



EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR RESEARCH AND ADVANCED TRAINING IN SCIENTIFIC COMPUTING

Tools for the numerical simulation with complex chemistry

Open-source code CANTERA

Monday 14th November 2022



www.cerfacs.fr



Organisation of the day

9h30 – 10h30 : Talk about Cantera

10h30 – 12h30 : Jupyter notebook tutorials

12h30 – 14h : Lunch break

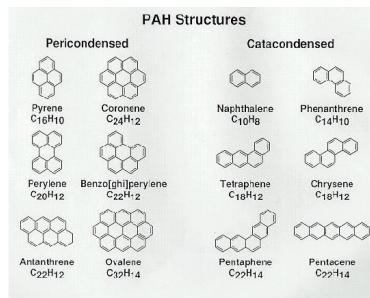
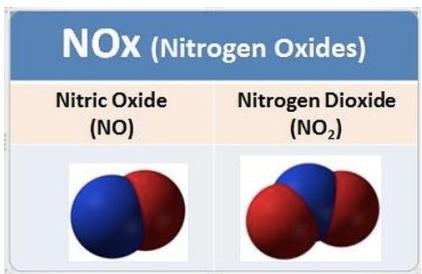
14h – 14h30 : Talk about cantera-avbp features

14h30 – 17h : End of jupyter notebook tutorials + create your own scripts



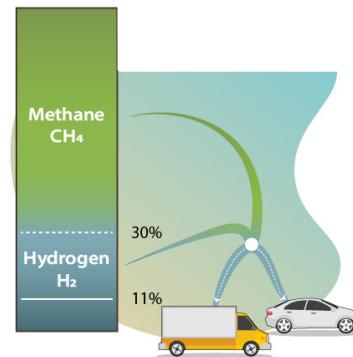
Why do we need chemistry ?

Pollutants



Chemistry driven processes

Ignition



Fuel blending

- I. Presentation of CANTERA
- II. Governing equations and numerical methods
- III. Practical use

- I. Presentation of CANTERA
- II. Governing equations and numerical methods
- III. Practical use



What is CANTERA ?



Cantera

is an open-source suite of tools for problems involving:

- Chemical kinetics
- Thermodynamics
- Transport processes

Multiple Interfaces :

- Python
- Matlab
- C/C++
- Fortran 90

Broad fields of applications :

- Combustion
- Detonations
- Electrochemical energy
- Conversion and storage
- Fuel cells
- Batteries
- Aqueous electrolyte solutions
- Plasmas
- Thin film deposition

User friendly :

- Object-oriented
- Easy custom inputs



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What is CANTERA ?



Cantera was originally written by Dave Goodwin in 2004

- ◆ He was a confirmed user of the CHEMKIN suite but disagreed with:
 - the charged software philosophy
 - the fixed structure of CHEMKIN
- ◆ Two main idea drive the Cantera development:
 - An open source software
 - An object-oriented structure with multiple interfaces
- ◆ Currently, Cantera is in version 2.6.0.

At Cefracs, we use a modified 2.3.0 version !



What is CANTERA ?



Cantera

vs

ANSYS Chemkin

- ◆ Cantera replicates most of the Chemkin functionalities and adds new capabilities (multiphase equilibrium, electrochemistry,...)
- ◆ Cantera can use Chemkin files through a file converter
- ◆ Cantera uses interfaces with scripts whereas Chemkin is based on keywords input files
- ◆ The Cantera documentation is scarce, relying on an automatic [documentation](#) and an active [community](#)

What can CANTERA do ?

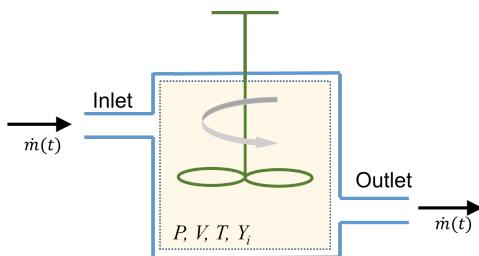


Cantera

proposes different configurations for the calculations :

0D

- Equilibrium State
- Constant Pressure/Volume reactor
- Steady-state Plug Flow Reactor



1D

- Freely propagating flame
- A schematic diagram of a freely propagating flame. It shows a horizontal line divided into two regions by a vertical blue line. The left region is labeled "Reactants" with properties ρ_u , T_u , and S_u . The right region is labeled "Products" with properties ρ_b , T_b , and S_b . Arrows indicate the transition from reactants to products.
- Diffusion flame in a counterflow

A schematic diagram of a diffusion flame in a counterflow. It shows two curved tubes on the left and right sides, each with an inlet arrow labeled "Fuel + Oxidizer Reactants". Between them is a central vertical tube labeled "Products" with an exit arrow. Arrows show the flow from the reactant tubes towards the center.

 - Premixed strain flame

What can CANTERA do ?

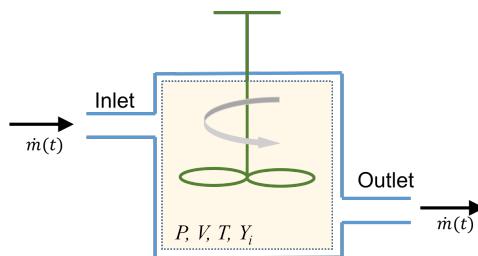


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- A schematic diagram of a freely propagating flame. It shows a horizontal line divided into two regions by a vertical blue line. The left region is labeled "Reactants" with density ρ_u , temperature T_u , and entropy S_u . The right region is labeled "Products" with density ρ_b , temperature T_b , and entropy S_b .
- Diffusion flame in a counterflow

A schematic diagram of a diffusion flame in a counterflow. It shows two curved tubes on the left and right sides, each labeled "Fuel + Oxidizer Reactants". Arrows indicate flow from the tubes towards a central vertical blue line. The central line is labeled "Products".

 - Premixed strain flame

and analysis tools :

- Easy access to data, Sensitivity Analysis, ...

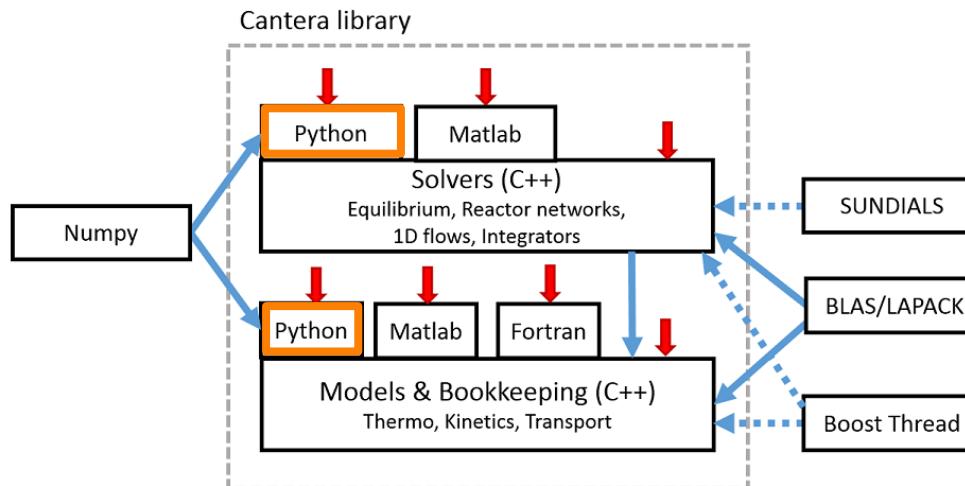
How do I use Cantera ?



Cantera is used through interfaces in different languages:

- Python
- Matlab
- C/C++
- Fortran 90

- ◆ Those interfaces are only front ends: calculations are done in an optimized, compiled code that is really efficient and fast !!

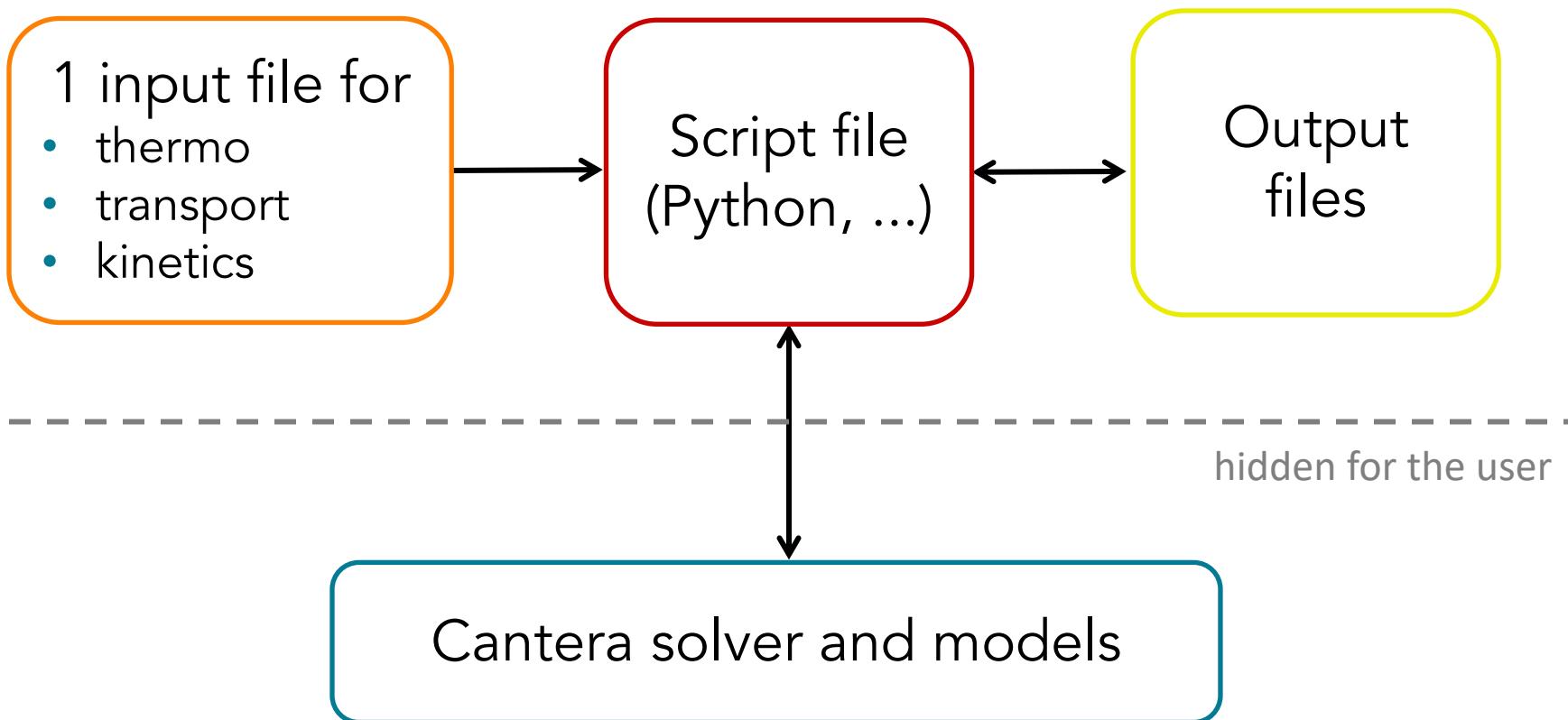




How do I use Cantera ?



Cantera calculations follow then the following structure:



What can I use Cantera for ?

- ◆ Compute elementary combustion characteristics:

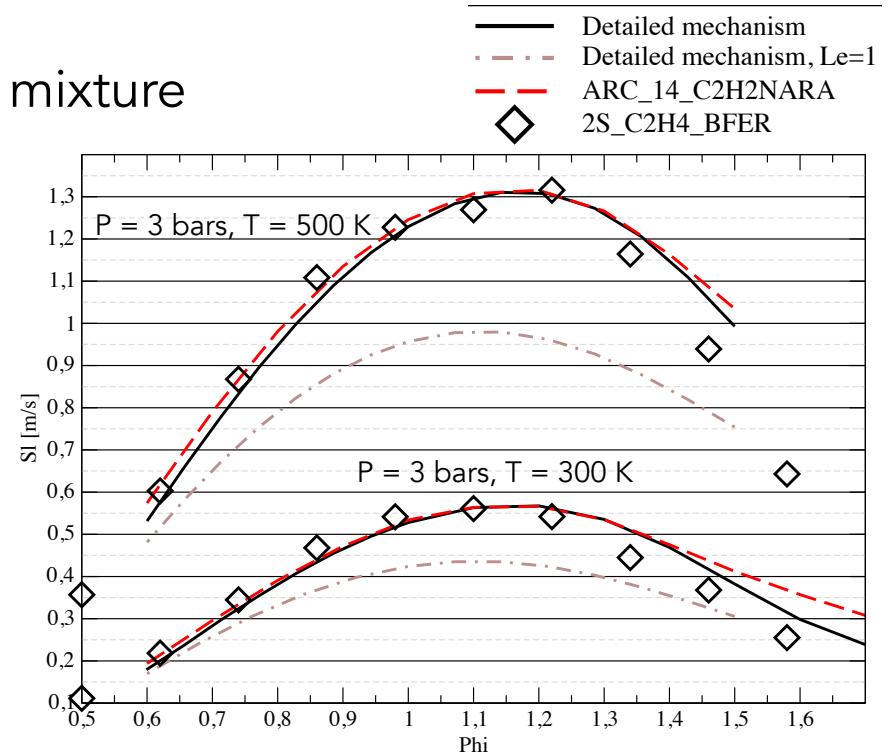
- Adiabatic flame temperature
- Equilibrium composition of a mixture
- Laminar flame speed
- ...

