

# ABSTRACT

THOMPSON, KYLE B. Aerothermodynamic Design Sensitivities for a Reacting Gas Flow Solver on an Unstructured Mesh Using a Discrete Adjoint Formulation. (Under the direction of Dr. Hassan Hassan and Dr. Peter Gnoffo.)

An algorithm is described to efficiently compute aerothermodynamic design sensitivities using a decoupled variable set. In a conventional approach to computing design sensitivities for reacting flows, the species continuity equations are fully coupled to the conservation laws for momentum and energy. In this algorithm, the species continuity equations are solved separately from the mixture continuity, momentum, and total energy equations. This decoupling simplifies the implicit system, so that the flow solver can be made significantly more efficient, with very little penalty on overall scheme robustness. Most importantly, the computational cost of the point implicit relaxation is shown to scale linearly with the number of species for the decoupled system, whereas the fully coupled approach scales quadratically. Also, the decoupled method significantly reduces the cost in wall time and memory in comparison to the fully coupled approach.

This decoupled approach for computing design sensitivities with the adjoint system is demonstrated for inviscid flow in chemical non-equilibrium around a re-entry vehicle with a retro-firing annular nozzle. The sensitivities of the surface temperature and mass flow rate through the nozzle plenum are computed with respect to plenum conditions and verified against sensitivities computed using a complex-variable finite-difference approach. The decoupled scheme significantly reduces the computational time and memory required to complete the optimization, making this an attractive method for high-fidelity design of hypersonic vehicles.

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Aerothermodynamic Design Sensitivities for a Reacting Gas Flow Solver  
on an Unstructured Mesh Using a Discrete Adjoint Formulation

by  
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## DEDICATION

To my parents and friends.

## BIOGRAPHY

Kyle Bonner Thompson was born on December 11th, 1990, in Willow Springs, North Carolina. In 2009, Kyle was awarded the Park Scholarship at North Carolina State University, and began school there. He recieved his Bachelor of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering in 2012 and his Master of Science degree in 2014, both from North Carolina State University. After recieving his Master of Science degree, he began work in the Aerothermodynamics branch of NASA Langley Research Center, via the Pathways program. He completed this disseration on adjoint-based optimization while working at NASA Langley Research Center.

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# NOMENCLATURE

## Roman Symbols

$\mathbf{A}$	Jacobian matrix, with time diagonal
$A_i$	Face area $m^2$
$a$	Speed of sound, $m/s$
$\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{R}$	Residual vector
$B_i^r$	Equilibrium constant curve fit coefficients
$c_s$	Species $s$ mass fraction
$C$	Decoupled scheme chemical source term Jacobian
$C_j$	Cost function component value
$C_{f,r}$	Preexponential factor of reaction $r$
$C_{p,s}$	Specific heat at constant pressure of species $s$
$C_{v,s}$	Specific heat at constant volume of species $s$
$D$	Decomposed diagonal Jacobian matrix
$dv_1, dv_2, dv_3$	Eigenvector components
$e_s$	Internal energy of species $s$ , $J/kg$
$E$	Total energy per unit mass, $J/kg$
$E_{f,r}$	Activation energy of reaction $r$ , $J$
$F'_\rho$	Decoupled scheme mixture mass flux, $kg\ m^2/s$
$F'_{\rho_s}$	Decoupled scheme mass flux of species $s$ , $kg\ m^2/s$
$\mathbf{F}, \mathbf{F}', \hat{\mathbf{F}}$	Flux vectors
$k_{f,r}$	Forward reaction rate coefficient of reaction $r$
$k_{b,r}$	Backward reaction rate coefficient of reaction $r$

$K_{c,r}$	Equilibrium constant of reaction $r$
$L$	Adjoint equations Lagrangian
$M_s$	Molecular weight of species $s$
$\dot{m}_p$	Plenum mass flow rate $kg/s$
$N_s$	Number of species
$\mathbf{n}$	Face unit normal vector
$n_{f,r}$	Exponent of temperature preexponential term for forward reaction $r$
$n_x, n_y, n_z$	Face unit normal vector components
$\mathbf{N}$	Face normal vector, $m^2$
$N_{nodes}$	Number of nodes
$N_{nz}$	Number of non-zero off-diagonal entries in Jacobian
$N_{nb}$	Number of neighbors around local node
$O$	Decomposed off-diagonal Jacobian matrix
$p$	Pressure, $N/m^2$
$p_j$	Cost function component power
$q$	Primitive variables
$R_\rho$	Decoupled scheme constraint
$R_{f,r}$	Forward reaction rate of reaction $r$
$R_{b,r}$	Backward reaction rate of reaction $r$
$R_u$	Universal Gas Constant, $J/kg^3$
$\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V}, \mathbf{U}', \hat{\mathbf{U}}$	Conservative variable vectors
$\bar{U}$	Normal velocity, $m/s^2$
$\mathbf{u}$	Velocity vector, $m/s$
$u, v, w$	Components of velocity, $m/s$

$\Omega$	Cell volume, $m^3$
$\tilde{w}$	Roe scheme weighting factor
$w_j$	Composite cost function component weight
$\hat{\mathbf{V}}$	Decoupled mass fractions vector
$\mathbf{W}$	Chemical source term vector
$\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}$	Spatial coordinates

## Greek Symbols

$\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$	Acoustic and convective eigenvalues
$\lambda^-, \lambda^+$	Species flux effective eigenvalues
$\Lambda$	Diagonal eigenvalue matrix
$\phi$	flux limiter result
$\phi_p$	Plenum fuel-air ratio
$\rho$	Mixture density, $kg/m^3$
$\rho_s$	Species $s$ density, $kg/m^3$
$\nu''_{s,r}$	Stoichiometric coefficient of product species $s$ in reaction $r$
$\nu'_{s,r}$	Stoichiometric coefficient of reactant species $s$ in reaction $r$
$\omega_r$	Chemical source term scaling factor
$\omega_s$	Chemical source term of species $s$

## Subscripts

$N_s$	Number of species
$o$	Reference value
$\infty$	Freestream condition

## Superscripts

$*$	Cost function component target
$n, n + 1$	Time level
$R, L$	Right and left state quantities
$f$	Face



# Chapter 1

## Introduction

In the last decades, computational fluid dynamics (CFD) codes have matured to the point that it is possible to obtain high-fidelity design sensitivities, which can be coupled with optimization packages to enable design optimization for a variety of inputs[4, 2]. Typically, CFD codes are coupled with a numerical optimization package[16, 25, 14, 17], where the CFD analysis evaluates an aerodynamic “cost function” of interest, based on a set of design variables, and passes this cost function to the optimizer. The optimizer then returns a new set of inputs to the CFD code to improve the previous design. These optimization procedures also require the sensitivity derivatives of the cost function with respect to the design variables.

The most straightforward approach to computing design sensitivities is a finite-difference approach. The finite-difference approach effectively turns a CFD code into a “black box”, where each design variable is perturbed and used as an input to a CFD code. This process requires very little effort to implement, and can be attractive if the number of cost functions is large in comparison to the number of design variables, because the sensitivity of all cost functions to a single design variable can be computed from a

single finite-difference evaluation. The finite-difference approach, however, requires at least one analysis from the CFD code per design variable, making it ill-suited for design optimization problems with a large number of design inputs.

In recent years, an adjoint-based approach to computing sensitivities has been implemented in many compressible CFD codes[29, 32, 35, 42]. This adjoint-based approach requires a single flow and “adjoint” solution to compute the sensitivity of all design variables to a given cost function. In essence, the adjoint-based approach requires an additional solution per cost function, whereas the finite-difference approach requires an additional solution per design variable. Because the number of design variables is, usually, much larger than the number of cost functions in CFD applications, the adjoint-based approach is much more efficient than the finite-difference approach for computing design sensitivities.

