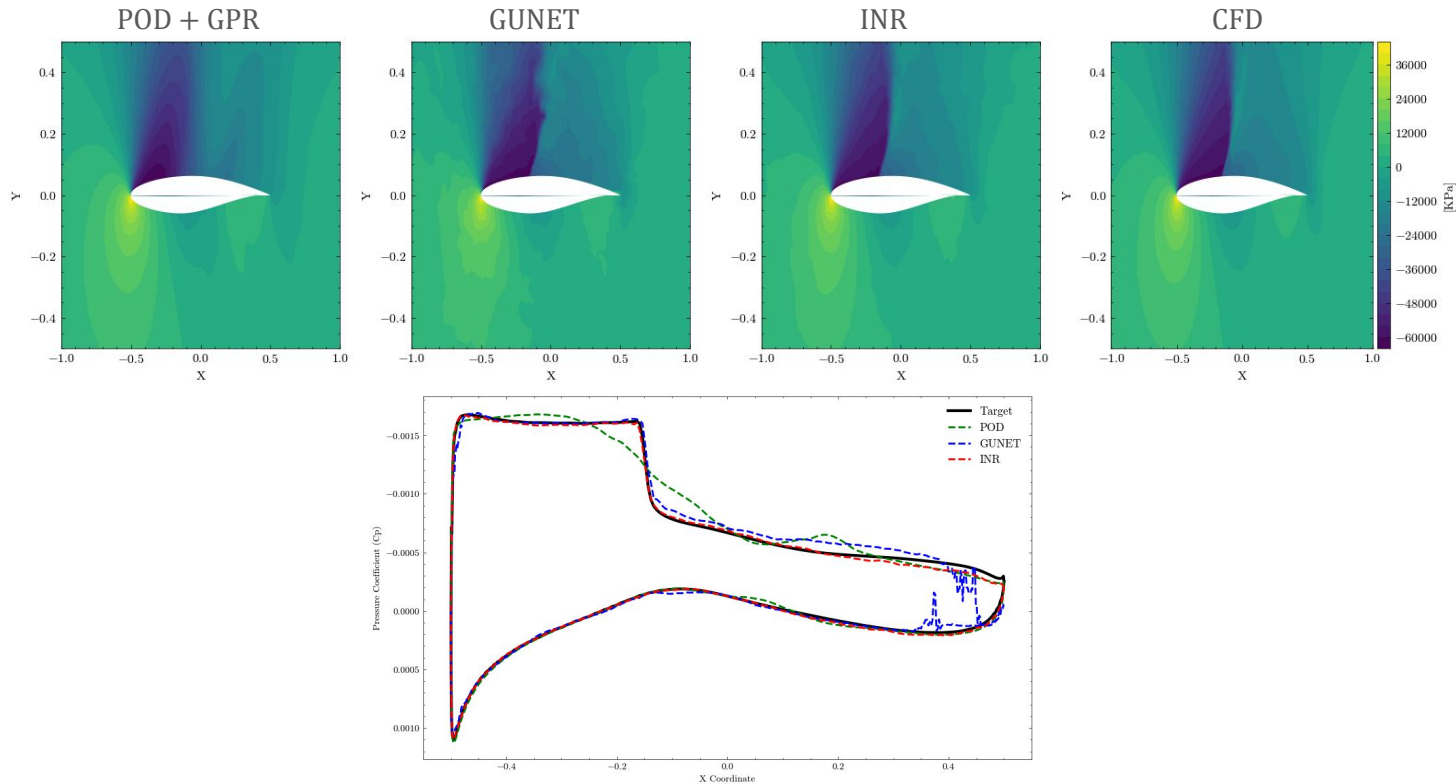
TopKPooling (3 Levels)