- ◆ Compare models:

- Transport
- Thick flame

- ◆ Initialize other codes:

- 1D flame profiles



Example of laminar flame speed comparison between different mechanisms for C2H4/Air¹

¹ K. Narayanaswamy, G. Blanquart, H. Pitsch "A consistent chemical mechanism for oxidation of substituted aromatic species ". Combustion and Flame, Vol.157 pp. 1879–1898, 2010

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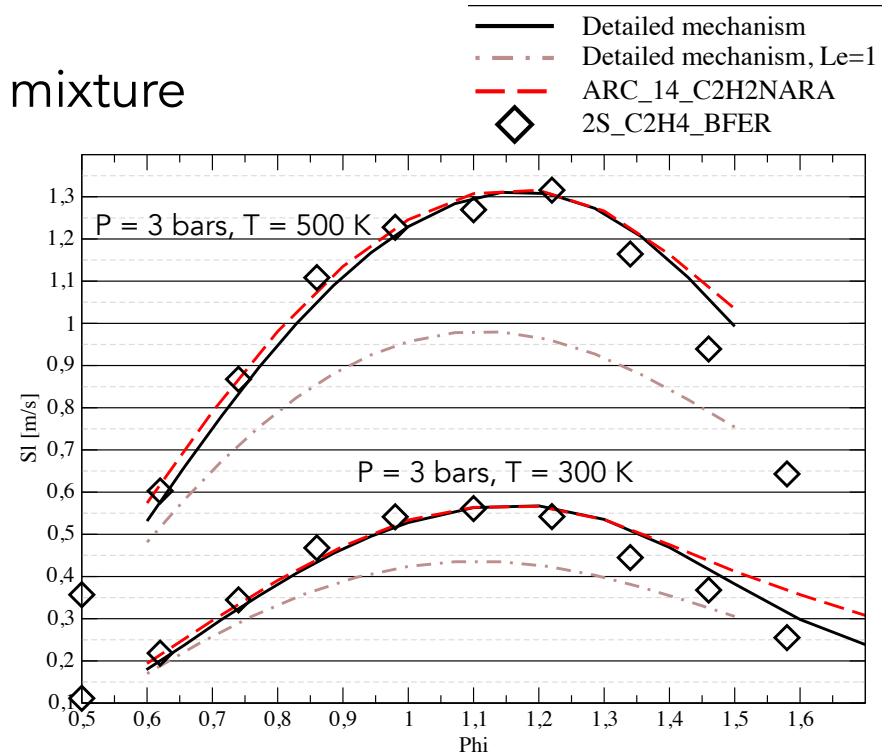
⇒ Cefacs version features

- ◆ Compare models:

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Example of laminar flame speed comparison between different mechanisms for C2H4/Air¹

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- I. Presentation of CANTERA
- II. Governing equations and numerical methods
- III. Practical use



Governing equations and numerical methods

Three methods are detailed:

- Equilibrium states (0D)
- Homogeneous Reactor (0D with time evolution)
- Laminar premixed flame (1D steady)



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Equilibrium state

The equilibrium state corresponds to a minimum of a property called the energy function under specified conditions

- ◆ The Gibbs free energy is defined as

$$G = H - TS$$

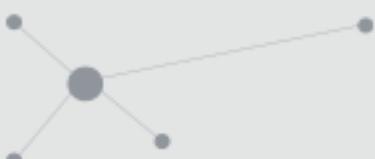
- ◆ The variation of the Gibbs free energy can be expressed as

$$\Delta G = \Delta H - \Delta(TS)$$

⇒ A reaction spontaneously occurs if $\Delta G < 0$

⇒ A reaction does NOT spontaneously occur if $\Delta G > 0$

⇒ Equilibrium is reached when $\Delta G = 0$



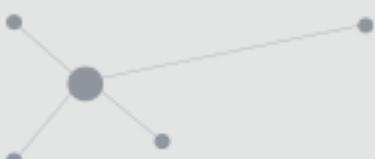
Equilibrium state

- ◆ For a mixture, the variation of the total Gibbs free energy of the mixture can be expressed as:

$$dG = \sum_{i=1}^N \mu_i dn_i = 0$$

- n_i is the number of moles of component i
 - μ_i is the chemical potential of component i
-
- ◆ With the constraint that the number of moles of every element that must be conserved

$$\Rightarrow X_k^{equil} = \frac{P_o}{P} \exp\left(-\frac{g_k^0(T)}{RT} + \sum_{l=1}^L n_{kl} \frac{\lambda_l}{RT}\right)$$



Equilibrium state

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- n_i is the number of moles of component i
- μ_i is the chemical potential of component i
- ◆ With the constraint that the number of moles of every element that must be conserved
 - There are no kinetics data, only thermodynamic data are involved !

$$\Rightarrow X_k^{equil} = \frac{P_o}{P} \exp\left(-\frac{g_k^0(T)}{RT} + \sum_{l=1}^L n_{kl} \frac{\lambda_l}{RT}\right)$$



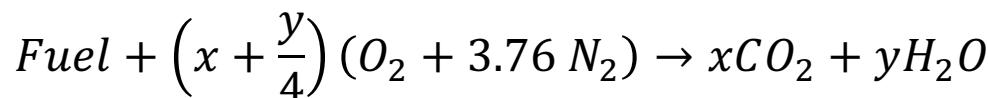
Equilibrium state

- ◆ Do we need equilibrium states when doing combustion ?
Yes !

We use :

- Constant T and P equilibrium for the calculation of the *Lower Heating Value (LHV)* [J/kg] :

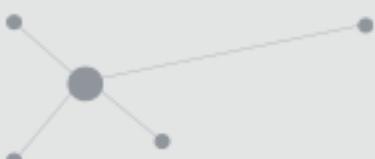
LHV corresponds to the energy released when Fuel and O_2 are transformed in CO_2 and H_2O :



LHV can be compared to the integral of heat release rate:

$$\int HRR dV = \dot{m}_F \cdot LHV$$

$$LHV = \sum_i^C n_i \bar{h}_i(T_{ref})$$



Equilibrium state

- ◆ Do we need equilibrium states when doing combustion ?

Yes !

We use :

- Constant H and P equilibrium for *the adiabatic flame temperature T_{ad}* :

$$X_k^{equil} = \frac{P_o}{P} \exp\left(-\frac{g_k^0(T_{ad})}{RT} + \sum_{l=1}^L n_{kl} \frac{\lambda_l}{RT}\right)$$

$$\Delta H = 0$$

⇒ Provides the final gas composition and the adiabatic flame temperature



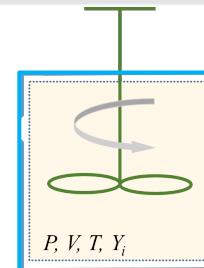
Governing equations and numerical methods

Three methods are detailed:

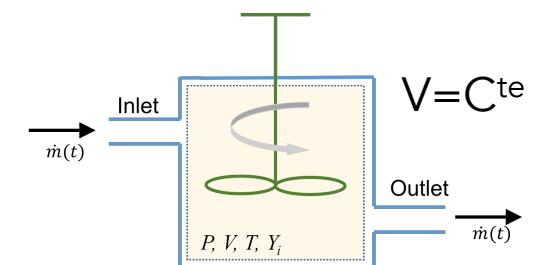
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Several types of reactors

- ◆ Batch Reactor at Constant Volume or at Constant Pressure

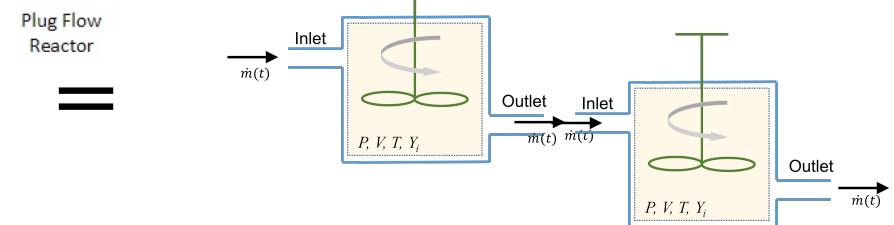
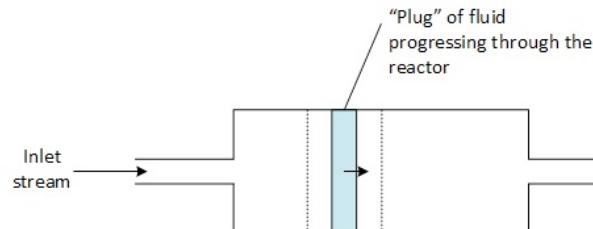


- ◆ Continuously Stirred Tank Reactor (CSTR) or Well-Stirred Reactor (WSR) or Perfectly Stirred Reactor (PSR) or Longwell reactor



- ◆ Plug-Flow Reactor (PFR)

- ⇒ Does not exist in Cantera
- ⇒ Is replaced by CSTRs



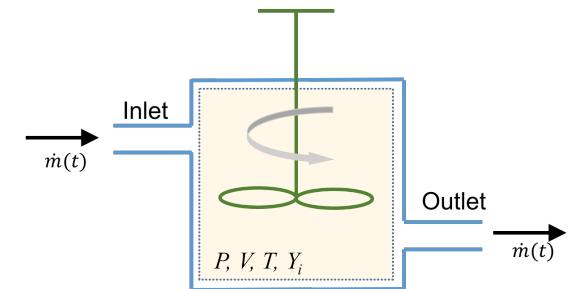
Lien : <https://testing.cantera.org/science/reactors.html>



Homogeneous Reactor

Temporal variations can be expressed as:

- ◆ Volume: $\frac{dV}{dt} = \sum_w f_w A_w v_w(t)$
- ◆ Mass: $\frac{dm}{dt} = \sum_{in} \dot{m}_{in} - \sum_{out} \dot{m}_{out} + \dot{m}_{wall}$
- ◆ Species: $\frac{d(mY_k)}{dt} = \sum_{in} \dot{m}_{in} Y_{k,in} - \sum_{out} \dot{m}_{out} Y_{k,out} + \dot{m}_{k,gen}$
- ◆ Energy: $\frac{dU}{dt} = -p \frac{dV}{dt} - \dot{Q} + \sum_{in} \dot{m}_{in} h_{in} - \sum_{out} \dot{m}_{out} h_{out}$



⇒ Stiff system of ODEs that are integrated with a solver from an external library (Sundials CVODE)

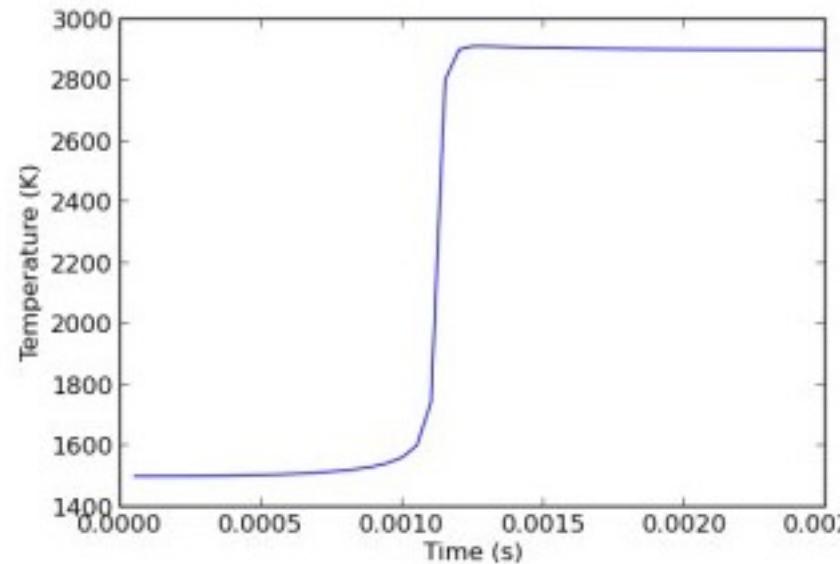
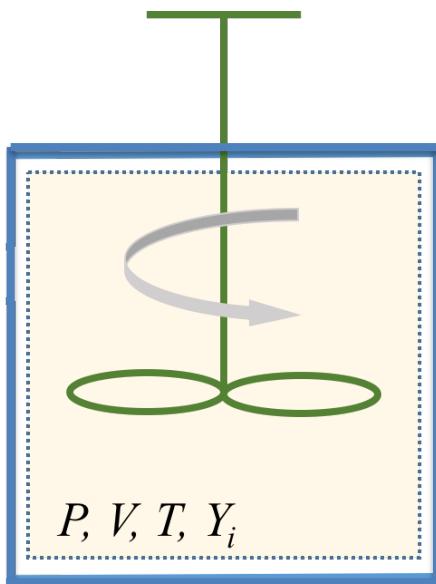


Homogeneous Reactor

- ◆ Do we need homogeneous reactor calculation ?