Reacting gas CFD codes have lagged in adopting this adjoint-based approach, but interest has increased in recent years[11, 12, 26]. The relatively small number of reacting gas CFD codes that employ adjoint-based sensitivity analysis is likely due to the significant jump in complexity of the linearizations required, especially in regard to the chemical source term and the dissipation term in the Roe flux difference splitting (FDS) scheme[44]. There is also a split in the reacting gas solver community over the methodology used to compute adjoint-based sensitivity derivatives, specifically whether to implement a continuous or discrete version of the adjoint equations. In a continuous formulation of the adjoint equations, the flow solver equations are linearized and then discretized, whereas in discrete formulation the flow solver equations are discretized and then linearized. Copeland et al.[11] have adopted a continuous formulation of the adjoint equations for flows in chemical and thermal non-equilibrium, and have implemented this formulation in the CFD code SU2[38] from Stanford University. The reasoning cited for

choosing a continuous formulation of the adjoint equations was that, among other things, the adjoint system was not well suited to being solved by the same methods used for solving the flow solver equations and the resulting adjoint solution could lead to non-physical oscillations that fail to capture the continuous adjoint solution. Lockwood et al.[27, 26], on the other hand, have published favorable results for a discrete adjoint formulation for both parameter sensitivity and uncertainty quantification.

For the work presented here, a discrete adjoint formulation is chosen over a continuous one. The reason for this decision is that the merits of a continuous adjoint formulation do not outweigh the testing and practical benefits of a discrete adjoint formulation. Because the discretized flow solver equations are linearized in a discrete adjoint solver, the adjoint solution can be verified using finite-difference derivatives. This is not possible with a continuous formulation, as the solution to the continuous problem will not exactly match the discretization; therefore, from a practical standpoint, the verification of a continuous adjoint solution is much more ambiguous than for a discrete adjoint solution. The claim that non-equilibrium flow solvers are not guaranteed to solve the adjoint system is disputed here, as Nielsen et al.[36] proved that a discrete adjoint scheme can be made dual exact, where the discrete adjoint approach matches the direct differentiation approach exactly for each time step.

An additional obstacle that may prevent adjoint-based sensitivity analysis in reacting gas solvers is the extreme problem size associated with high energy physics. The additional equations required in reacting gas simulations lead to large Jacobians that scale quadratically in size to the number of governing equations. This scaling leads to a significant increase in the memory required to store the flux linearizations and the computational cost of the point solver. As reacting gas CFD solvers are used to solve increasingly more complex problems, this onerous quadratic scaling of computational

cost and Jacobian size will ultimately surpass the current limits of hardware and time constraints on achieving a flow solution[13].

To mitigate this scaling issue, Candler et al.[10] proposed a scheme for a modified form of the Steger-Warming flux vector splitting scheme[28, 48]. In that work, it was shown that quadratic scaling between the cost of solving the implicit system and additional species mass equations can be reduced from quadratic to linear scaling by decoupling the species mass equations from the mixture mass, momentum, and energy equations and solving the two systems sequentially. Candler et al.[9] later analyzed stability issues associated with the decoupled formulation of the flow solver in [10]. The research presented here extends the aforementioned work[10] from the modified form of the Steger-Warming flux vector splitting method to the Roe flux difference splitting (FDS) scheme, and, more importantly, extends it for the first time to the solution of the adjoint formulation. A new chemical source term scaling procedure is introduced in the present work that mitigates the stability concerns.

## 1.1 Contributions

1. **Improved stability for solving inviscid flows in chemical non-equilibrium using a decoupled, point-implicit approach.**

To mitigate the quadratic scaling in computational cost and memory required with respect to each additional species continuity equation, Candler et al.[10] proposed a scheme to for a modified form of the Steger-Warming flux vector splitting scheme[28, 48]. In that work, it was shown that the quadratic scaling could be reduced from quadratic to linear scaling by decoupling the species mass equations from the mixture mass, momentum, and energy equations and solving the two sys-

tems sequentially. Candler et al.[9] later analyzed stability issues associated with the decoupled formulation of the flow solver in [10]. This work extends the aforementioned work from the modified form of the Steger-Warming flux vector splitting method to the Roe flux difference splitting (FDS) scheme, and introduces a new chemical source term scaling procedure to mitigate these stability concerns. To the author’s knowledge, this decoupled flow solver procedure, involving chemical source term scaling, is a novel extension to the work by Candler et al.[10], and enables the decoupled approach to be used on more challenging problems involving very large chemical reaction rates.

**2. Improved computational cost and memory required scaling with number of species continuity equations in adjoint solver.**

A discrete adjoint formulation is derived and implemented in the reacting gas path of the FUN3D CFD code[5] for the first time, and both a fully coupled point-implicit and decoupled point-implicit solution procedure are described to solve the adjoint equations. This decoupled point-implicit approach to solving the adjoint system of equation is an analog to the method used by the flow solver decoupled approach, and, to the best of the author’s knowledge, represents the first of its kind in published literature. This novel approach to solving the adjoint system of equations significantly improves the computational cost and memory required by the adjoint solver in the same manner as the decoupled flow solver approach, and is shown to speedup the time to solution by more than an order of magnitude in some cases.

**3. Design optimization off a hypersonic reentry vehicle with a retro-firing annular jet.**

An axi-symmetric hypersonic re-entry vehicle with an annular jet is chosen as the main demonstration problem in this work. This design was previously examined by Gnoffo et al.[21] for a perfect gas as a means of increasing the time-averaged vehicle drag via unsteady interactions between the annular jet plume and the bow shock. A steady solution was found for that geometry and it was postulated that the annular jet plume could be used as an active cooling mechanism to augment or replace the passive thermal protection system (TPS) on the vehicle. This work extends the previous work to inviscid flow in chemical non-equilibrium, and applies sensitivities computed by the adjoint solver to minimize the vehicle outer surface temperature and mass flow rate through the annular jet plenum by changing the conditions at the plenum.

# Chapter 2

## Governing Equations

In this section, the conservative equations governing fluid flow for inviscid, chemically reacting flow are presented. This research is extendable to multi-temperature models to account for higher excitation modes than the translational mode; however, the focus of this research uses a 1-temperature model, so only a single, total energy equation is used. The thermodynamic relations and chemical kinetics models used are also presented in detail here.

### 2.1 Reacting Flow Conservation Equations

Conservation equations for a fluid mixture that is in chemical non-equilibrium and thermal equilibrium can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} &\textbf{Species Conservation :} \\ &\frac{\partial \rho_s}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial (\rho_s u)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial (\rho_s v)}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial (\rho_s w)}{\partial z} = \omega_s \end{aligned} \tag{2.1}$$

**Mixture Momentum Conservation :**

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial(\rho u)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\rho u^2)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(\rho uv)}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial(\rho uw)}{\partial z} &= -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \\
\frac{\partial(\rho v)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\rho vu)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(\rho v^2)}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial(\rho vw)}{\partial z} &= -\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \\
\frac{\partial(\rho w)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\rho wu)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(\rho wv)}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial(\rho w^2)}{\partial z} &= -\frac{\partial p}{\partial z}
\end{aligned} \tag{2.2}$$

**Total Energy Conservation :**

$$\frac{\partial \rho E}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial (\rho E + p) u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial (\rho E + p) v}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial (\rho E + p) w}{\partial z} = 0 \tag{2.3}$$

## 2.2 Thermodynamic Relationships

The pressure,  $p$ , is defined as the sum of the partial pressures of the species

$$p = \sum_{s=1}^{N_s} p_s \tag{2.4}$$

and the partial pressure of species  $s$ ,  $p_s$ , is defined as

$$p_s = \frac{\rho_s R_u T}{M_s} \tag{2.5}$$

where  $R_u$  is the universal gas constant and  $M_s$  is the molecular weight of species  $s$ . The total energy per unit mass  $E$ , is defined as

$$E = \sum_{s=1}^{N_s} c_s e_s + \frac{u^2 + v^2 + w^2}{2} \tag{2.6}$$



where  $c_s$  is the mass fraction of species  $s$ , defined as

$$c_s = \frac{\rho_s}{\rho} \quad (2.7)$$

and  $e_s$  is the specific internal energy of species  $s$ , defined as

$$e_s = \int_{T_{ref}}^T C_{v,s} dT + e_{s,o} \quad (2.8)$$

where  $T_{ref}$  is a reference temperature and  $e_{s,o}$  is the specific energy of formation for species  $s$ . In practice, the specific heat at constant volume for species  $s$ ,  $C_{v,s}$ , is not used directly. Instead, the specific heat at constant pressure for species  $s$ ,  $C_{p,s}$ , is determined via thermodynamic curve fits and related to  $C_{v,s}$  via

$$C_{v,s} = C_{p,s} - \frac{R_u}{M_s} \quad (2.9)$$

The thermodynamic properties curve fit tables developed by McBride, Gordon, and Reno[6] are used to compute  $C_{p,s}$ , and quadratic blending function of the form

$$C_{p,s} = aT^2 + bT + c \quad (2.10)$$

was used to ensure that  $C_{p,s}$  and enthalpy were continuous across temperature ranges. The details of coefficients  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$ , in Eq. 2.10 and their derivation are given in Appendix A.2. This blending is done to improve convergence and stability of the numerical solvers, by preventing a large, discontinuous sensitivity between temperature and the overall thermodynamic state.