Latent dimension of 128

Inputs: x,y,Mach,alpha  
Outputs: Pressure

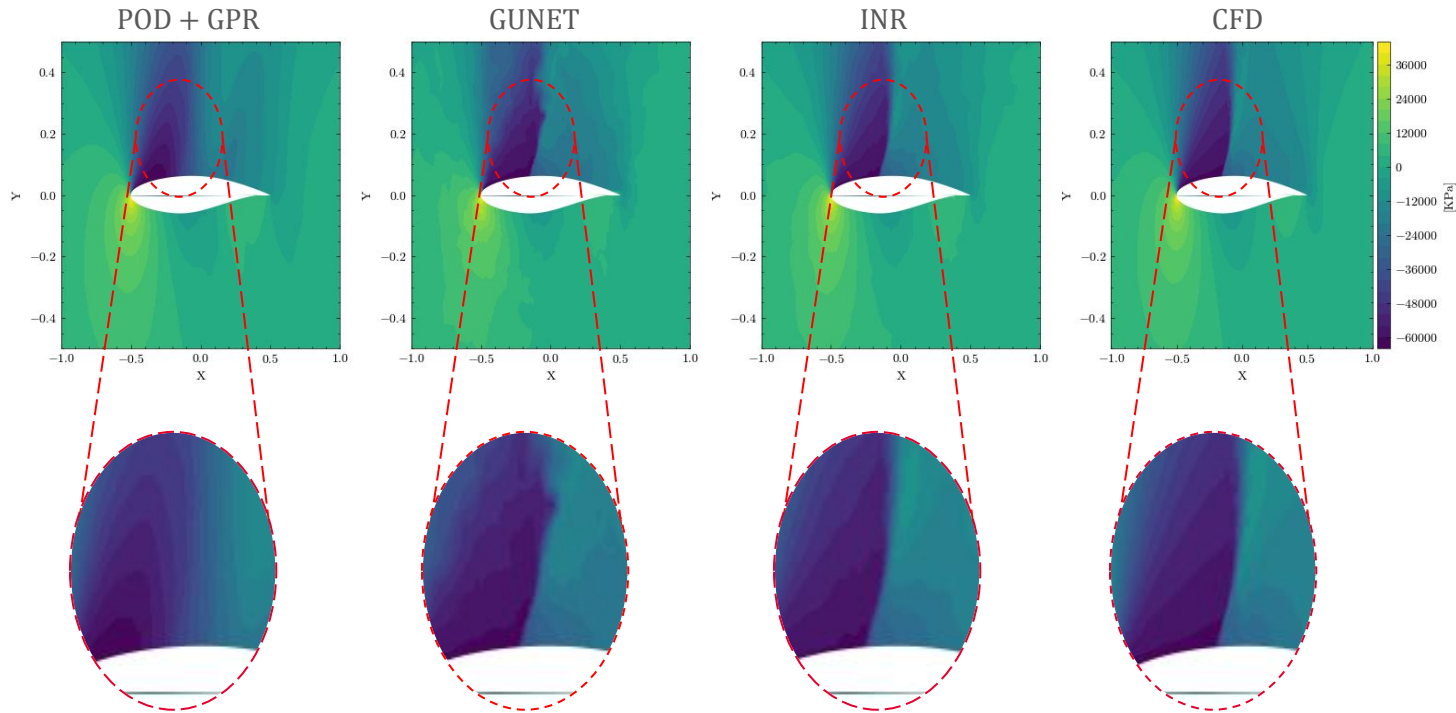
# Appendix

$$\alpha = 6.7[deg], M = 0.71$$



# Appendix

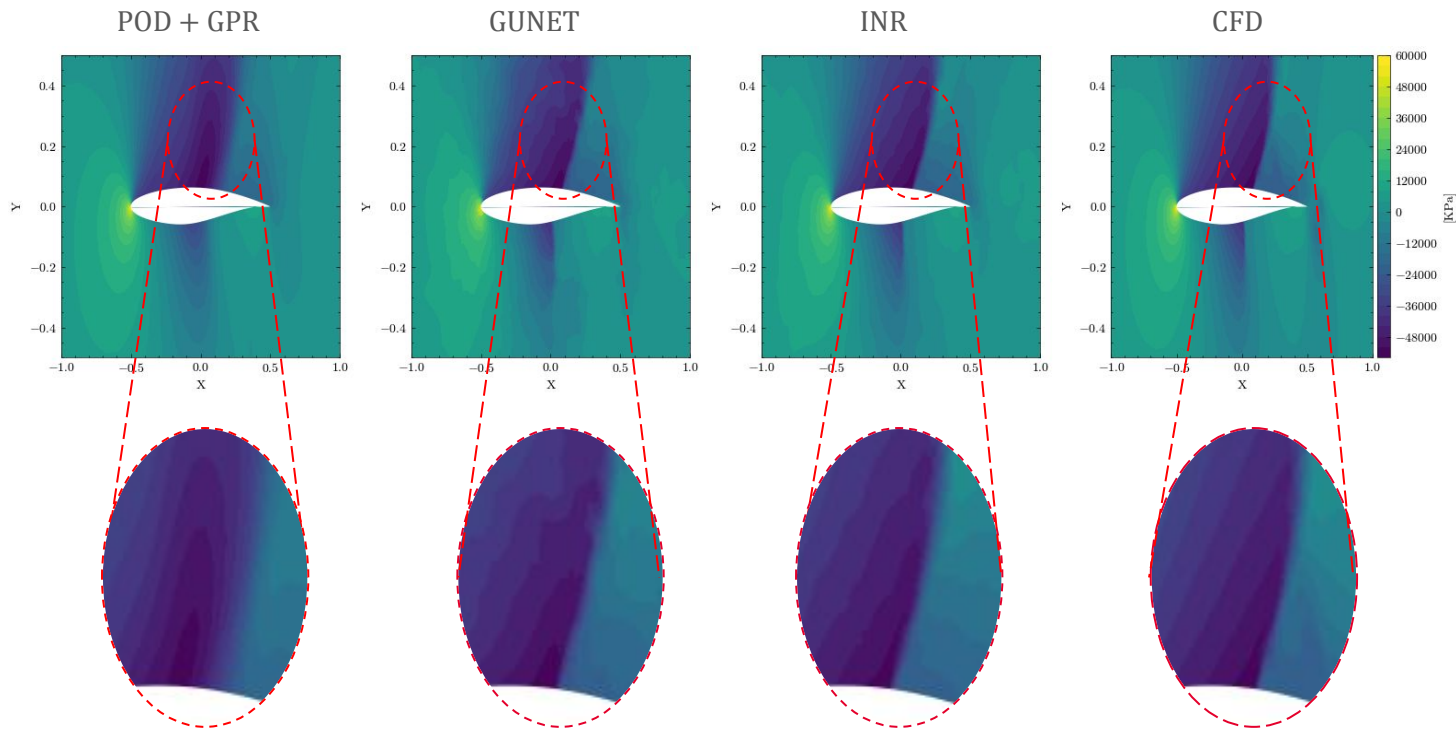
$$\alpha = 6.7[deg], M = 0.71$$





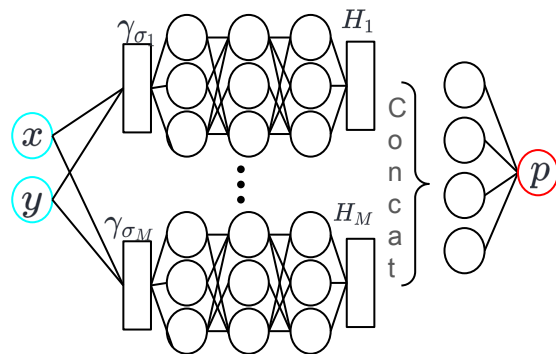