Yes !

The ignition delay time of a mixture can be estimated with constant volume reactor calculation





Governing equations and numerical methods

Three methods are detailed:

- Equilibrium State (0D)
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Several types of flames

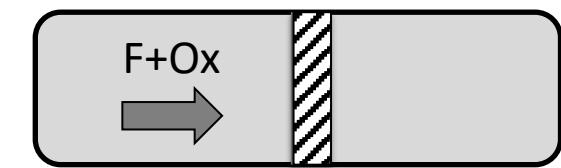
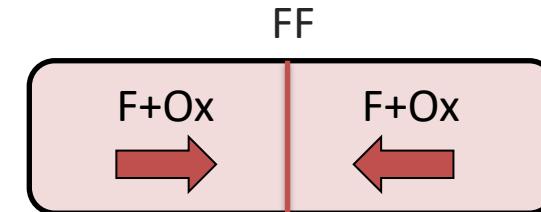
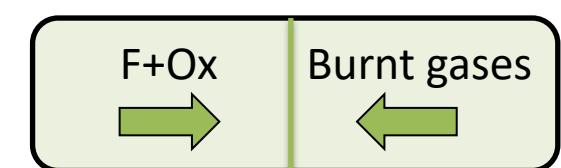
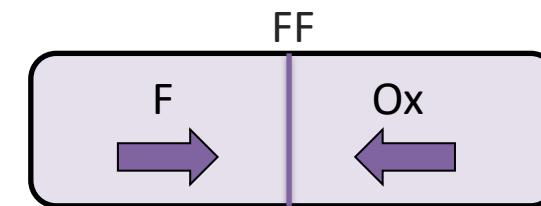
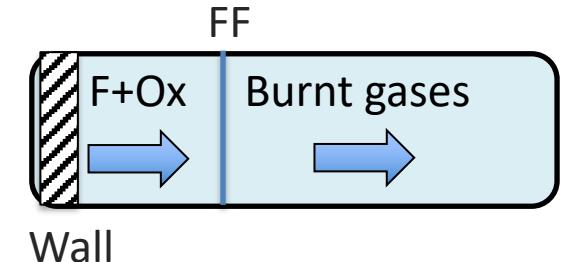
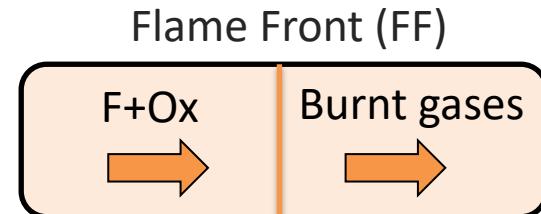
Examples provided in the tutorial

- ◆ Freeflame
- ◆ Burner flame
- ◆ Counterflow diffusion flame

◆ Counterflow premixed flame

◆ Counterflow twin premixed flame

◆ Impinging Jet flame

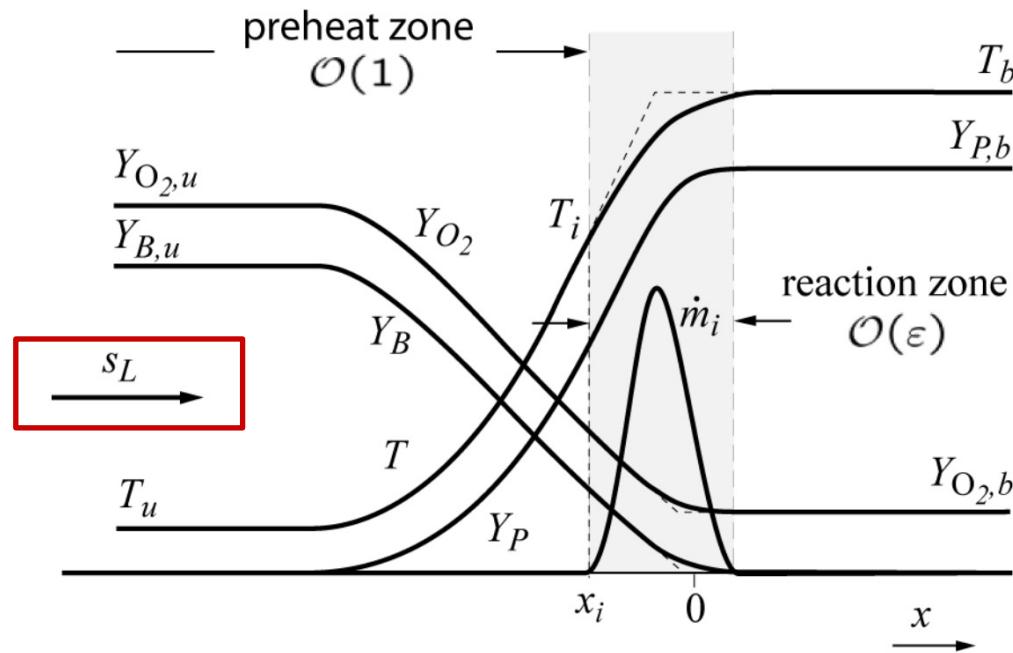


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Laminar premixed flame

<https://cefrc.princeton.edu/sites/g/files/toruqf1071/files/Files/2010%20Lecture%20Notes/Norbert%20Peters/Lecture4.pdf>



For a given inlet velocity, called laminar flame speed, the system is in steady state !



Laminar premixed flame

- ◆ The system to solve is the following:

$$\cancel{\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \rho u}{\partial x} = 0}$$

$$\cancel{\frac{\partial \rho Y_k}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(\rho(u + V_k)Y_k) = \dot{\omega}_k}$$

$$\rho C_p \left(\cancel{\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x}} \right) = \dot{\omega}'_T + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\lambda \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right) - \rho \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \left(\sum_{k=1}^N C_{p,k} Y_k V_k \right)$$

- ◆ The system can be written as

$$\mathcal{L}(U_i) = 0$$

Poinson, Thierry & Veynante, Denis. (2005). Theoretical and Numerical Combustion. 2nd Edition.



Laminar premixed flame

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$$\cancel{\frac{\partial \rho Y_k}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(\rho(u + V_k)Y_k)} = \boxed{\dot{\omega}_k} \quad \Rightarrow \text{The chemistry is hidden here !!}$$

$$\rho C_p \left(\cancel{\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x}} \right) = \boxed{\dot{\omega}'_T} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\lambda \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right) - \rho \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \left(\sum_{k=1}^N C_{p,k} Y_k V_k \right)$$

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Laminar premixed flame

- ◆ How do Cantera solve the system ?

$$\mathcal{L}(U_i) = 0$$

- ⇒ Newton solver are well suited to find the roots iteratively
- ⇒ An initial solution is needed by the Newton solver

- ◆ Cantera uses

A Damped modified Newton solver with internal time integration



Laminar premixed flame

A Damped modified Newton solver with internal time integration

The **Newton solver** is : the method used by Cantera to solve the system and try to find the solution.

It is **damped** because a damping coefficient is added to help for the convergence.

It is **with internal integration** as an “artificial temporal term” is added to help for the convergence if the damping failed.



Laminar premixed flame

The Newton solver

What we seek at point m is

$$\mathcal{L}(U) = 0$$

which is used to iterate

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial U} = \frac{0 - \mathcal{L}(U)}{U^{m+1} - U^m}$$

or in other words

$$U^{m+1} = U^m - \left[\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial U} \right]_{y^m}^{y^{m_1}} \mathcal{L}(U^m)$$

- Convergence is reached when $\Delta U^m = U^{m+1} - U^m$ becomes negligibly small
- The mesh might be automatically refined in the region of high gradients

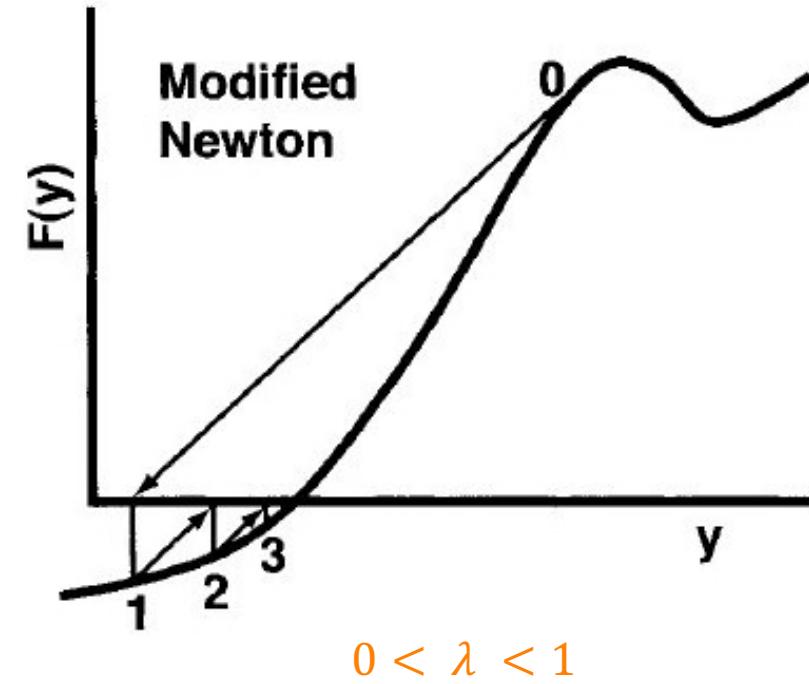
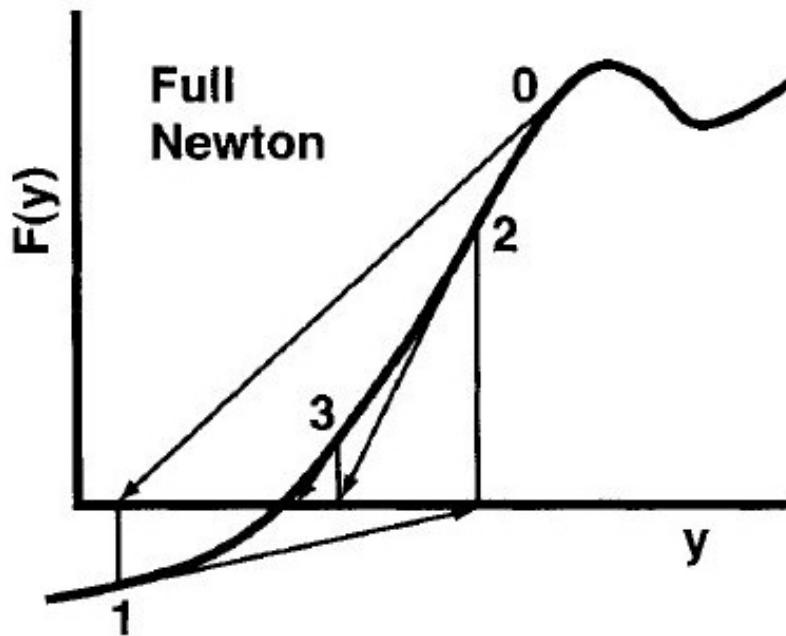


Laminar premixed flame

The Damped modified Newton solver

$$\mathcal{L}(U) = 0$$

$$(J^k)\Delta U^m = -\lambda^m \mathcal{L}(U^m)$$





Laminar premixed flame

The Damped modified Newton solver with internal time integration

Whenever both damping parameters and the new Jacobian fail:

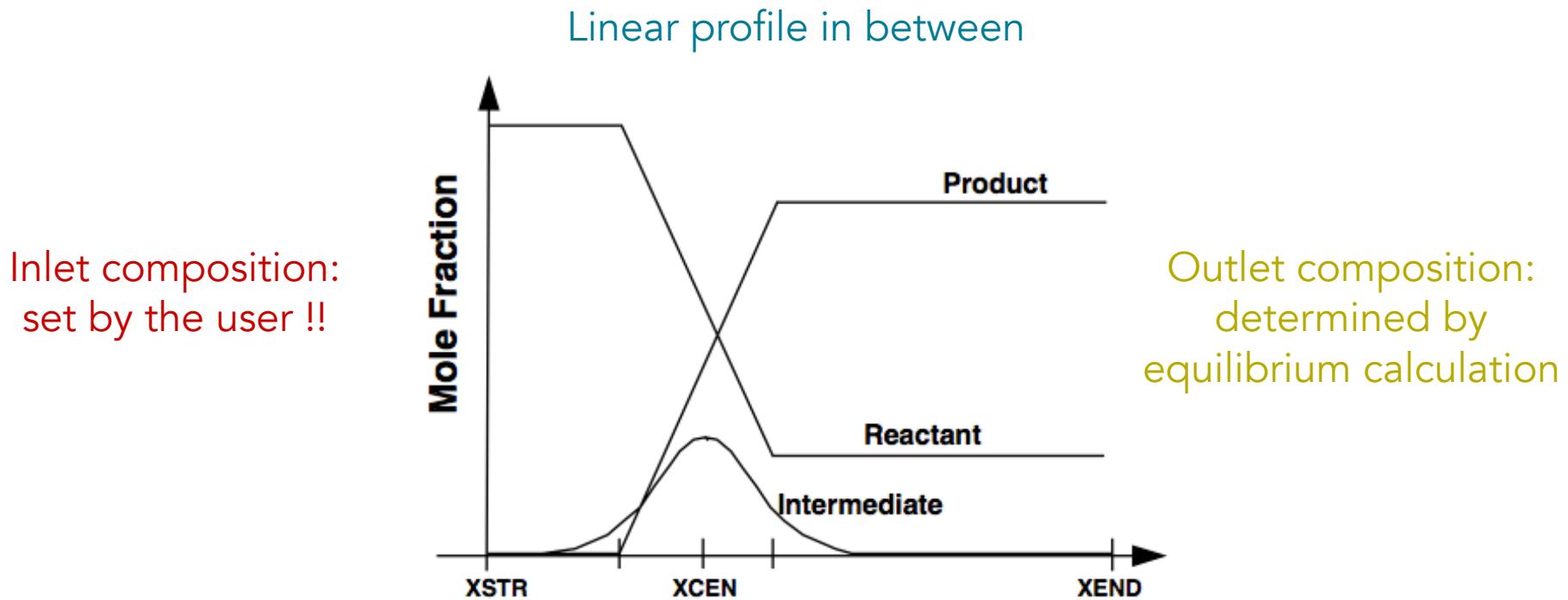
- Transient equations are used $\mathcal{L}(U_{t=n+1}) = \frac{y_{t=n+1} - y_{t=n}}{\Delta t}$
(first-order, implicit backward finite differences schemes)
- The Newton method to solve the system of equations for each time step:
$$\mathcal{H}(U) = \mathcal{L}(U) - \frac{dU}{dt} = 0$$
- The new U is used as a new starting estimate for the steady state problem



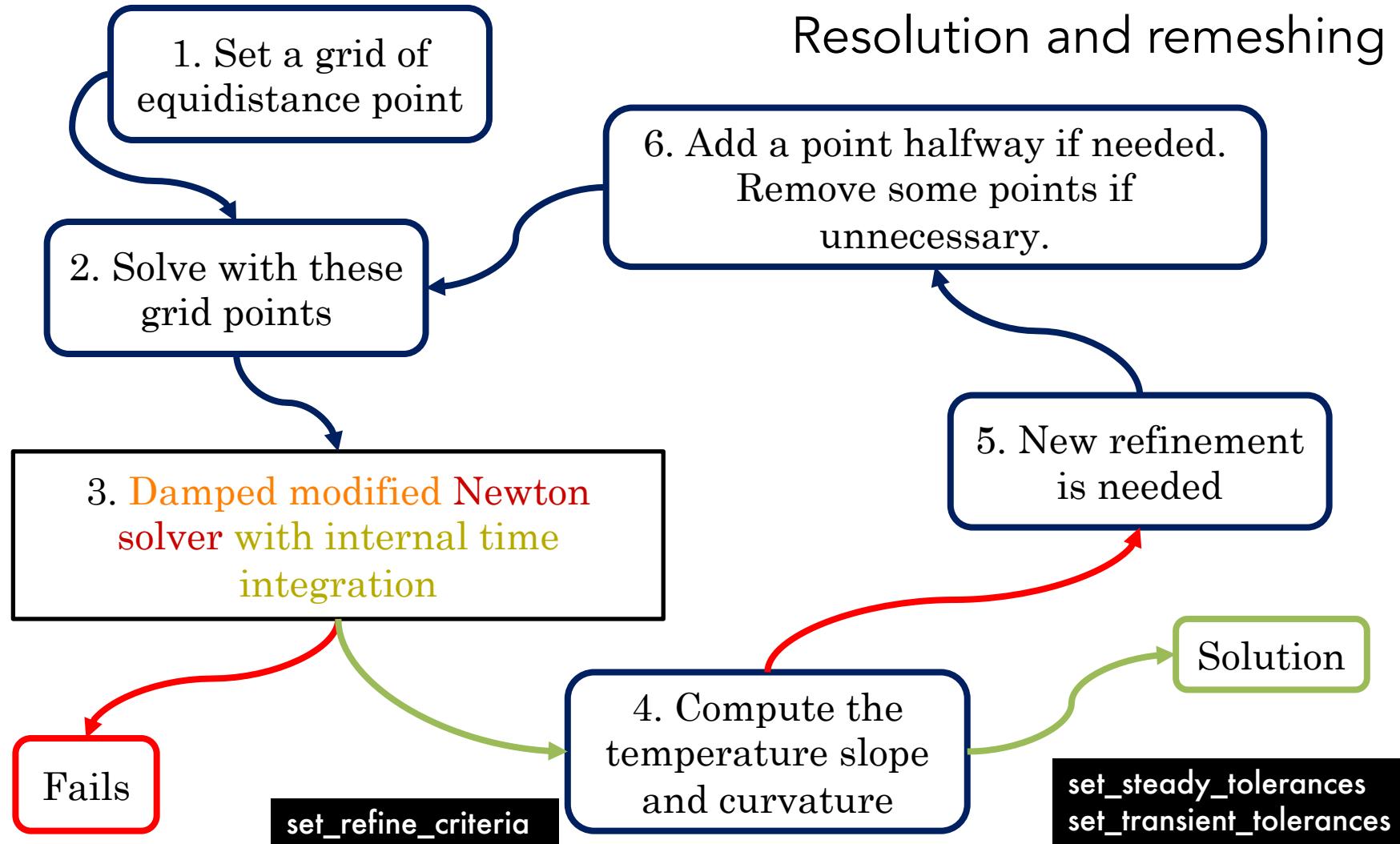
Laminar premixed flame

- ◆ What are the inputs required by Cantera?

⇒ The Newton solver requires an initial solution



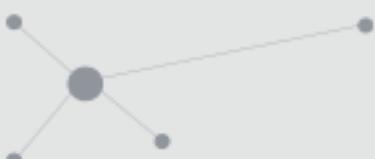
Laminar premixed flame





Content

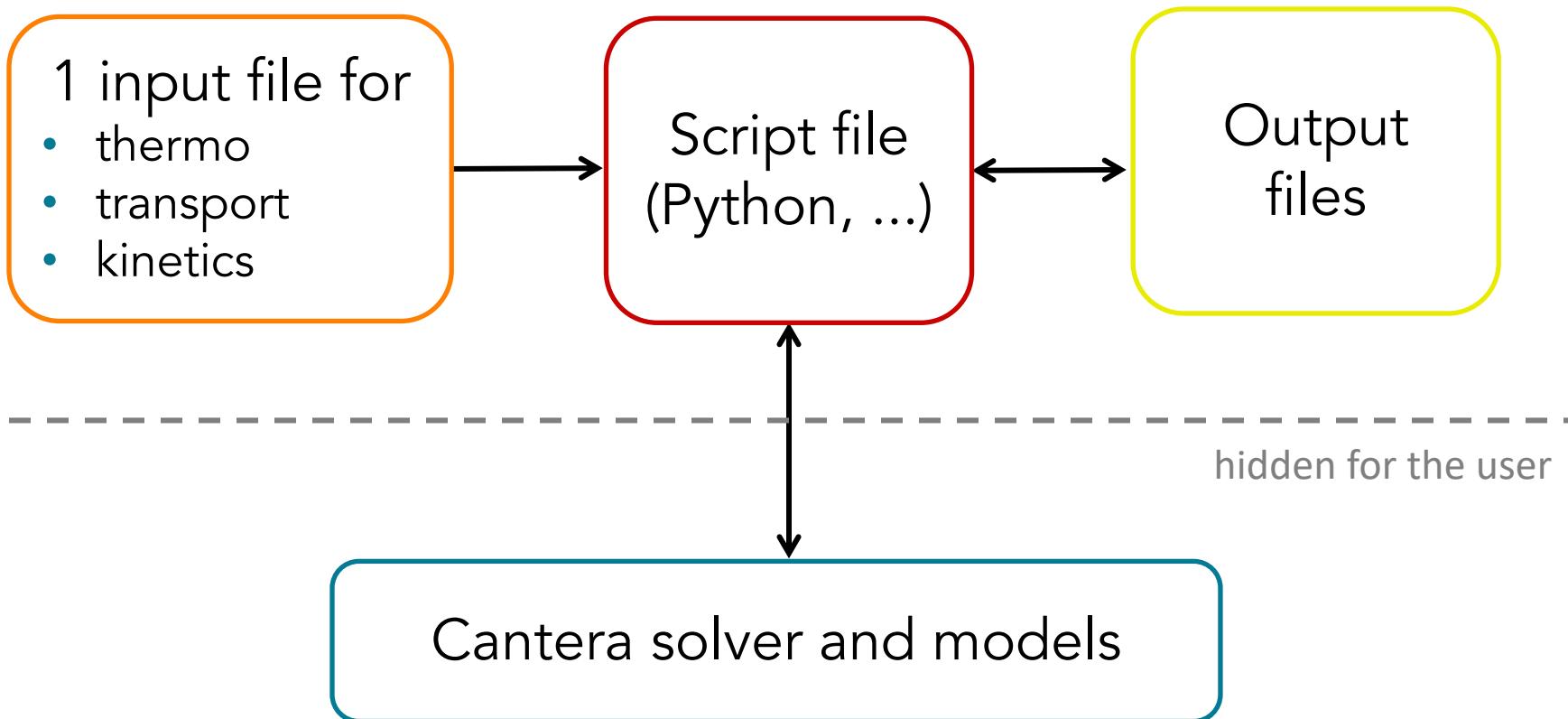
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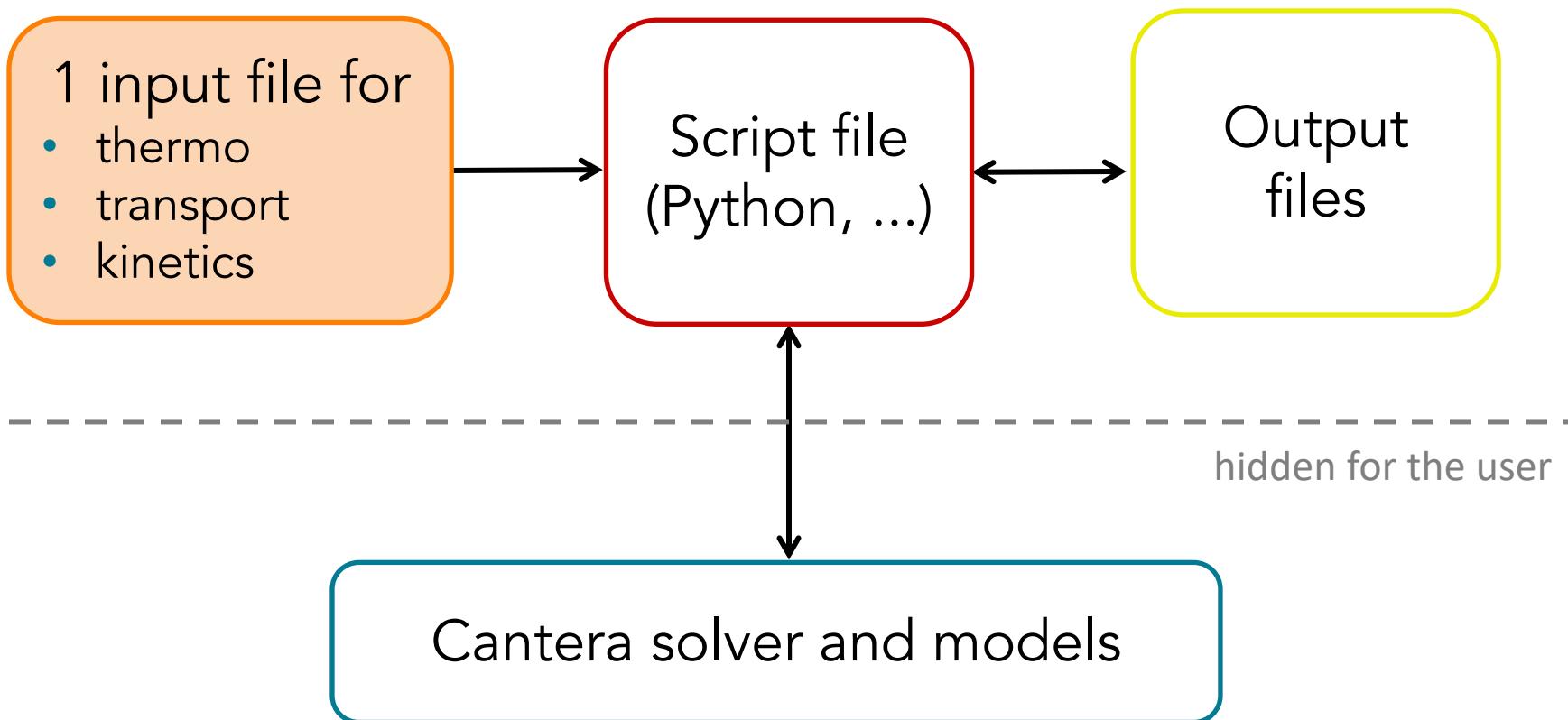




How do I use Cantera ?