## 2.3 Chemical Kinetics Model

The production and destruction of species is governed by the source terms,  $w_s$ , defined as

$$w_s = M_s \sum_{r=1}^{N_r} \left( \nu''_{s,r} - \nu'_{s,r} \right) (R_{f,r} - R_{b,r}) \quad (2.11)$$

where  $N_r$  is the number of reactions,  $\nu'_{s,r}$  and  $\nu''_{s,r}$  are the stoichiometric coefficients for the reactants and products, respectively, and  $R_{f,r}$  and  $R_{b,r}$  are the forward and backward rates for reaction  $r$ , respectively. The forward and backward reaction rates are defined as

$$R_{f,r} = 1000 \left[ k_{f,r} \prod_{s=1}^{N_s} (0.001 \rho_s / M_s) \nu'_{s,r} \right] \quad (2.12)$$

$$R_{b,r} = 1000 \left[ k_{b,r} \prod_{s=1}^{N_s} (0.001 \rho_s / M_s) \nu''_{s,r} \right] \quad (2.13)$$

where  $k_{f,r}$  and  $k_{b,r}$  are the forward and backward rate coefficients, respectively. It should be noted that all terms on the right-hand side (RHS) for Eq.s (2.12-2.13) are in CGS units. The factors 1000 and 0.001 are required to convert from CGS to MKS, so that  $R_{f,r}$  and  $R_{b,r}$  are in MKS units. The rate coefficients are expressed in the manner defined by Park[40], but for a one-temperature model; thus, the forward and back rate coefficients are defined as

$$k_{f,r} = C_{f,r} T^{n_{f,r}} \exp(-E_{f,r}/kT) \quad (2.14)$$

$$k_{b,r} = \frac{k_{f,r}}{K_{c,r}} \quad (2.15)$$

where  $K_{c,r}$  is the equilibrium constant for reaction  $r$ , and  $k$  is the Boltzmann constant. The preexponential constants  $C_{f,r}$  and  $n_{f,r}$ , as well as the activation energy,  $E_{f,r}$ , are documented by Gnoffo[23]. The equilibrium coefficient is computed according to the curve fit defined by Park[39]

$$K_{c,r} = \exp(B_1^r + B_2^r \ln Z + B_3^r Z + B_4^r Z^2 + B_5^r Z^3) \quad (2.16)$$

$$Z = 10000/T \quad (2.17)$$

where the curve fit constants,  $B_i^r$ , are also documented by Gnoffo[23]

# Chapter 3

## Numerical Solution of Flow Equations

In this section, the discretization and method of solution of the governing equations from Chapter 2 is derived. Traditionally, the reacting gas path of FUN3D[5] has employed an implicit, fully coupled scheme in the flow solver. In addition to providing details of this fully coupled scheme, a decoupled scheme based on the Roe FDS scheme[44] is derived to improve the computational efficiency of the flow solver and decrease the relative memory required. Details on the reconstruction scheme used in FUN3D to extend the baseline finite-volume scheme to higher-order accuracy are also provided in this section.

### 3.1 Fully-Coupled Point Implicit Method

The governing equations presented in Eq.s (2.1-2.3) can be recast in vector form as

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{W} \quad (3.1)$$

The conserved variables vector,  $\mathbf{U}$ , flux vector,  $\mathbf{F}$ , and chemical source term vector,  $\mathbf{W}$ , are given as

$$\mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho_1 \\ \vdots \\ \rho_{N_s} \\ \rho u \\ \rho v \\ \rho w \\ \rho E \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{F} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho_1 \mathbf{u} \\ \vdots \\ \rho_{N_s} \mathbf{u} \\ \rho u \mathbf{u} + p \\ \rho v \mathbf{u} + p \\ \rho w \mathbf{u} + p \\ (\rho E + p) \mathbf{u} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{W} = \begin{pmatrix} \omega_1 \\ \vdots \\ \omega_{N_s} \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.2)$$

where  $E$  is the total energy of the mixture per unit mass as defined in Eq. 2.6. To solve Eq. 3.1 with a finite-volume discretization, the conservation equations must be integrated over the volume of each cell and the divergence theorem must be applied. The divergence theorem states that

$$\iiint_{\Omega} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}) d\Omega = \iint_{\Gamma} (\mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n}) d\Gamma \quad (3.3)$$

where  $\Omega$  is the cell volume,  $\Gamma$  is the cell boundary and  $\mathbf{n}$  is the outward pointing normal vector. Integrating Eq. 3.1, applying Eq. 3.3, and summing over all cell faces yields the semi-discrete form

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} \Omega + \sum_f (\mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{N})^f = \mathbf{W} \Omega \quad (3.4)$$

where  $\mathbf{N}$  is the outward pointing, area-weighted normal vector.

The flux and species chemical source term at the next time level can be approximated

as

$$\mathbf{F}^{n+1} \approx \mathbf{F}^n + \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \Delta \mathbf{U}^n \quad (3.5)$$

$$\mathbf{W}^{n+1} \approx \mathbf{W}^n + \frac{\partial \mathbf{W}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \Delta \mathbf{U}^n \quad (3.6)$$

where  $\Delta \mathbf{U}^n = \mathbf{U}^{n+1} - \mathbf{U}^n$ . Using backward Euler for the time integration, the implicit scheme becomes:

$$\frac{\Omega}{\Delta t} \Delta \mathbf{U}^n + \sum_f \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}^f}{\partial \mathbf{U}^L} \Delta \mathbf{U}^L + \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}^f}{\partial \mathbf{U}^R} \Delta \mathbf{U}^R \right)^n \mathbf{N}^f - \Omega \frac{\partial \mathbf{W}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \Delta \mathbf{U}^n = - \sum_f (\mathbf{F}^f \cdot \mathbf{N}^f)^n + \Omega \mathbf{W}^n \quad (3.7)$$

Eq. 3.7 results in a global Jacobian comprised of block Jacobians. One set of rows corresponding to a single point in the global Jacobian has the form

$$\underbrace{\left[ \frac{\Omega}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_1}}{\partial \rho_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_1}}{\partial \rho_{N_s}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_1}}{\partial \rho_{\mathbf{u}}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_1}}{\partial \rho_E} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{N_s}}}{\partial \rho_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{N_s}}}{\partial \rho_{N_s}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{N_s}}}{\partial \rho_{\mathbf{u}}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{N_s}}}{\partial \rho_E} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{\mathbf{u}}}}{\partial c_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{\mathbf{u}}}}{\partial c_{N_s}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{\mathbf{u}}}}{\partial \rho_{\mathbf{u}}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{\mathbf{u}}}}{\partial \rho_E} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_E}}{\partial c_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_E}}{\partial c_{N_s}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_E}}{\partial \rho_{\mathbf{u}}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_E}}{\partial \rho_E} \end{pmatrix} \right]}_{(N_s + 4) \times (N_s + 4)} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \Delta \mathbf{U}_{\rho_1} \\ \vdots \\ \Delta \mathbf{U}_{\rho_{N_s}} \\ \Delta \mathbf{U}_{\rho_{\mathbf{u}}} \\ \Delta \mathbf{U}_{\rho_E} \end{pmatrix}}_{(N_s + 4) \times 1} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\rho_1} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{N_s}} \\ \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{\mathbf{u}}} \\ \mathbf{R}_{\rho_E} \end{pmatrix}}_{(N_s + 4) \times 1} \quad (3.8)$$

where Eq. 3.8 is written without contributions from off-diagonal block Jacobian contributions for compactness in this illustration. The global system of equations can be written generically as

$$\left( \frac{\Omega}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I} + \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{R}}_{\mathbf{U}}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \right) \Delta \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{U}} \quad (3.9)$$

where  $\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{U}}$  is global residual vector, corresponding to the RHS of Eq. 3.7, and  $\frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{R}}_{\mathbf{U}}}{\partial \mathbf{U}}$  is the

approximate, first-order global Jacobian matrix, corresponding the linearizations in the left-hand side (LHS) of Eq. 3.7. This non-linear system can be relaxed to steady state, where  $\mathbf{R}_U \approx 0$ , by performing a series of Gauss-Seidel sweeps with multi-color matrix ordering. The LHS of Eq. 3.9,  $\mathbf{A}_U$ , is split into its diagonal and off-diagonal elements

$$\left( \frac{\Omega}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I} + \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{R}}_U}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \right) = \mathbf{A}_U = O + D \quad (3.10)$$

with the off-diagonal elements,  $O$ , moved to the RHS to update the solution via

$$(D)(\Delta \mathbf{U}^{n+1}) = \mathbf{R}_U - (O)(\Delta \mathbf{U}^{n,n+1}) \quad (3.11)$$

As shown in Eq. 3.8, each block matrix element is a square  $(N_s + 4) \times (N_s + 4)$  matrix. This system can be solved iteratively by using a multi-color matrix ordering to perform a series of Gauss-Seidel sweeps. The computational work for the Gauss-Seidel scheme is dominated by matrix-vector multiplications of elements of  $O$  with  $\Delta \mathbf{U}$ , which are  $O((N_s + 4)^2)$  operations. In the next section, it is shown that decoupling the system reduces these matrix-vector multiplications to  $O(5^2 + N_s)$  operations.