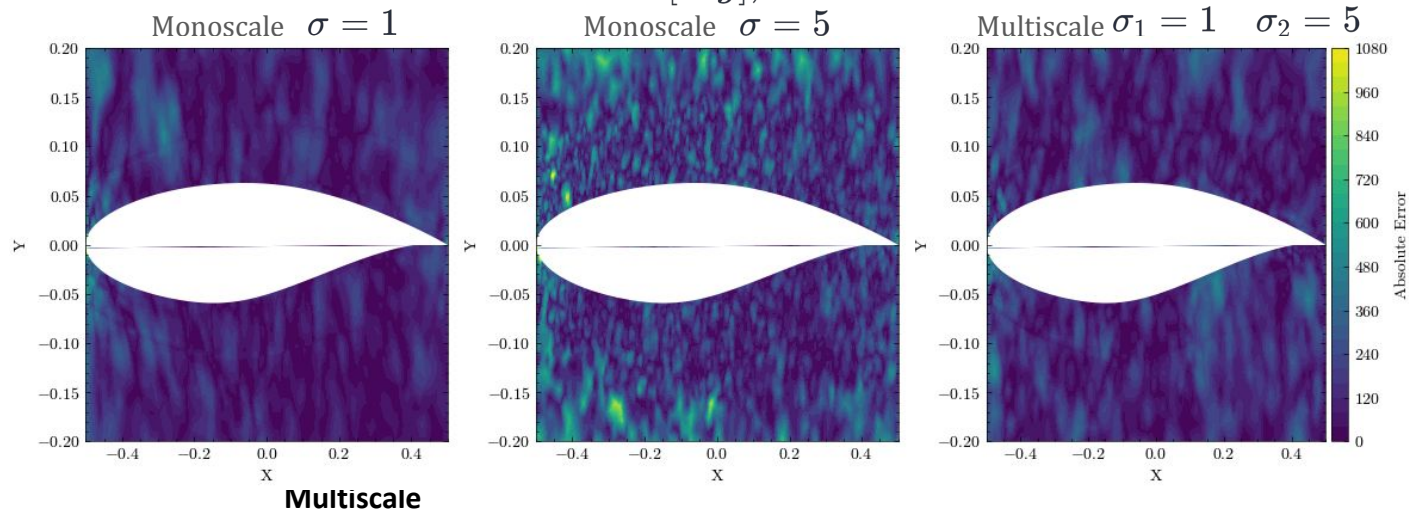
# Appendix

$$\alpha = 3.96[deg], M = 0.82$$

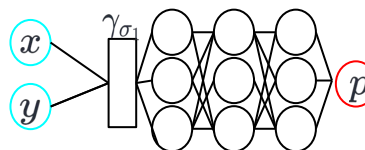


# Appendix

$$\alpha = 0[\text{deg}], M = 0.60$$



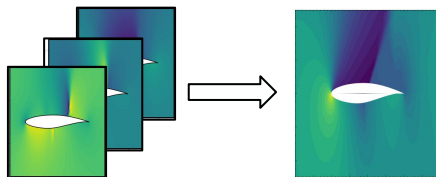
Monoscale



MSE (Non Normalized Outputs, Factor 10e6)		
$\sigma = 1$	$\sigma = 5$	$\sigma_1 = 1 \quad \sigma_2 = 5$
1.61	1.67	1.51

# Appendix - Landscape of Surrogate Models

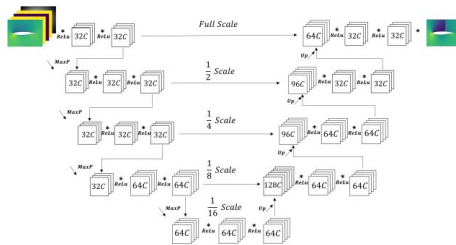
## Modal Based Methods (POD)



### Limitations

- Fixed Discretization.
- Non-linearities.
- Discontinuities.