Cantera calculations follow then the following structure:





Cantera Input file

- ◆ Cantera can read different input files format:
 - cti, default format for version 2.3.0
 - yaml, new default format as of version 2.6.0 !!
- ◆ The input file contains information about:
 - Phases and interfaces (species, thermo and transport models, ...)
 - Elements and species data
 - Reactions data (expression, rate coefficients, pressure dependence, ...)



Cantera Input file

```
#  
# Generated from file MecaUCSDsandiego.mec  
# by ck2cti on Wed Jul 29 17:08:40 2009  
#  
# Transport data from file transUCSD.inp.  
  
units(length = "cm", time = "s", quantity = "mol", act_energy = "cal/mol")  
  
ideal_gas(name = "gas",  
          elements = "N Ar He H O C",  
          species = """ N2 AR HE H O2 OH O H2 H2O HO2  
                  H2O2 CO CO2 HCO CH2O CH4 CH3 T-CH2 S-CH2 C2H4  
                  CH3O C2H5 C2H6 CH C2H2 C2H3 CH2CHO C2H4O CH2CO HCCO  
                  C2H CH2OH CH3OH C3H4 C3H3 C3H5 C3H6 C3H8 I-C3H7 N-C3H7  
                  """,  
          reactions = "all",  
          transport = "Mix",  
          initial_state = state(temperature = 300.0,  
                                pressure = OneAtm) )  
  
#--  
# Species data  
#--  
  
species(name = "N2",  
        atoms = "N:2 ",  
        thermo = (  
            NASA( [ 300.00, 1000.00], [ 3.298677000E+00, 1.408240400E-03,  
                -3.963222000E-06, 5.641515000E-09, -2.444854000E-12,  
                -1.020899900E+03, 3.950372000E+00] ),  
            NASA( [ 1000.00, 5000.00], [ 2.926640000E+00, 1.487976800E-03,  
                -5.684760000E-07, 1.009703800E-10, -6.753351000E-15,  
                -9.227977000E+02, 5.980528000E+00] )  
        ),  
        transport = gas_transport(  
            geom = "linear",  
            diam = 3.62,  
            well_depth = 97.53,  
            polar = 1.76,  
            rot_relax = 4.00),  
        note = "121286"  
    )
```

Units

Phase data

Species N₂ data

} thermo

} transport



Cantera Input file

```
#-----  
# Species data  
#-----  
  
species(name = "N2",  
        atoms = " N-2 "  
        thermo = (  
            NASA( [ 300.00, 1000.00], [ 3.298677000E+00, 1.408240400E-03,  
                -3.963222000E-06, 5.641515000E-09, -2.444854000E-12,  
                -1.020899900E+03, 3.950372000E+00] ),  
            NASA( [ 1000.00, 5000.00], [ 2.926640000E+00, 1.487976800E-03,  
                -5.684760000E-07, 1.009703800E-10, -6.753351000E-15,  
                -9.227977000E+02, 5.980528000E+00] )  
        ),  
        transport = gas_transport(  
            geom = "linear",  
            diam = 3.62,  
            well_depth = 97.53,  
            polar = 1.76,  
            rot_relax = 4.00),  
        note = "121286"  
    )
```

NASA7

There can be other definitions but this one is the most popular.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{C_p}{R} = a_1 + a_2 T + a_3 T^2 + a_4 T^3 + a_5 T^4 \\ \frac{H}{RT} = a_1 + a_2 \frac{T}{2} + a_3 \frac{T^2}{3} + a_4 \frac{T^3}{4} + a_5 \frac{T^4}{4} + \frac{a_6}{T} \\ \frac{S}{R} = a_1 \ln(T) + a_2 T + a_3 \frac{T^2}{2} + a_4 \frac{T^3}{3} + a_5 \frac{T^4}{4} + a_7 \end{array} \right.$$

Cantera link : <https://cantera.org/science/science-species.html>



Cantera Input file

```
#-----  
# Reaction data  
#-----  
  
# Reaction 1  
reaction( "H + O2 <=> OH + O", [3.52000E+16, -0.7, 17069.8])
```

Why do we need that information ? Remember...

$$\frac{\partial \rho Y_k}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\rho(u + V_k) Y_k) = \dot{\omega}_k \quad \Rightarrow \text{The chemistry is hidden ;)}$$

Let's develop $\dot{\omega}_k$:

$$\dot{\omega}_k = W_k \sum_{j=1}^M v_{kj} Q_j \quad \text{with} \quad Q_j \text{ being the progress rate of reaction } j$$

$$Q_j = k_{f,j} \prod_{k=1}^N [X_k]^{v'_{kj}} \quad \text{for irreversible reactions}$$



Cantera Input file

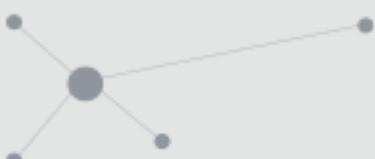
```
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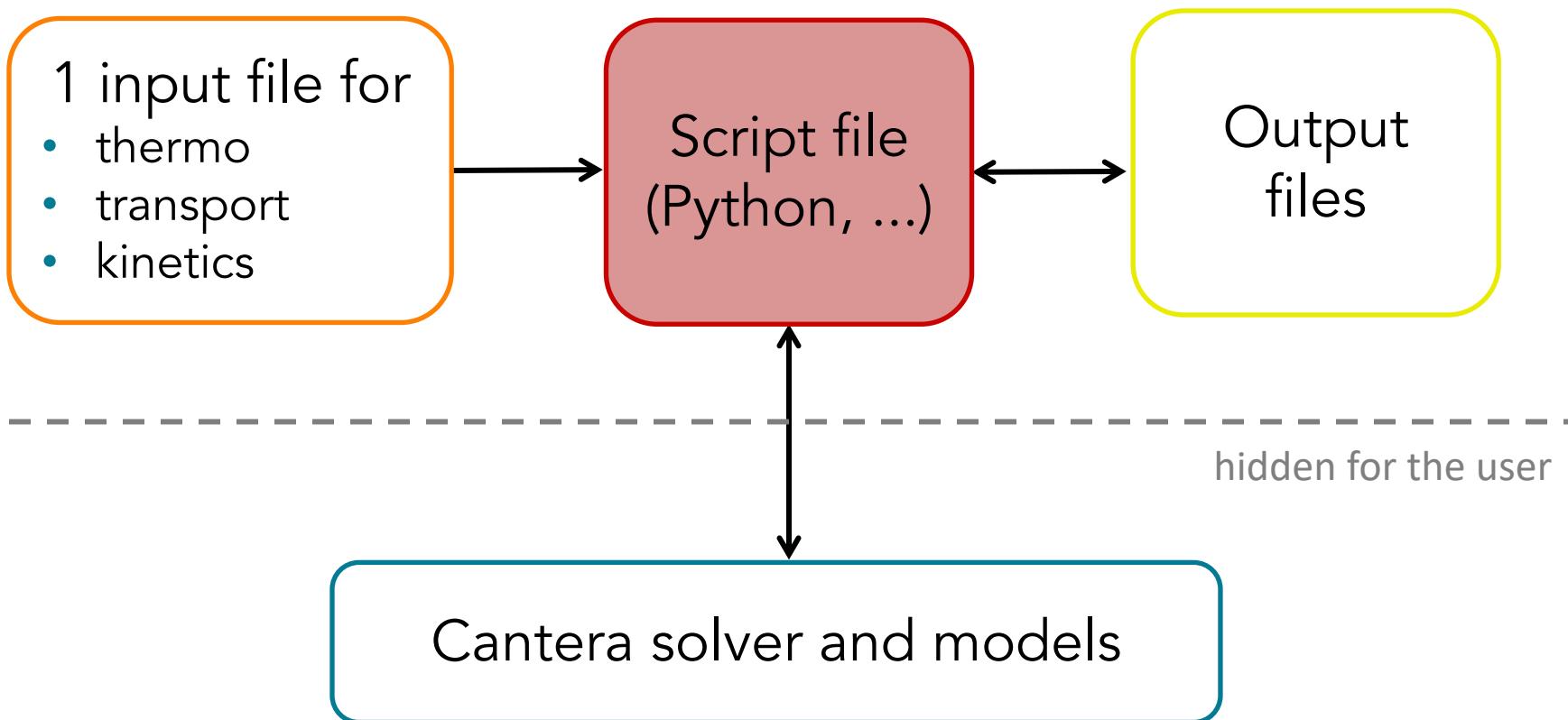
$$\text{with} \quad k_{f,i} = A_{f,i} T^{\beta_j} \exp\left(-\frac{E_j}{RT}\right)$$



How do I use Cantera ?



Cantera calculations follow then the following structure:





Script file

AND NOW IT'S TUTO TIME !!!!



Practical use : Helpful links

- **Github**

<https://github.com/Cantera/cantera>

- **Google Groups page for Cantera**

<http://groups.google.com/group/cantera-users>

- **Cantera SourceForge Page**

<http://sourceforge.net/projects/cantera/files/>

To download all Cantera versions, source code
or (Windows) binaries and find more
documentation.



Practical use : Helpful links

CERFACS CANTERA website : <https://chemistry.cerfacs.fr>

The screenshot shows the CERFACS Chemistry website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for HOME, METHODS, CANTERA, ARCANE, AVBP, CHEMICAL DATABASE, EVENTS, GALLERY, and CONTACTS. A search icon and a UK flag are also present. The main content area features a welcome message and information about the purpose of the website. Below this, there are three bullet points introducing Cantera, ARCANE, and AVBP. To the right, there are two event cards: one for a numerical tools seminar on November 16th and another for a training session on November 17th at 09h00.

Welcome to the CERFACS chemistry website !

The purpose of this website is to share data and experience acquired in CERFACS in the domain of chemistry for the CFD of reactive flows. This can be done with the help of the following codes :

- **Cantera** : an open-source solver dedicated to chemistry problems. ([here](#))
- **ARCANE** : an automatic reduction code based on cantera co-developed by CERFACS and Cornell university ([here](#))
- **AVBP** : a parallel CFD code that solves the three-dimensional compressible Navier-Stokes on unstructured and hybrid grids. ([here](#))

Mon 16 Nov The 16 November 2020
Numerical tools for complex chemistry simulations:
the open source CANTERA solver

📍 CERFACS, TOULOUSE - FRANCE
Information can be found [here](#).
[READ MORE](#)

Tue 17 Nov The 17 November 2020 at 09h00

CERFACS knowledge and experience in chemistry for CFD in one website !!!

- **Chemical database** : Detailed, reduced and global kinetics mechanisms
- **Cantera** : CERFACS' version with installation walkthrough, scripts and tutorials
- **Private documentation** : ARCANE, AVBP
- **Events** : such as this training
- **CFD gallery** : nice pictures with great chemistry



Appendix

1. Parameters for the Newton solver



Parameters for the Newton solver

- Allowed error tolerances for convergence (relative and absolute):

```
f.flame.set_steady_tolerances(default=[1.0E-5, 1.0E-9])          #[rtol atol] for steady-state problem  
f.flame.set_transient_tolerances(default=[1.0E-5, 1.0E-9])        #[rtol atol] for time stepping method
```

- Number of times the Jacobian is used before its re-evaluation:

```
f.set_max_jac_age(50, 50)
```

- Time-stepping for the internal time integration:

```
f.set_time_step(1.0E-5, [2, 5, 10, 20, 80]) # Try 2 steps of 1.0E-5 seconds, then if it fails try 5 steps, ...
```

- Grid refinement:

```
f.set_refine_criteria(ratio = 10.0, slope = 1, curve = 1, prune = 0.05)
```



Old appendix



1. Cantera VS CHEMKIN



Cantera VS CHEMKIN

- ◆ Its possibilities are **comparable to the CHEMKIN-II suite :**

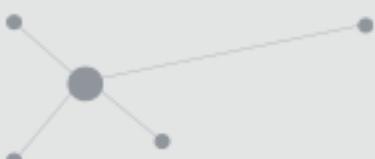
CHEMKIN = a set of FORTRAN libraries	CANTERA = a set of C++ libraries
3 input files (thermo / transport / mechanism)	1 « data file » (everything)
« Interpreter step » to generate the binary input file	
A driver to stir the program towards simulations (<u>Keywords</u>)	A script to arrange « building blocks » into a simulation (<u>Interface objects and functions</u>)
Outputs written by the libraries	Outputs generated by the language of the script (Python, C++, Matlab, FORTRAN)



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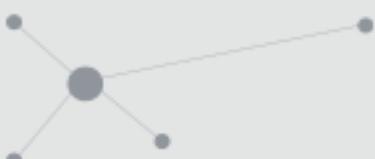
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Cantera VS CHEMKIN

- ◆ It's p

CHEMKIN KEYWORD INPUT