## 3.2 Decoupled Point Implicit Method

If the species mass equations are replaced by a single mixture mass equation, the mixture equations can be separated from the species mass equations and the conserved variables

become

$$\mathbf{U}' = \begin{pmatrix} \rho \\ \rho u \\ \rho v \\ \rho w \\ \rho E \end{pmatrix} \quad \hat{\mathbf{U}} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho_1 \\ \vdots \\ \rho_{ns} \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.12)$$

with corresponding flux vectors

$$\mathbf{F}' = \begin{pmatrix} \rho \mathbf{u} \\ \rho u \mathbf{u} + p \\ \rho v \mathbf{u} + p \\ \rho w \mathbf{u} + p \\ (\rho E + p) \mathbf{u} \end{pmatrix} \quad \hat{\mathbf{F}} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho_1 \mathbf{u} \\ \vdots \\ \rho_{ns} \mathbf{u} \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.13)$$

The decoupled solution procedure is performed in two sequential steps. The mixture conserved variables,  $\mathbf{U}'$ , are first updated by solving

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}'}{\partial t} \Omega + \sum_f (\mathbf{F}' \cdot \mathbf{N})^f = 0 \quad (3.14)$$

followed by updating the species density variables,  $\hat{\mathbf{U}}$ , via solving

$$\frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{U}}}{\partial t} \Omega + \sum_f (\hat{\mathbf{F}} \cdot \mathbf{N})^f = \Omega \mathbf{W} \quad (3.15)$$

The same point-implicit relaxation that uses multi-color Gauss-Seidel sweeps is used to update the conserved variables in  $\mathbf{U}'$ , and all associated auxiliary variables, such as temperature, pressure, speed of sound, etc. are updated to be consistent with the new



state of  $\mathbf{U}'$ . This update is done holding the mass fraction state constant, and will always result in the relaxation of a five-equation system. Decoupling the variable sets in Eq. 3.12 does trade an implicit relationship between the mixture and species equations for an explicit one; thus, this decoupling can have an impact on the stability of the scheme, especially due to the non-linearity of the chemical source term[40].

The solution of the species mass equations takes a different form. Based on the work of Candler et al.[10], the decoupled variables can be rewritten in terms of mass fraction, as follows:

$$\delta \hat{\mathbf{U}}^n = \rho^{n+1} \hat{\mathbf{V}}^{n+1} - \rho^n \hat{\mathbf{V}}^n = \rho^{n+1} \delta \hat{\mathbf{V}}^n + \hat{\mathbf{V}}^n \delta \rho^n \quad (3.16)$$

where  $\hat{\mathbf{V}} = (c_1, \dots, c_{ns})^T$ , and  $c_s = \rho_s/\rho$  is the mass fraction of species  $s$ . While the derivation of the species mass equations is different for the Roe FDS scheme from that of Steger-Warming proposed by Candler et al.[10], the final result takes a similar form:

$$\hat{F}_{\rho_s} = c_s F'_\rho + (c_s^L - \tilde{c}_s) \rho^L \lambda^+ + (c_s^R - \tilde{c}_s) \rho^R \lambda^- \quad (3.17)$$

where  $F'_\rho$  is the total mass flux computed previously using all  $\mathbf{U}'$  variables,  $\tilde{\cdot}$  denotes a Roe-averaged quantity, and  $\lambda^{+/-}$  are functions of the Roe averaged eigenvalues. Likewise, linearizing the species mass fluxes with respect to the  $\hat{\mathbf{V}}$  variables yields

$$\hat{\mathbf{F}}^{n+1} \approx \hat{\mathbf{F}}^n + \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{F}}}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{V}}^L} \Delta \hat{\mathbf{V}}^L + \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{F}}}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{V}}^R} \Delta \hat{\mathbf{V}}^R \quad (3.18)$$

$$\frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{F}}}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{V}}^L} = \tilde{w} F'_\rho + (1 - \tilde{w}) \rho^L \lambda^+ - \tilde{w} \rho^R \lambda^- \quad (3.19)$$

$$\frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{F}}}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{V}}^R} = (1 - \tilde{w}) F'_\rho + (\tilde{w} - 1) \rho^L \lambda^+ + \tilde{w} \rho^R \lambda^- \quad (3.20)$$

A full derivation of Eq.s (3.17-3.20), along with the definition of  $\tilde{w}$ , is included in Ap-

pendix A.1. The chemical source term is linearized in the same manner as the fully coupled scheme; however, the updated  $\mathbf{U}'$  variables are used to evaluate the Jacobian, and the chain rule is applied to linearize  $\hat{\mathbf{W}}$  with respect to the species mass fractions:

$$\hat{\mathbf{W}}^{n+1} \approx \hat{\mathbf{W}}^n + \left. \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{W}}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \right|_{\mathbf{U}'} \frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{V}}} \quad (3.21)$$

For simplicity of notation, we define

$$C = \left. \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{W}}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \right|_{\mathbf{U}'} \frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{V}}} \quad (3.22)$$

The decoupled system to be solved becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Omega}{\Delta t} \rho^{n+1} \Delta \hat{\mathbf{V}} + \sum_f \left( \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{F}}^f}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{V}}^L} \cdot \mathbf{N}^f \Delta \hat{\mathbf{V}}^L + \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{F}}^f}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{V}}^R} \cdot \mathbf{N}^f \Delta \hat{\mathbf{V}}^R \right)^{n,n+1} - \Omega C^{n,n+1} \Delta \hat{\mathbf{V}}^n \\ = - \sum_f \left( \hat{\mathbf{F}}^{n,n+1} \cdot \mathbf{N} \right)^f + \Omega \mathbf{W}^{n,n+1} + R_\rho \hat{\mathbf{V}}^n \end{aligned} \quad (3.23)$$

where

$$R_\rho = \sum_f \sum_{s=1}^{N_s} (\hat{F}_{\rho_s}^{n,n+1} \cdot \mathbf{N}) \quad (3.24)$$

is included to preserve the constraint that the mass fractions sum to unity, i.e.,  $\sum_s c_s = 1$ ,  $\sum_s \delta c_s = 0$

Candler et al.[9] later found that the decoupled scheme, using a modified Steger-Warming flux splitting, was less stable than the fully coupled scheme when large reaction rates were present, particularly for exothermic reaction. This same instability was observed in numerical experiments for Eq. 3.23. To mitigate this issue, Candler et al. proposed an alternative decoupling of variable sets that was more stable, but still un-

satisfactory if exothermic reactions dominated the flow. Instead of implementing this alternative decoupled scheme, Eq. 3.23 is modified with a scalar scaling factor,  $\omega_r$ , on the chemical source term  $\mathbf{W}^{n,n+1}$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Omega}{\Delta t} \rho^{n+1} \Delta \hat{\mathbf{V}} + \sum_f \left( \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{F}}^f}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{V}}^L} \cdot \mathbf{N}^f \Delta \hat{\mathbf{V}}^L + \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{F}}^f}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{V}}^R} \cdot \mathbf{N}^f \Delta \hat{\mathbf{V}}^R \right)^{n,n+1} - \Omega C^{n,n+1} \Delta \hat{\mathbf{V}}^n \\ = - \sum_f \left( \hat{\mathbf{F}}^{n,n+1} \cdot \mathbf{N} \right)^f + (\Omega)(\omega_r)(\mathbf{W}^{n,n+1}) + R_\rho \hat{\mathbf{V}}^n \end{aligned} \quad (3.25)$$

Ramping this scaling factor from zero to one over the course of timestepping the solution to steady-state preserves robustness of the decoupled scheme, and numerical experiments show that it has minimal impact on the convergence rate. The ramping scheme is done linearly over a specified range of iterations in the flow solver that can be tuned by user input. Typically, the large reaction rates are only present during the transients early on in the simulation, and damping the source term during this phase does not affect the final result, provided the ramping is completed before the end of the simulation.