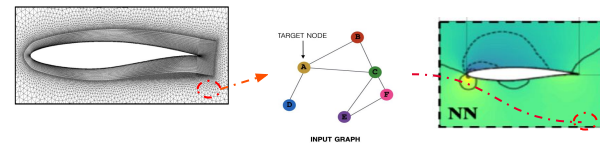
## Convolutional Neural Nets



### Limitations

- Uniform Grids.
- Large resolutions required

## Graph Neural Nets



### Limitations

- Oversmoothing.
- Large mesh applications.
- Multiscale operators.

# Results and Discussion

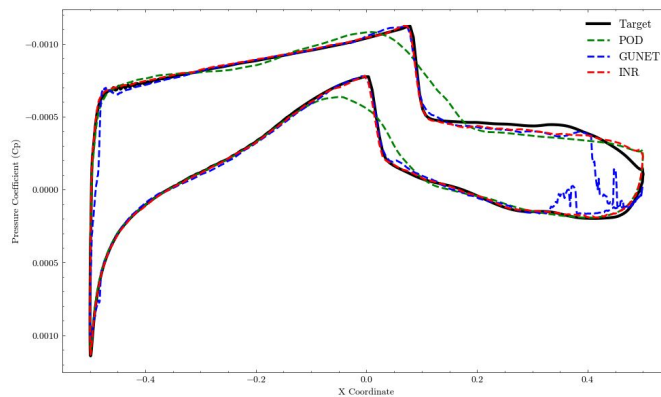
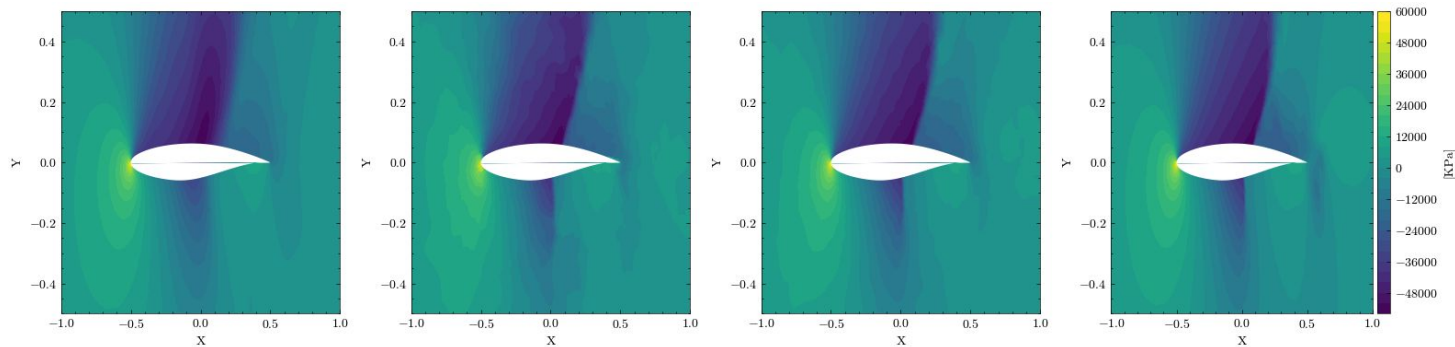
$$\alpha = 3.96[deg], M = 0.82$$