```
/ flame configuration, burner stabilized with specified
temperature
BURN
TGIV
/ in the event of a Newton failure, take 100 timesteps
of 1.E-6
TIME 100 1.00E-6
/ begin on a uniform mesh of 6 points
NPTS 6
/ definition of the computational interval
XEND 10.0
XCEN 5.0
WMIX 10.0
/ pressure and inlet mass flow rate
PRES 0.0329 (atmospheres)
FLRT 4.63E-3 (g/cm**2-sec)
```

KEYWORDS

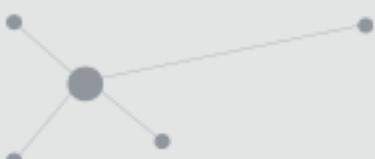
II suite :

C++

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script's
tlab,

FORTRAN



Cantera VS CHEMKIN

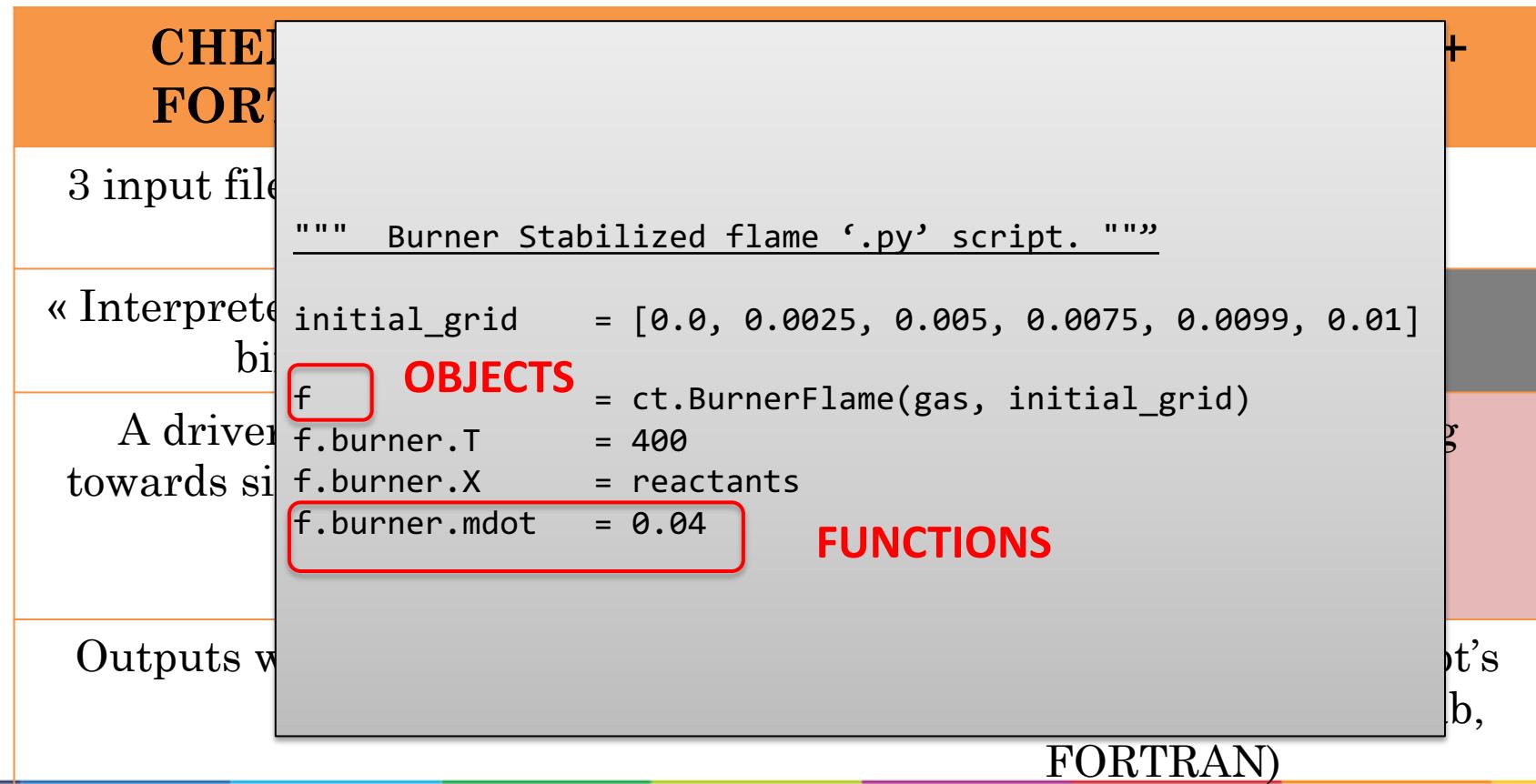
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Cantera VS CHEMKIN

- ◆ Its possibilities are **comparable to the CHEMKIN-II suite** :



CHEMKIN-II

FORTRAN

3 input files

« Interpreted »
binary

A driver
towards simulation

Outputs with plots

FORTRAN)