In this decoupled scheme, the systems of equations for the mixture and species continuity equations can be written as

**Mixture Equations :**

$$\left[ \frac{\Omega}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I} + \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{R}}_{\mathbf{U}'}}{\partial \mathbf{U}'} \right] \Delta \mathbf{U}' = \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{U}'} \quad (3.26)$$

$$\left[ \frac{\Omega}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_\rho}{\partial \rho} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_\rho}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_\rho}{\partial \rho E} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho E} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho E} \end{pmatrix} \right] \begin{pmatrix} \Delta \rho \\ \Delta \rho \mathbf{u} \\ \Delta \rho E \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^{N_s} (\mathbf{R}_{\rho_i}) \\ \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}} \\ \mathbf{R}_{\rho E} \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.27)$$

### Species Continuity Equations :

$$\left[ \frac{\Omega}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I} + \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{R}}_{\hat{\mathbf{V}}}}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{V}}} \right] \Delta \hat{\mathbf{V}} = \mathbf{R}_{\hat{\mathbf{V}}} \quad (3.28)$$

$$\left[ \frac{\rho V}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_1}}{\partial c_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_1}}{\partial c_{ns}} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{ns}}}{\partial c_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{ns}}}{\partial c_{ns}} \end{pmatrix} \right] \begin{pmatrix} \Delta c_1 \\ \vdots \\ \Delta c_{ns} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\rho_1} - c_1 \sum_{i=1}^{N_s} (\mathbf{R}_{\rho_i}) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{N_s}} - c_{N_s} \sum_{i=1}^{N_s} (\mathbf{R}_{\rho_i}) \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.29)$$

where Eq. 3.26 is the global system of equations for the mixture equations, and Eq. 3.27 is the system of equations at a single point with off-diagonal contributions not shown here for brevity. Likewise, Eq. 3.28 is the global system of equations for the species continuity equations, and Eq. 3.29 is the system of equations at a single point, again with the off-diagonal terms omitted for brevity. The Jacobians on the LHS of Eqs (3.26-3.27) contain first-order accurate linearizations, and it should be noted that the approximations made in Eqs (3.19-3.20) result in no interdependence between species; so, the only off-diagonal terms for the Jacobian matrix in Eq. 3.29 come from the chemical source term linearizations.

## 3.3 Predicted Cost and Memory Savings of the Decoupled Implicit Problem

In decoupling the species equations, the most significant savings comes from the source term linearization being purely node-based[23]. Solving the mixture equations is conducted in the same manner as the fully coupled system. The global Jacobian for the mixture equations,  $\frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{R}}_{\mathbf{U}'}}{\partial \mathbf{U}'}$ , consists of block  $5 \times 5$  Jacobian matrices of the form shown in Eq. 3.27. For the decoupled species continuity equations, all entries in the global

Jacobian,  $\frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{R}}_{\mathbf{V}}}{\partial \mathbf{V}}$ , are  $N_s \times N_s$  block matrices of the form in Eq. 3.29. Because there is no interdependence of species, except through the chemical source term, all contributions due to linearizing the convective flux are purely diagonal. Via Eq. 3.10, we decompose  $\frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{R}}_{\mathbf{V}}}{\partial \mathbf{V}}$  into its diagonal and off-diagonal elements, resulting in the following linear system:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \square & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & \square & \\ & & & \ddots \\ & & & & \square \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \delta \hat{\mathbf{V}}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \delta \hat{\mathbf{V}}_i \\ \vdots \\ \delta \hat{\mathbf{V}}_{nodes} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{b}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{b}_i \\ \vdots \\ \hat{b}_{nodes} \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} (\sum_{j=1}^{N_{nb}} [\searrow] \delta \hat{\mathbf{V}}_j)_1 \\ \vdots \\ (\sum_{j=1}^{N_{nb}} [\searrow] \delta \hat{\mathbf{V}}_j)_i \\ \vdots \\ (\sum_{j=1}^{N_{nb}} [\searrow] \delta \hat{\mathbf{V}}_j)_{nodes} \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.30)$$

where  $\square$  represents a dense  $N_s \times N_s$  matrix,  $[\searrow]$  represents a diagonal matrix, and  $\delta \hat{\mathbf{V}}_j$  is the mass fraction variable update on the node  $j$  that neighbors node  $i$ , where  $N_{nb}$  is the number of nodes neighboring node  $i$ . Thus, the non-zero entries in the off-diagonal matrix can be reduced from diagonal matrices to vectors. This results in significant savings in both computational cost and memory, as the only expensive operation left in solving the implicit system is dealing with the diagonal entries in the Jacobian. An LU decomposition of an  $N \times N$  matrix requires  $\sim N^3/3$  operations, whereas the matrix vector products of equivalent dimension requires  $N^2$  operations and the vector inner products cost. Including the LU decomposition operations, the relative cost of the linear solves in the decoupled scheme compared to the fully coupled scheme is approximately

$$\text{Relative Computational Cost} = \frac{\frac{(N_s+4)^3}{3} N_{nodes} + (N_s + 4)^2 (S_{GS})(N_{nz})}{\frac{(N_s)^3 + (5)^3}{3} N_{nodes} + (N_s + 5)^2 (S_{GS})(N_{nz})} \quad (3.31)$$

where  $S_{GS}$  is the number of multi-color Gauss-Seidel sweeps,  $N_{nodes}$  is the number of nodes, and  $N_{nz}$  is the number of non-zero off-diagonal entries stored using compressed row storage[15]. Because  $(S_{GS})(N_{nz}) \gg N_{nodes}$ , the LU decomposition cost is negligible except when the number of species is extremely large. If the LU decomposition costs are dropped from Eq. 3.31, the relative cost of the linear solve becomes

$$\text{Relative Computational Cost} = \frac{(N_s + 4)^2}{(N_s + 5^2)} \quad (3.32)$$

and can therefore expect nearly linear speedup in the linear solver cost with the number of species when using the decoupled system over the fully coupled system. It should be noted that cost predicted by operation count of an LU decomposition does not usually manifest equivalently in computational cost. Significant compiler optimizations are possible if a storage scheme is adopted where memory collocation of the diagonal block Jacobians is maintained. These optimizations decrease the cost of the LU decomposition relative to the Gauss-Seidel sweeps further, and thus the LU decomposition has never been seen as a dominant cost for hypersonic simulations.

Using compressed row storage, the relative memory savings in the limit of a large number of species for the Jacobian is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Relative Memory Cost} &= \frac{\text{size}(\frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{R}}_{\tilde{\mathbf{V}}}}{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{V}}})}{\text{size}(\frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{R}}_{\mathbf{U}'}}{\partial \mathbf{U}'})} \\ &= \lim_{N_s \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(N_s^2 + 5^2)(N_{nodes}) + (N_s + 5^2)(N_{nz})}{(N_s + 4)^2(N_{nodes} + N_{nz})} \\ &= \frac{N_{nodes}}{N_{nodes} + N_{nz}} \end{aligned} \quad (3.33)$$

For a three-dimensional structured grid, each node has six neighbors, i.e.,  $N_{nz} = 6N_{nodes}$ ;

therefore, we can expect the Jacobian memory required to decrease by a factor of seven using this decoupled scheme. Interestingly, for a grid that is not purely hexahedra,  $N_{nz} > 6N_{nodes}$ ; thus, this decoupled scheme provides higher relative memory savings on unstructured grids than structured grids when using compressed row storage.