POD + GPR

GUNET

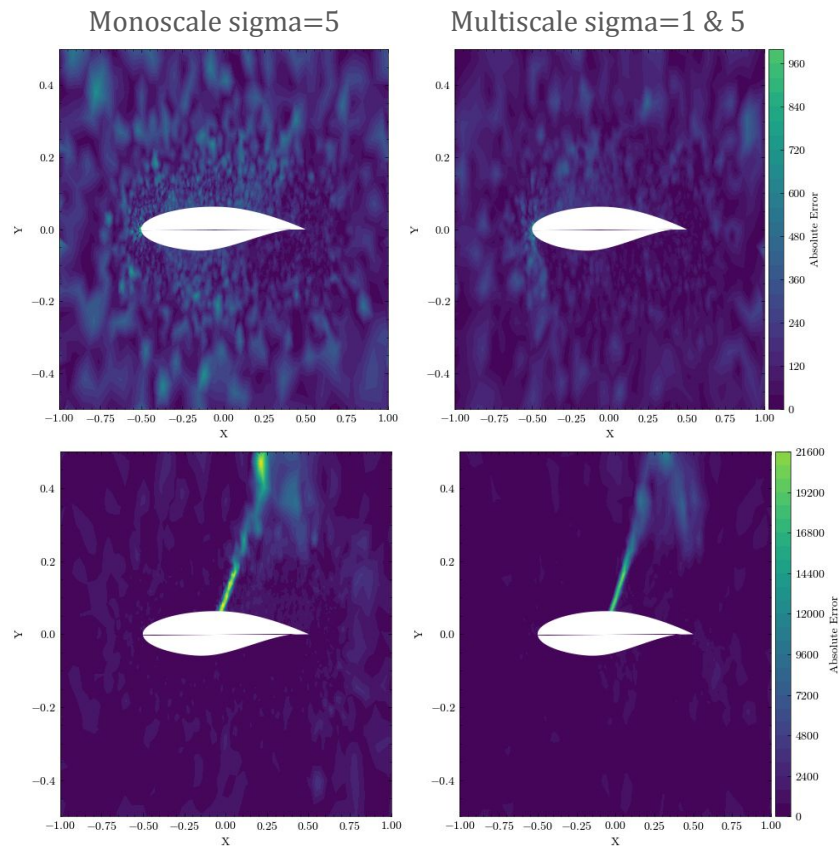
INR

CFD



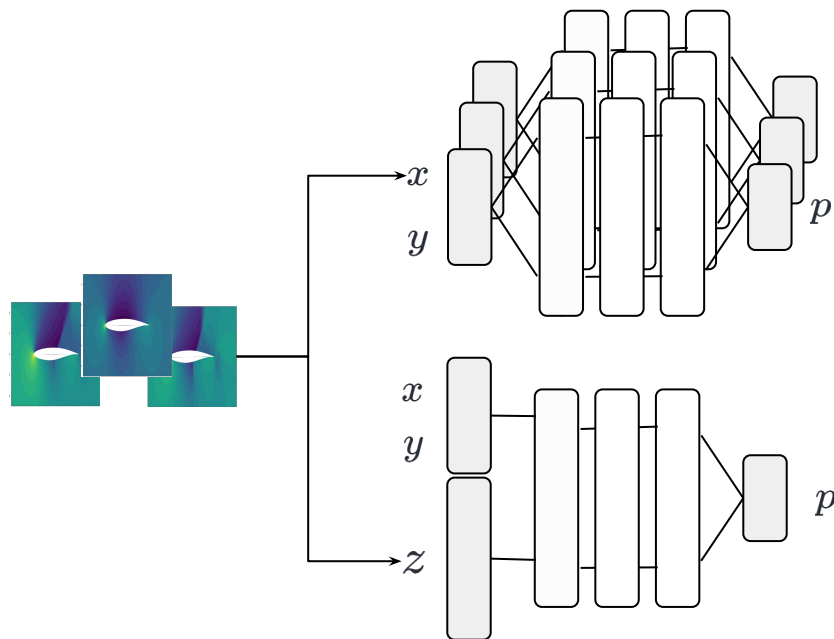
MSE (Non Normalized Outputs, Factor 10e6)		
INR (MultiScale)	GUNET	POD + GPR
1.51	4.1	3.2

# Results and Discussion



# INR: continuous representation of data.

Learning classes of objects for parametric systems on general domains.



Learn a distinct NN for each sample

Condition a global NN with a latent code  $z$ ,  
modulating the network outputs [4].

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