```
""" Burner Stabilized flame '.py' script. """
initial_grid = [0.0, 0.0025, 0.005, 0.0075, 0.0099, 0.01]
f = ct.BurnerFlame(gas, initial_grid)
f.burner.T = 400
f.burner.X = reactants
f.burner.mdot = 0.04
```

OBJECTS

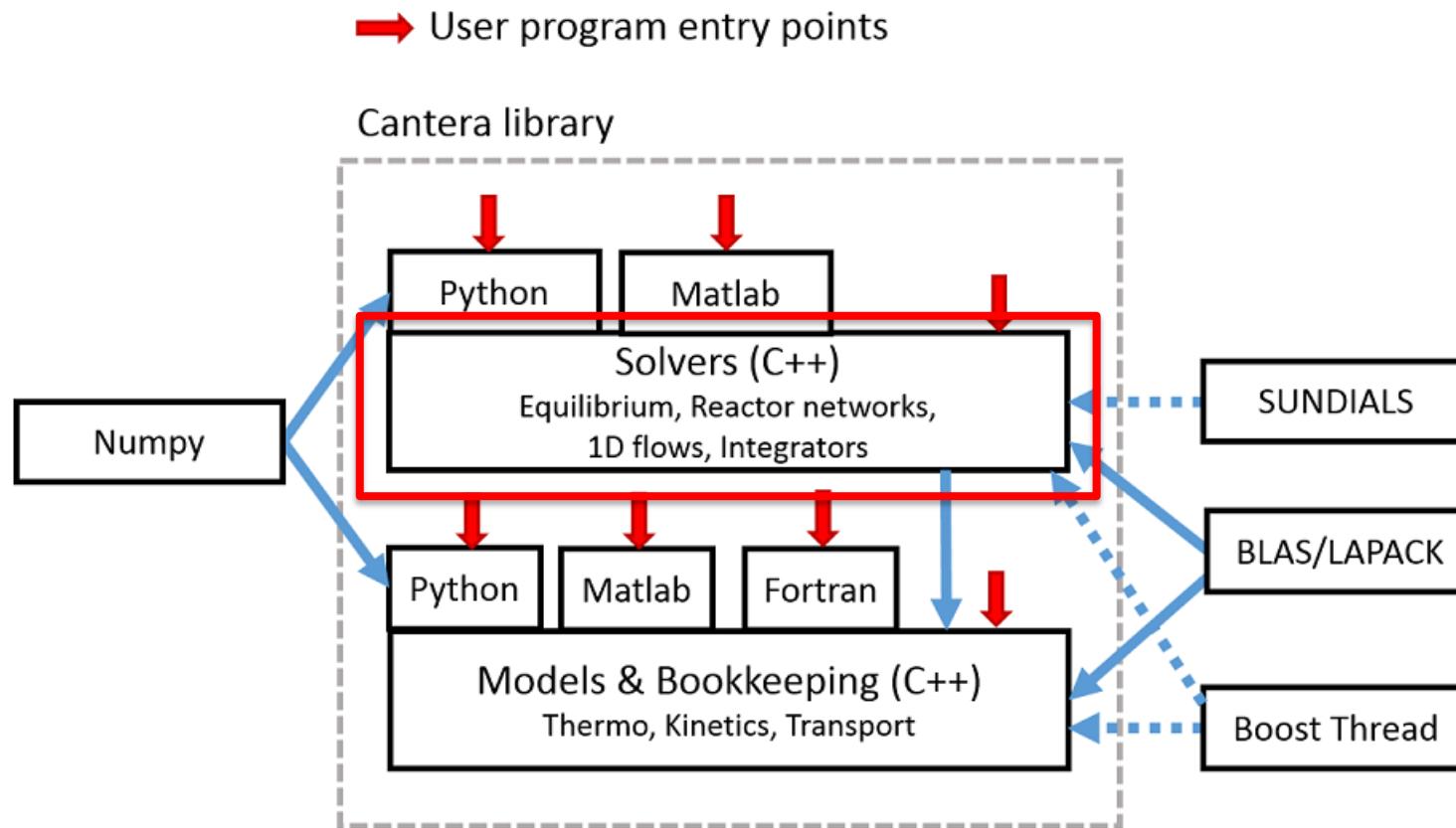
FUNCTIONS



2. Detailed structure of Cantera



Structure of CANTERA





Structure of CANTERA

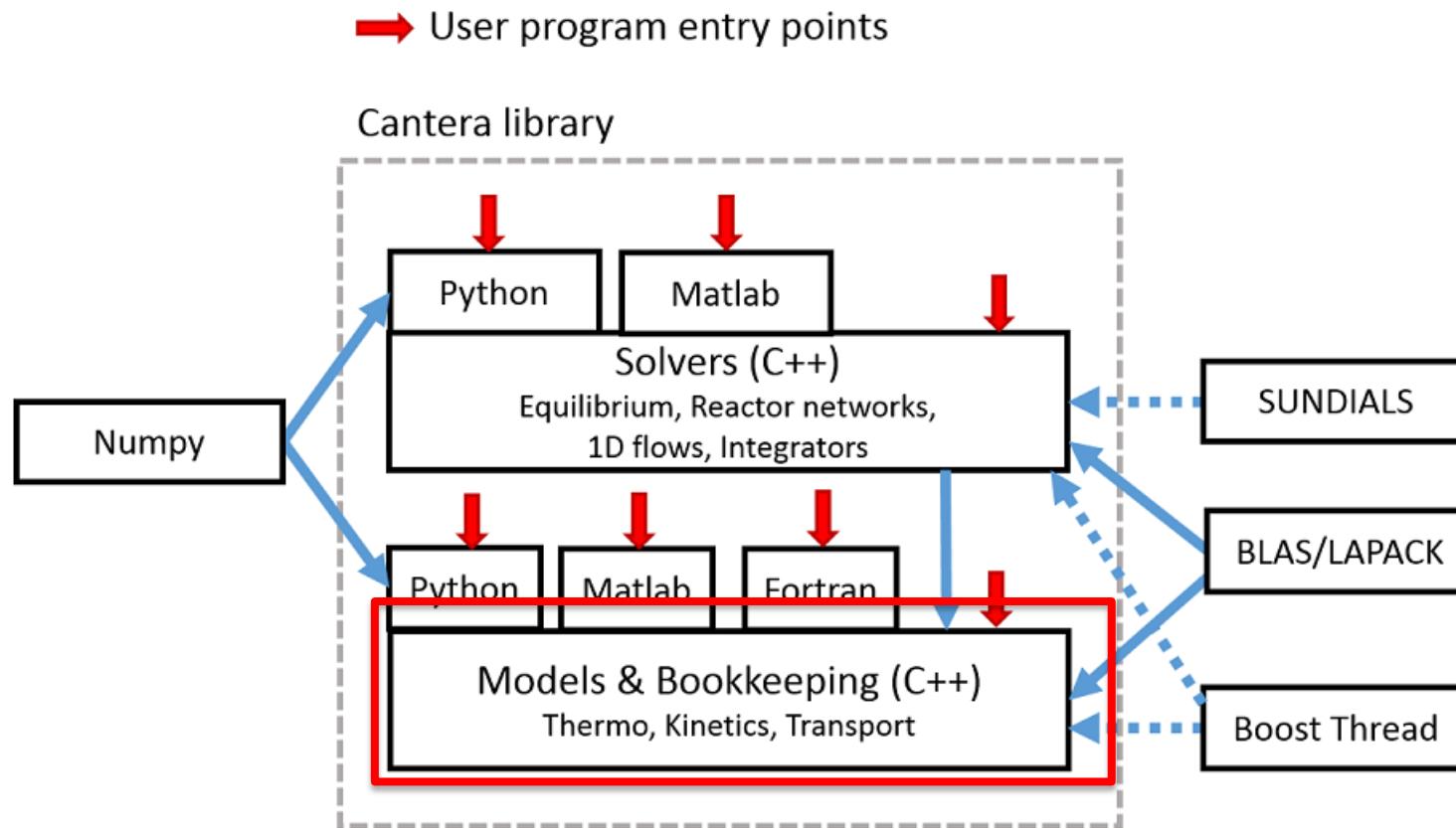
The « Solver » layer

Usually hidden from the user, and **borrow from famous « free » libraries** (LAPACK, BLAS, ...) to perform

- ◆ Equilibrium calculations
- ◆ Reactor equations integration
- ◆ 1D calculations
- ◆ ...



Structure of CANTERA





Structure of CANTERA

The « Bookkeeping » layer

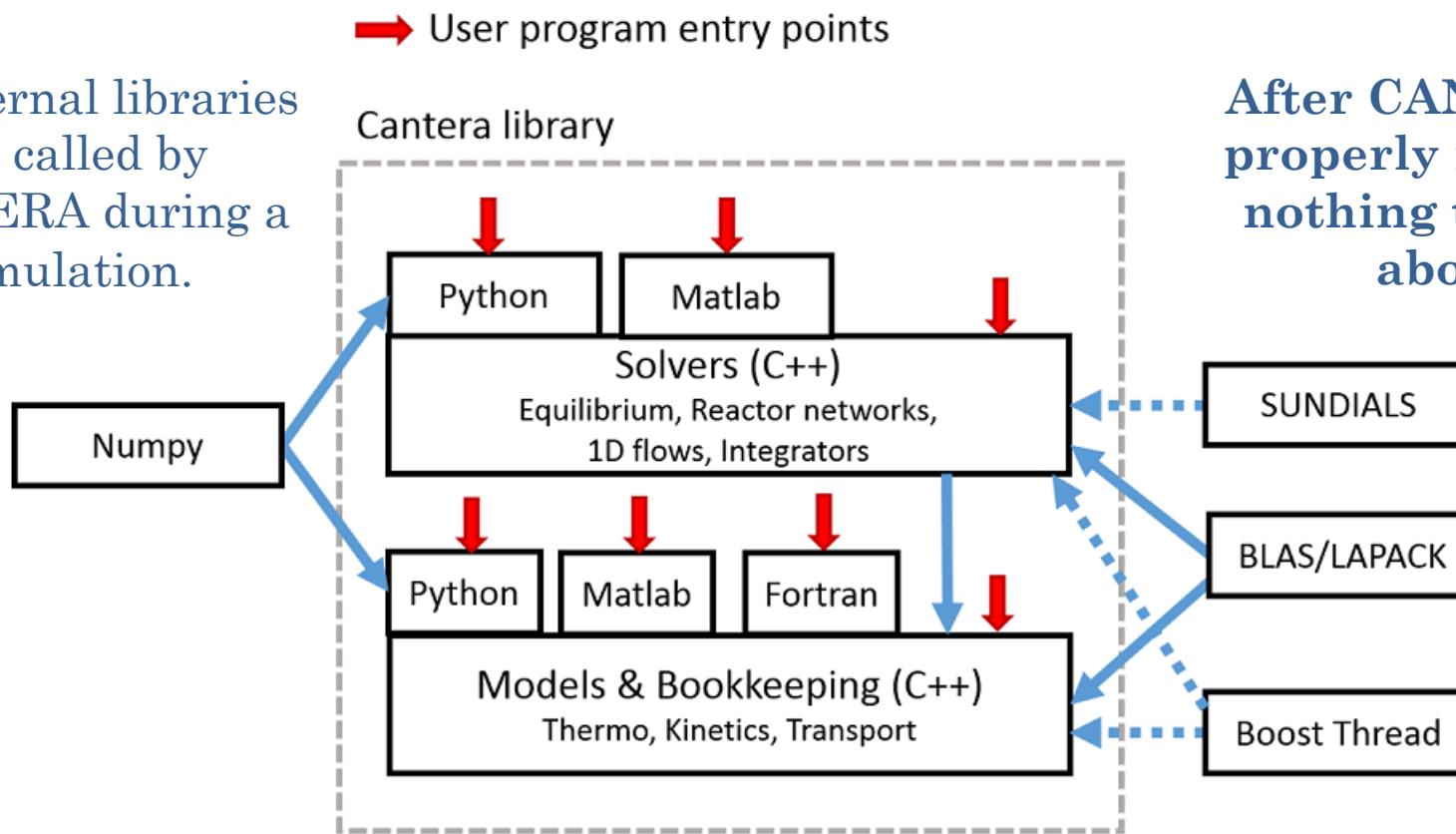
As we have just seen, it is the python script entry.
This layer contains all the methods that will

- ◆ **Initialize objects** defined in the script
 - If a phase object is defined, it will *calculate and set its thermodynamic state* and implement *their transport models* (example 1).
 - Set the *inlet conditions* of a “FreeFlame” object (example 2).
- ◆ **Link all objects** together
 - *Link two reactors* through a wall (example).
- ◆ **Organize the simulation**
 - Call the required solvers (so, the “solvers” layer)
 - Extract required output data

Structure of CANTERA

Cantera is a big lasagna, it has layers.

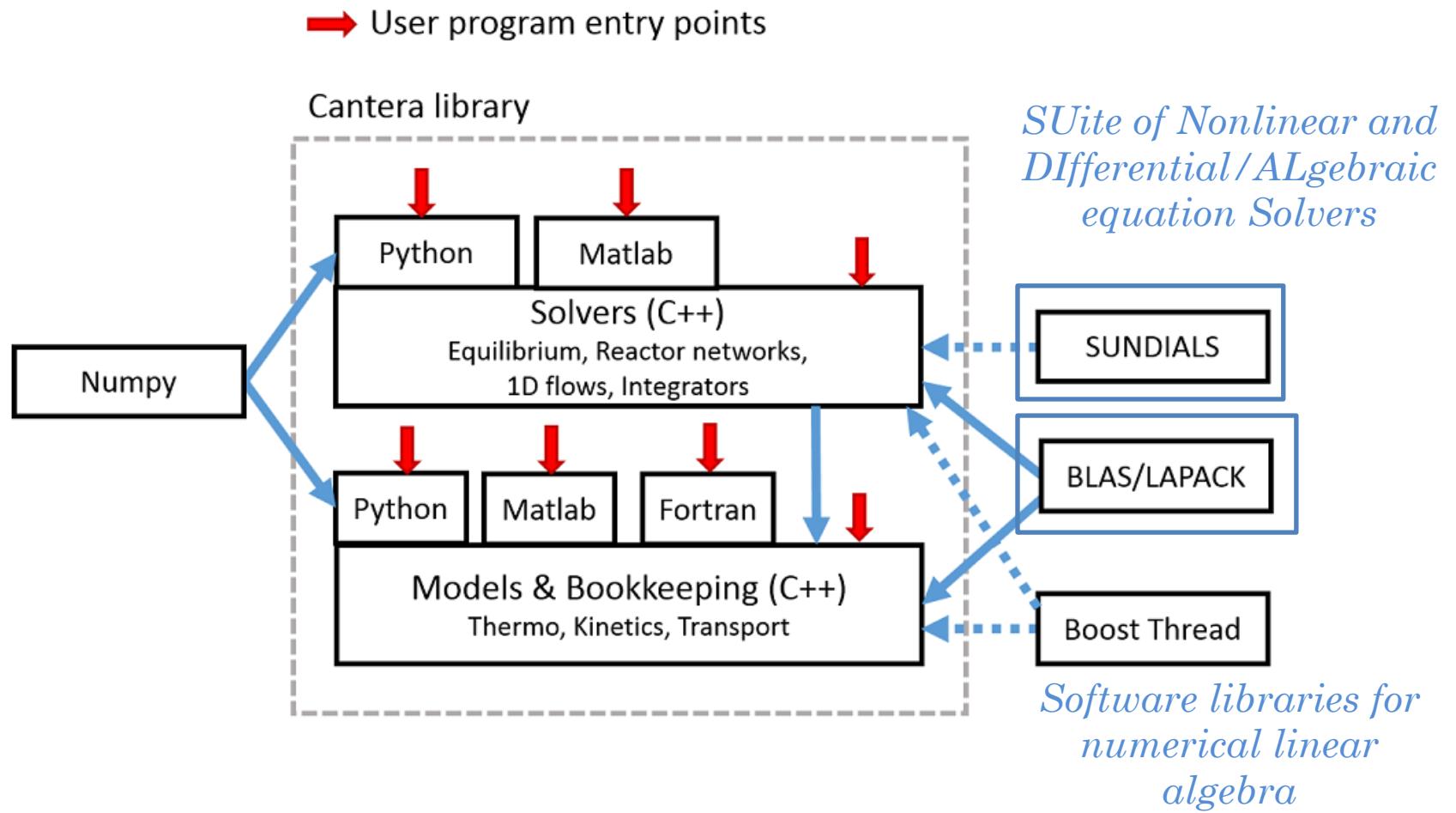
All external libraries
are called by
CANTERA during a
simulation.



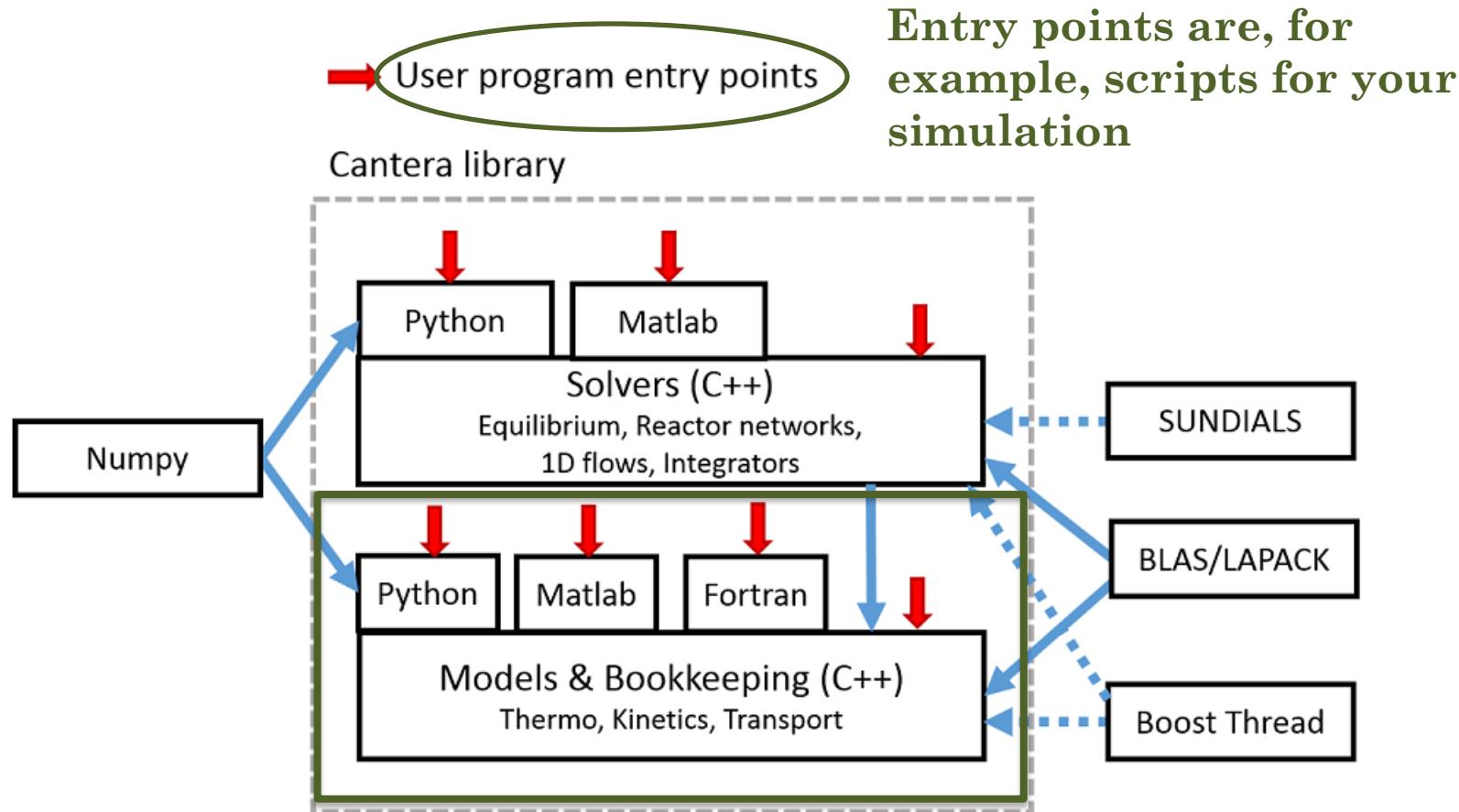
After CANTERA is
properly installed,
nothing to worry
about.



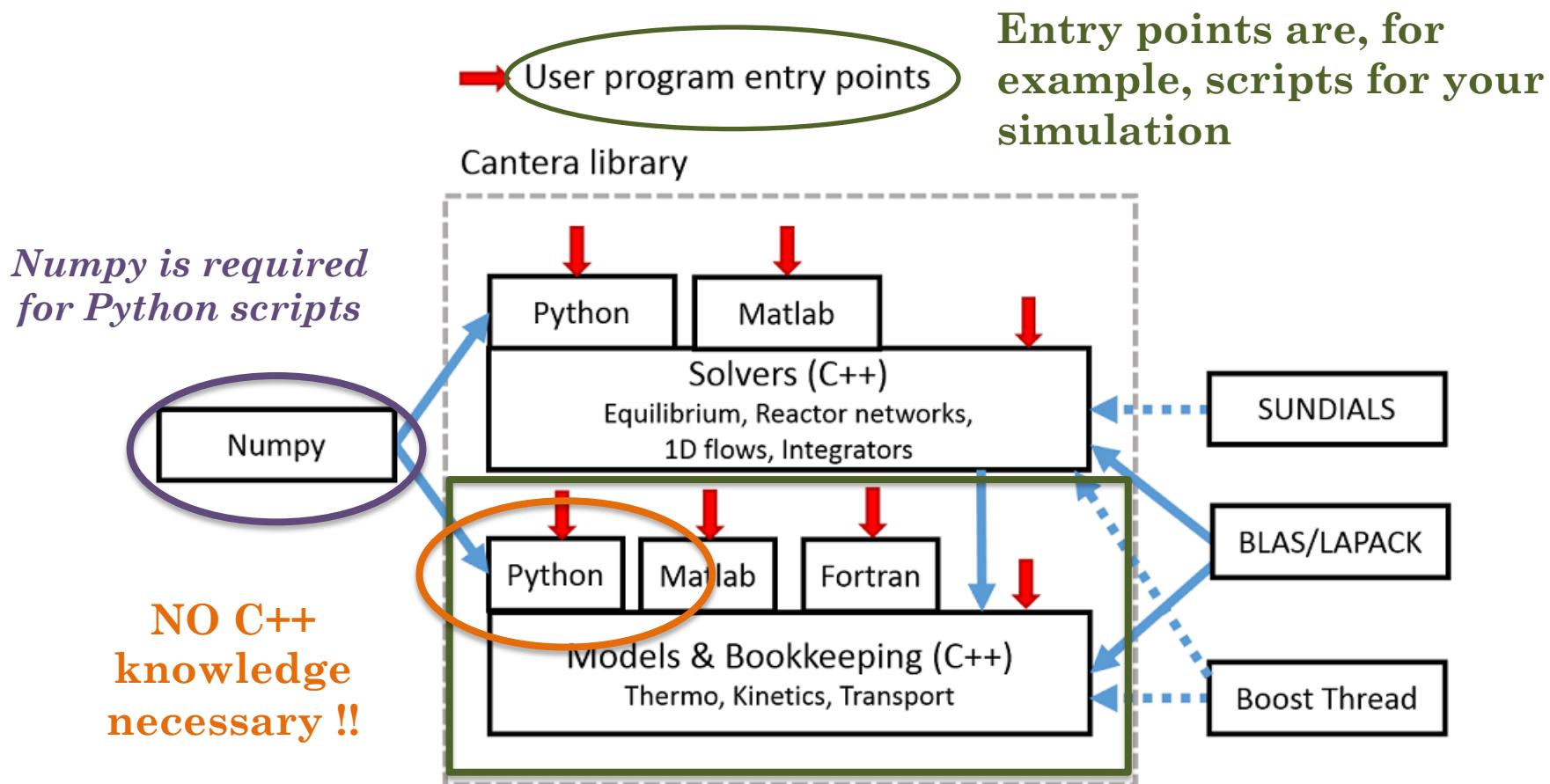
Structure of CANTERA



Structure of CANTERA

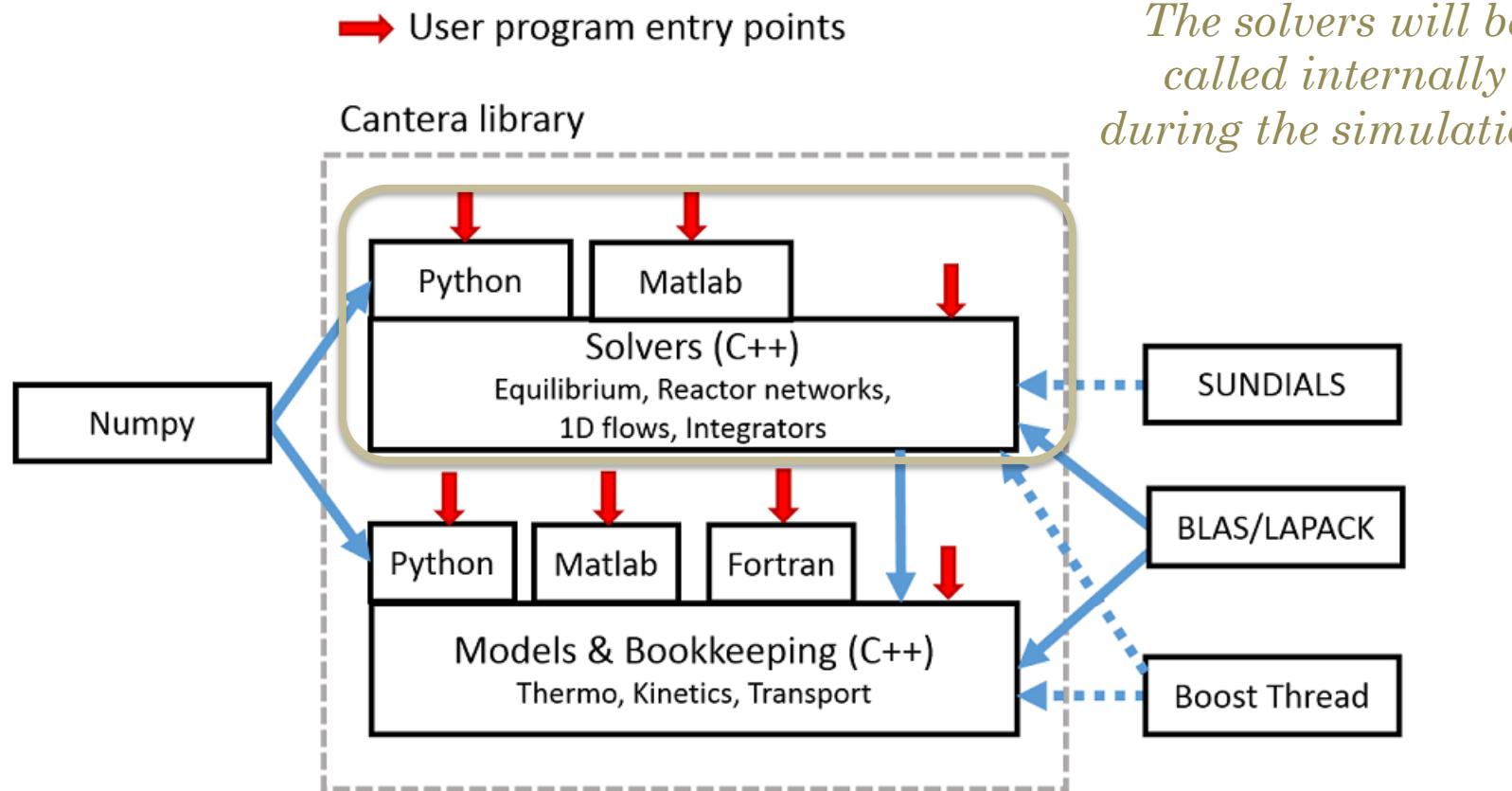


Structure of CANTERA





Structure of CANTERA





3. Gibbs function



Governing equations *Equilibrium equations*

Example with the Gibbs function

“The equilibrium state is that corresponding to a minimum of a property called the energy function under specified conditions”

Use the Gibbs energy function G : $G = G(T, P, N_k)$

So that, when **P and T are constant**:

At equilibrium, we want to minimize G

$$dG = \sum_{k=1}^K \mu_k dN_k$$

with $\mu_k = \frac{\partial U}{\partial N_k}$

$$p_l = \sum_{k=1}^K n_{kl} N_k$$

With the constraint that the number of moles p_l of every element l (N, O, H, ...) is conserved:



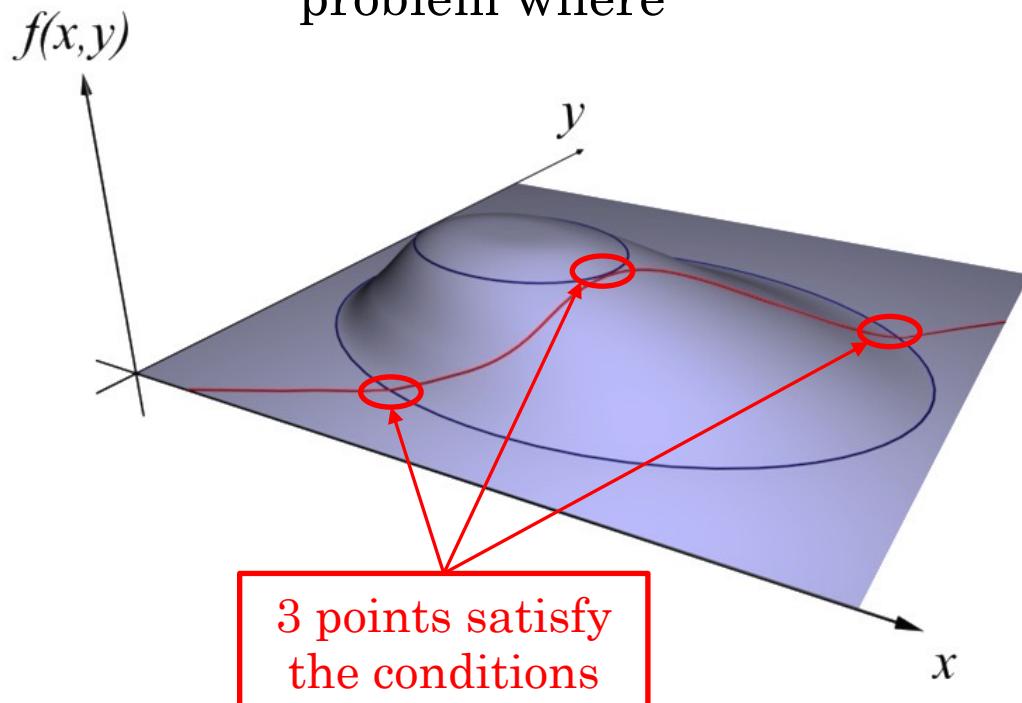
Governing equations

Equilibrium equations

Example with the Gibbs function

The non-stoichiometric method

This becomes an optimisation problem where



$$dG = \sum_{k=1}^K \mu_k dN_k = 0$$