### 3.4 Higher Order Reconstruction

To achieve higher-order accuracy, the FUN3D solver uses an extension of the unstructured MUSCL (U-MUSCL) reconstruction scheme developed by Burg et al[7, 8], which is itself an extension of the Monotonic Upstream-centered Scheme for Conservation Laws (MUSCL) scheme developed by Van Leer[50]. The implementation is a combination of central differencing and the original U-MUSCL scheme

$$\begin{aligned} q_L &= q_1 + (1 - \kappa) \left[ \phi \left( \frac{\partial q_1}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial q_1}{\partial y} dy + \frac{\partial q_1}{\partial z} dz \right) \right] + \frac{\kappa}{2} (q_2 - q_1) \\ q_R &= q_2 + (1 - \kappa) \left[ \phi \left( \frac{\partial q_2}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial q_2}{\partial y} dy + \frac{\partial q_2}{\partial z} dz \right) \right] + \frac{\kappa}{2} (q_1 - q_2) \end{aligned} \quad (3.34)$$

where  $\kappa = 0.5$  is usually used on unstructured grids with mixed elements. Figure 3.1 shows that  $q_{L,R}$  are the primitive variables at the left and right sides of the edge midpoint, where the flux is evaluated,  $q_{1,2}$  are the primitive variables at nodes 1 and 2. The

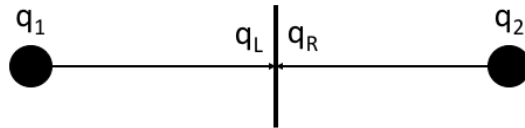


Figure 3.1: Edge reconstruction.

variable  $\phi$  is the result of the scalar flux limiter function, that is required to preserve monotonicity in the second order reconstruction near discontinuities. FUN3D supports a larger variety of flux limiters that fall into two main categories: edge-based limiters, and stencil-based limiters. The edge based limiters are evaluated for two nodes at each edge. Different values of  $\phi$  can exist at each node for edge-based limiter, and the results are not “freezable” at each node in FUN3D. Stencil-based limiters are evaluated at each node, based on the gradients that are computed there. For these limiters, the value of  $\phi$  is unique to each node and can be stored with the flow solution as an additional variable. The stencil-based limiters can be “frozen” at a user-specified iteration in the flow solver, and the frozen state of the limiter is only re-evaluated if the reconstruction forces a non-physical state at the dual volume interface. Freezing the flux limiter at 3/4 the iterations required to converge the flow solution is recommend in FUN3D[5], which usually results converging the flow solver equation residuals to machine zero.

For this study, smooth Van Albada[49], Van Leer[51], and Minmod[45] flux limiter functions are used. Each of these limiters is augmented with a heuristic pressure limiter by Park[41]. The choice of these limiters impacts solution convergence and accuracy. It is important to note that the smooth Van Albada averaging function is given as

$$\phi(a, b) = \frac{(b^2 + \varepsilon^2)a + (a^2 + \varepsilon^2)b}{a^2 + b^2 + 2\varepsilon^2} \quad (3.35)$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are the left and right node gradients, and  $\varepsilon$  is the “smoothing coefficient”. This smoothing coefficient is used to tune the flux limiter to a variety of the problems, and it is advised to be the reciprocal of the mean aerodynamic chord (MAC) in grid units for FUN3D[5]. The choice of  $\varepsilon$  is critical to some hypersonic applications involving chemistry, and will be discussed later.



## Chapter 4

# Numerical Solution of Adjoint Equations

This section details the derivation of the adjoint equations to be solved in conjunction with the primal flow equations. The primary goals of this research are to:

1. Compute sensitivities of aerodynamic and aerothermodynamic quantities to design variables
2. Utilize a decoupled approach in the solution of the adjoint equations

The cost of the solving the adjoint system of equations increases quadratically with each additional species conservation equation, in the same manner as the flow solver. To mitigate this scaling, a decoupled scheme is derived to solve the adjoint system that is consistent with the decoupled scheme used by the flow solver.

## 4.1 Discrete Adjoint Derivation

The derivation for the discrete adjoint begins with forming the Lagrangian as

$$L(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{\Lambda}) = f(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{Q}) + \mathbf{\Lambda}^T \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{Q}) \quad (4.1)$$

where  $f$  is the cost function of interest,  $\mathbf{R}$  is the residual of the flow equations,  $\mathbf{D}$  is the vector of design variables,  $\mathbf{Q}$  is the vector of conserved variables, and  $\mathbf{\Lambda}$  is the vector of Lagrange multipliers (hereafter referred to as costate variables). Differentiating with respect to the design variables,  $\mathbf{D}$ , yields

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{D}} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{D}} + \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{Q}}{\partial \mathbf{D}} \right]^T \left\{ \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{Q}} + \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{Q}} \right]^T \mathbf{\Lambda} \right\} + \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{D}} \right]^T \mathbf{\Lambda} \quad (4.2)$$

To eliminate the dependence of conserved variables,  $\mathbf{Q}$ , on the design variables, we solve the adjoint equation

$$\left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{Q}} \right]^T \mathbf{\Lambda} = -\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{Q}} \quad (4.3)$$

Eq. 4.2 can ultimately be used in error estimation and sensitivity analysis for design optimization. With the second term in Eq. 4.2 eliminated, the derivative of the Lagrangian becomes

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{D}} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{D}} + \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{D}} \right]^T \mathbf{\Lambda} \quad (4.4)$$

The sensitivity of the objective function to the design parameters can be used by a non-linear optimizer to determine an optimal set of design variables,  $\mathbf{D}^*$ . This optimization can be done using **SNOPT**[18], **KSOPT**[25], or **NPSOL**[17] in FUN3D, as well as a host of other non-linear optimizers.

## 4.2 Fully Coupled Adjoint Formulation

For the fully coupled system in Eq. 3.9, the adjoint system from Eq. 4.3 is written as

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{U}}}{\partial \mathbf{U}}^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{U}} = -\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \quad (4.5)$$

where  $\Lambda_{\mathbf{U}}$  is the vector of costate variables associated with the fully coupled flow solver equation set. It is important to note that the linearizations in  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{U}}}{\partial \mathbf{U}}^T$  from Eq. 4.5 must be exact, whereas the Jacobian used by the flow solver in Eq. 4.5 can contain approximations. Eq. 4.5 is a linear system of equations, and can be solved via a linear solver such as GMRES [46]; however, Nielsen [34] found that time-marching the FUN3D discrete adjoint linear system with the same point-implicit scheme as the FUN3D flow solver was more robust, and solved systems where GMRES tended to stall. The time marching algorithm also has the benefit of reusing the approximate Jacobians from the flow solver, transforming Eq. 4.5 into

$$\left( \frac{\Omega}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I} + \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{R}}_{\mathbf{U}}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \right)^T \Delta \Lambda_{\mathbf{U}} = - \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{U}}}{\partial \mathbf{U}}^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{U}}^n + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \right) \quad (4.6)$$

Using the same linear solver as the fully coupled flow solver to solve Eq. 4.6 results in the same quadratic scaling in cost and memory that the fully coupled flow solver scheme suffered.

## 4.3 Block Jacobi Adjoint Decoupling

It is possible to decouple the adjoint equations in a fashion similar to that done to the primal flow equations. This begins by recognizing that the decoupled scheme can actually

also be solved as a fully-coupled system of equations that involves the following change of variables and change of equations

$$\mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho_1 \\ \vdots \\ \rho_{ns} \\ \rho \mathbf{u} \\ \rho E \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_{ns} \\ \rho \\ \rho \mathbf{u} \\ \rho E \end{pmatrix} \quad (4.7)$$

$$\mathbf{R}_\mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\rho_1} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{Ns}} \\ \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}} \\ \mathbf{R}_{\rho E} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}_\mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\rho_1} - c_1 \sum_{i=1}^{N_s} (\mathbf{R}_{\rho_i}) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{Ns}} - c_{Ns} \sum_{i=1}^{N_s} (\mathbf{R}_{\rho_i}) \\ \sum_{i=1}^{N_s} (\mathbf{R}_{\rho_i}) \\ \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}} \\ \mathbf{R}_{\rho E} \end{pmatrix} \quad (4.8)$$

Exactly linearizing the equation set  $\mathbf{R}_\mathbf{V}$  for the variable set  $\mathbf{V}$  at a single point results in the Jacobian

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_\mathbf{V}^T}{\partial \mathbf{V}} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}'_{c_1}}{\partial \rho_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}'_{c_{Ns}}}{\partial \rho_1} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}'_{\rho}}{\partial \rho_1} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}'_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho_1} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}'_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho_1} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}'_{c_1}}{\partial \rho_{Ns}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}'_{c_{Ns}}}{\partial \rho_{Ns}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}'_{\rho}}{\partial \rho_{Ns}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}'_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho_{Ns}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}'_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho_{Ns}} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{c_1}}{\partial \rho} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{c_{Ns}}}{\partial \rho} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho}}{\partial \rho} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{c_1}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{c_{Ns}}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{c_1}}{\partial \rho E} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{c_{Ns}}}{\partial \rho E} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho}}{\partial \rho E} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho E} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho E} \end{pmatrix} \quad (4.9)$$

The same solution method as the decoupled flow solver can be used to time march the adjoint linear system of equations to the solution, solving the following systems

$$\left( \frac{\rho\Omega}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I} + \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{R}}_{\hat{\mathbf{V}}}}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{V}}} \right)^T \Delta \Lambda_{\hat{\mathbf{V}}} = - \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{V}}}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{V}}}^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{V}}^n + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{V}}} \right) \quad (4.10)$$

$$\left( \frac{\Omega}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I} + \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{R}}_{\mathbf{U}'}}{\partial \mathbf{U}'} \right)^T \Delta \Lambda_{\mathbf{U}'} = - \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{V}}}{\partial \mathbf{U}'}^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{V}}^n + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{U}'} \right) \quad (4.11)$$

where  $\Lambda_{\mathbf{V}}$  is the vector of costate variables associated with the equation set  $\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{V}}$  in Eq. 4.8, and is comprised of  $\Lambda_{\hat{\mathbf{V}}}$  (species continuity equations) and  $\Lambda_{\mathbf{U}'}$ . If a block Jacobi scheme is used, the order in which Eq.s (4.10-4.11) are solved is inconsequential, since no information in the costate variable vector,  $\Lambda_{\mathbf{V}}$ , is passed between these two systems.

While Eq.s (4.10-4.11) recovers the same benefits in linear solver that were afforded the decoupled flow solver scheme, namely linear scaling in cost with additional species continuity equations, Eq. 4.9 shows that forming  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{V}}}{\partial \mathbf{V}}^T$  explicitly requires more work than forming  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{U}}}{\partial \mathbf{U}}^T$ . There is also a serious concern in the development time required to implement and maintain both exact Jacobians,  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{V}}}{\partial \mathbf{V}}^T$  and  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{U}}}{\partial \mathbf{U}}^T$ . An attractive alternative to explicitly forming  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{V}}}{\partial \mathbf{V}}^T$  is to apply a series of matrix transformations to  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{U}}}{\partial \mathbf{U}}^T$  in order to recover  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{V}}}{\partial \mathbf{V}}^T$ . It is possible to left and right precondition Eq. 4.5 to form the RHS of Eq.s (4.10-4.11)

$$\underbrace{\left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial \mathbf{V}} \right)^T}_{\text{Left Preconditioner}} \underbrace{\left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{U}}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \right)^T}_{\text{Right Preconditioner}} \underbrace{\left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{V}}}{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{U}}} \right)^T}_{\text{Left Preconditioner}} \Lambda_{\mathbf{V}} = - \underbrace{\left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial \mathbf{V}} \right)^T}_{\text{Left Preconditioner}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \quad (4.12)$$

$$\Lambda_{\mathbf{U}} = \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{V}}}{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{U}}} \right)^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{V}} \quad (4.13)$$

The derivation of the transformation matrices,  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial \mathbf{V}}$  and  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{V}}}{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{U}}}$ , are included in Appendix A.3

and Appendix A.4, respectively. Using Eq.s (4.12-4.13), it is possible to rewrite Eq. 4.10 and Eq. 4.11 in terms of the fully coupled system linearizations and costate variables

$$\left( \frac{\rho\Omega}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I} + \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{R}}_{\hat{\mathbf{V}}}}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{V}}} \right)^T \Delta \Lambda_{\hat{\mathbf{V}}} = - \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{V}}} \right)^T \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{U}}}{\partial \mathbf{U}}^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{U}}^n + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \right) \quad (4.14)$$

$$\left( \frac{\Omega}{\Delta t} \mathbf{I} + \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{R}}_{\mathbf{U}'}}{\partial \mathbf{U}'} \right)^T \Delta \Lambda_{\mathbf{U}'} = - \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial \mathbf{U}'} \right)^T \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{U}}}{\partial \mathbf{U}}^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{U}}^n + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \right) \quad (4.15)$$

Eq.s (4.14-4.15) effectively utilize the fully coupled scheme linearizations and pre-processes them before the linear solver to make them consistent with the approximations used in the decoupled flow solve Jacobians. This is very efficient from an implementation standpoint, as the infrastructure required to compute the exact linearizations of the second-order reconstruction scheme is extremely involved. The only change necessary on the RHS of decoupled adjoint solver systems is accomplished by looping over the adjoint residual vector and the costate variable vector to apply the necessary changes. For the LHS, the Jacobians can be directly reused from the flow solver routines, and only high-level changes are necessary to facilitate the transpose operations.

## 4.4 Higher-order Reconstruction Linearizations

The reconstruction scheme detailed in Section 3.4 must be exactly linearized in the adjoint solver to achieve correct sensitivity derivatives. The adjoint uses a frozen flux limiter, for purposes that will be discussed in a later section, and is therefore held as constant in the linearization computations. All gradient information in Eq. 3.34,  $\frac{\partial q_{1,2}}{\partial x}$ ,  $\frac{\partial q_{1,2}}{\partial y}$ , and  $\frac{\partial q_{1,2}}{\partial z}$ , are computed using least-squares. For the example stencil shown in Figure 4.1 this

is effectively computed as

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial q}{\partial x} &= \sum_{i=1}^5 W_{x,i} (q_i - q_0) \\ \frac{\partial q}{\partial y} &= \sum_{i=1}^5 W_{y,i} (q_i - q_0) \\ \frac{\partial q}{\partial z} &= \sum_{i=1}^5 W_{z,i} (q_i - q_0)\end{aligned}\tag{4.16}$$

where the  $z$  direction would come from geometry out of the page. In practice, the higher

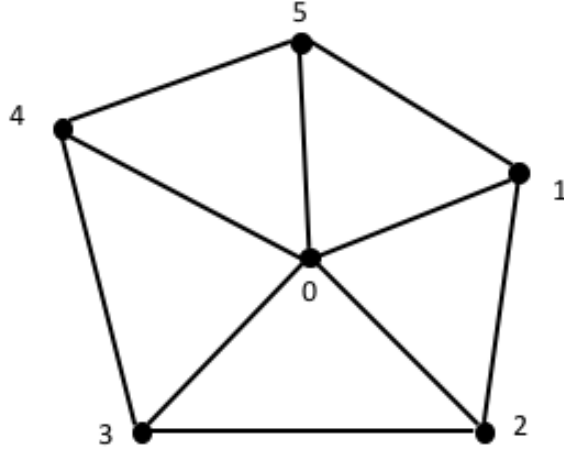


Figure 4.1: Example stencil for least-squares gradient evaluation.

order linearizations can be managed easily by constructing a list of neighboring nodes for each node. By the chain rule the linearization of the residual,  $\mathbf{R}$ , is then evaluated in two parts

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{U}^*(\mathbf{U}))}{\partial \mathbf{U}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{U}^*} \frac{\partial \mathbf{U}^*}{\partial \mathbf{U}}\tag{4.17}$$

where  $\mathbf{U}$  are the conserved variables at each node, and  $\mathbf{U}^*$  are the higher order terms computed in the U-MUSCL reconstruction; therefore, after computing the exact first-order Jacobian of the Roe FDS scheme,  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{U}}$ , the higher order linearizations are computed by making a circuit around each node to pick up the contributions from the least squares gradient computation. For the example stencil in Figure 4.1, the contribution to the residual from looping around node 0 would be

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_0}{\partial \mathbf{U}^*} \frac{\partial \mathbf{U}^*}{\partial \mathbf{U}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_0}{\partial \mathbf{U}^*} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^5 (1 - \kappa) (-W_{x,i} dx - W_{y,i} dy - W_{z,i} dz) \frac{\partial q_0}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \right] \quad (4.18)$$

An important point that this illustrates is that the form of the higher order linearizations does not change significantly based on the primitive variable vector  $q$ , only affecting the primitive to conserved variable Jacobian,  $\frac{\partial q_0}{\partial \mathbf{U}}$ , which is easily computed. This is a powerful telescoping property of the reconstruction scheme from Section 3.4, and it significantly decreases the complexity of the code required to implement the second order term linearizations. The downside of looping around each node is the high number of cache misses, as the data structures in FUN3D are not conducive to co-locating memory based on stencil. This results in the evaluation of the second order linearizations being the dominant computational cost in the adjoint solver.