$$p_l^* = p_l - \sum_{k=1}^K n_{kl} N_k = 0$$

Illustration in 2D

- Find an extremum of the function $G(x,y)$, represented by the blue lines
- that satisfies the condition $p_l^*(x,y) = \text{smthg}$ represented by the red line



Governing equations *Equilibrium equations*

Example with the Gibbs function

The non-stoichiometric method

This becomes an optimisation problem where

$$dG = \sum_{k=1}^K \mu_k dN_k = 0$$

$$p_l^* = p_l - \sum_{k=1}^K n_{kl} N_k = 0$$

Which is solved by **introducing** Lagrange multipliers λ_l such that

$$G^* = G + \sum_{l=1}^L \lambda_l p_l^*$$

And the problem can be posed as a solution of a set of **(K + l) nonlinear equations**

$$\frac{\partial G^*}{\partial N_k} = \mu_k - \sum_{l=1}^L \lambda_l n_{kl} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial G^*}{\partial \lambda_l} = p_l^* = 0$$

The non-stoichiometric method

Once the λ_l are determined, since T & P are constant, the mole fractions are automatically deduced.

$$\mu_k = \sum_{l=1}^L \lambda_l n_{kl} \Rightarrow X_k = \frac{P_o}{P} \exp\left(-\frac{g_k^0(T)}{RT} + \sum_{l=1}^L n_{kl} \frac{\lambda_l}{RT}\right)$$

- **General procedure (Note: no need to provide reactions information !) :**
 - The g_k^0 are tabulated.
 - The user provides a guess for enough (L) X_k - with the knowledge that $\sum_{k=1}^K X_k = 1$
 - The λ_l can then be deduced from the previous K equations.
 - The unknown X_k are calculated with those estimated λ_l and $\sum_{k=1}^K X_k$ is evaluated.
 - If $\sum_{k=1}^K X_k$ is « too far » from 1, a new guess for the X_k is provided and the procedure reiterates with well chosen LX_k



4. Keywords in the cti format

So... how is it written (format ‘.cti’) ?

It is **composed of « entries » and « directives »** recognized via keywords.

So... how is it written (format ‘.cti’) ?

It is **composed of « entries » and « directives »** recognized via keywords.

A **directive** will tell the code how the entry parameters are to be interpreted.

For example, the ‘units’ directive

```
units(length = "cm", time = "s", quantity = "mol", act_energy = "cal/mol")
```

So... how is it written (format ‘.cti’) ?

It is **composed of « entries » and « directives »** recognized via keywords.

An entry defines an object.

For example, a falloff reaction

```
# Reaction 174
falloff_reaction( "H + C3H6 (+ M) <=> N-C3H7 (+ M)",
  kf = [1.33000E+13, 0, 3260.04],
  kf0  = [6.26000E+38, -6.66, 7000.48],
  falloff = Troe(A = 1, T3 = 1000, T1 = 1310, T2 = 48100),
  efficiencies = " AR:0.7  C2H6:3  CH4:2  CO:1.5  CO2:2  H2:2  H2O:6 ")
```