## 4.5 Memory and Computational Cost of Exact Second Order Linearizations

As shown in Section 4.4, the second order reconstruction results in an extended stencil. This significantly decreases the sparsity of the Jacobian, since the linearizations at a node must now include the neighbors of its nearest neighbors. The cost of computing these



linearizations can quickly dominate other costs of the adjoint, but can be significantly mitigated if the linearizations of second order Jacobian are stored. This essentially trades all the memory in the simulation for computational speed, and may not be possible for large mesh sizes. Since all of the linearizations in the second order Jacobian must be exact, the memory saving approximations of the decoupled scheme can only be applied to the LHS Jacobians in Eq.s (4.14-4.15). This last point makes the quadratic scaling of memory required with the number of species a significant concern of the adjoint. The savings provided by the decoupled scheme become a very significant benefit in cases involving many species, since the memory freed by the sparsity on the LHS of Eq.s (4.14-4.15) can be used by the RHS linearizations to increase the computational efficiency of the adjoint solver.

# Chapter 5

## Demonstration Problem:

## Hypersonic Retro-firing Annular Jet

To demonstrate the advantages and the robustness of the decoupled flow and adjoint solvers relative to the fully coupled flow and adjoint solvers, a demonstration problem is chosen with sufficiently challenging physics. The problem must include a sufficient sensitivity to the chemistry model to highlight the stability concerns of the decoupled flow solver presented in Section 8.2. In this case, the sensitivity manifests through the formation of a large, recirculating buffer gas zone that covers most of the vehicle outer surface. This chapter details the geometry and test conditions of the demonstration problem, as well as the characteristics of the flow solution.

### 5.1 Annular Jet Configuration and Test Conditions

The geometry chosen is a hypersonic re-entry vehicle with a retro-firing annular nozzle, as shown in Figure 5.1. This geometry has been investigated by Gnoffo et al.[21] to

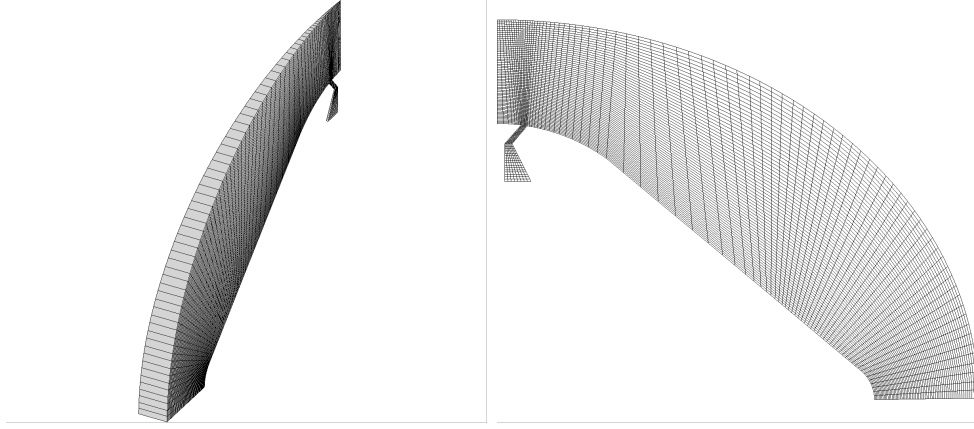


Figure 5.1: Annular jet geometry.

increase drag from “pulsing” the annular jet to obtain a beneficial effect from the unsteady shock interaction with the plume of the jet. In the aforementioned work, it has been determined that a steady solution to the Euler equations exists for this annular jet configuration. This problem is attractive for optimization, because the annular jet plenum conditions significantly affect aerodynamic and aerothermodynamic quantities of interest on the vehicle surface. These effects are very non-linear, due to the shock and jet plume interaction, and it is therefore very difficult to intuitively understand the relationship between the plenum conditions and vehicle surface quantities. Because the adjoint solver is rigorously derived from the discretized governing equations, the relationship between the plenum and surface can be directly determined, making this an excellent showcase problem for adjoint-based sensitivity information.

The geometry is described by the parameters shown in Table 5.1, with the mesh originally created as a structured grid and then converted to an unstructured grid comprised of hexahedra and prismatic elements. The flow conditions corresponding to a Mach 20 freestream flow are shown in Table 5.2, with all simulations conducted using a 9-species Hydrogen-air mixture comprised of  $H_2$ ,  $N_2$ ,  $O_2$ ,  $H$ ,  $N$ ,  $O$ ,  $NO$ ,  $OH$ , and  $H_2O$ .

Parameter	Description	Value
$r_{throat}$	nozzle throat radius, $m$	0.02
$r_{plenum,inner}$	inside nozzle radius at plenum face, $m$	0.02
$r_{plenum,outer}$	outside nozzle radius at plenum face, $m$	0.07
$r_{exit,inner}$	inside nozzle radius at exit, $m$	0.064
$r_{exit,outer}$	outside nozzle radius at exit, $m$	0.08
$l_{conv}$	distance from plenum to throat, $m$	0.05
$\theta_c$	cone half angle, deg	50.0

Table 5.1: Annular nozzle geometry inputs.

Flow Condition	Description	Value
$V_\infty$	freestream velocity, $m/s$	5686.24
$\rho_\infty$	freestream density, $kg/m^3$	0.001
$T_\infty$	freestream temperature, $K$	200.0
$M_\infty$	freestream Mach number (derived)	20.0

Table 5.2: Flow conditions.

## 5.2 Annular Jet Flow Features and Steadiness Dependence on Cone Angle

Figures (5.2-5.3) show contours for annular plenum blowing pure hydrogen at 200,000  $Pa$  and 500 $K$ , and illustrate the complexity of the physics associated with this annular jet configuration. The temperature contours in Figure 5.2 show that the annular jet configuration creates a buffer gas region behind the bow shock. This buffer gas provides a beneficial cooling mechanism for the outer surface of the vehicle. The production of water can be seen in Figure 5.3, with the overlaid streamlines indicating that a separation bubble forms just downstream of the annular nozzle exit. The degree of separation in this flow is sensitive to the cone angle of the vehicle, and it has been observed that lowering the cone angle reduces the size of this separation bubble.

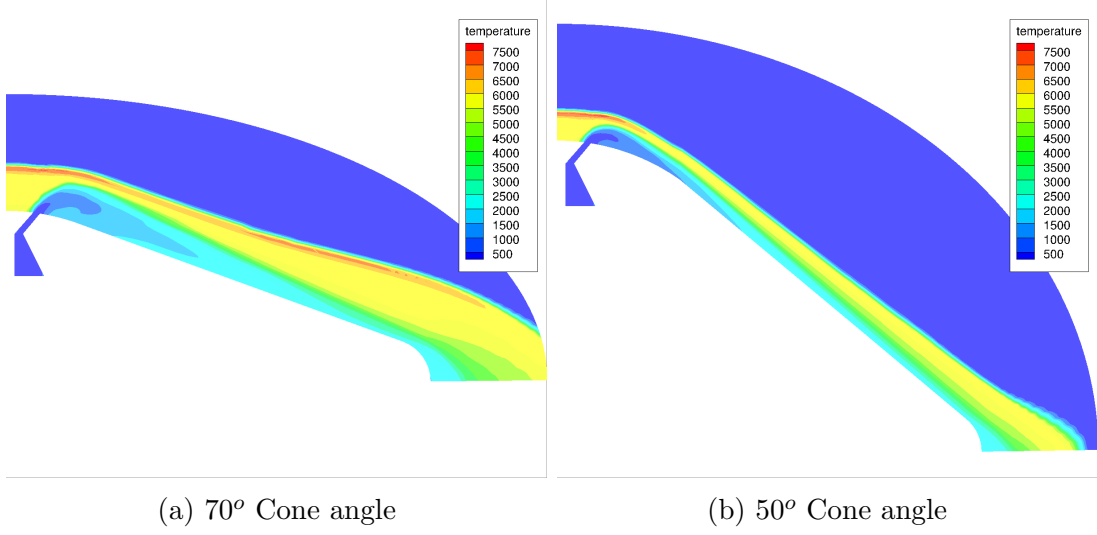


Figure 5.2: Annular jet temperature contours, blowing pure  $H_2$ .

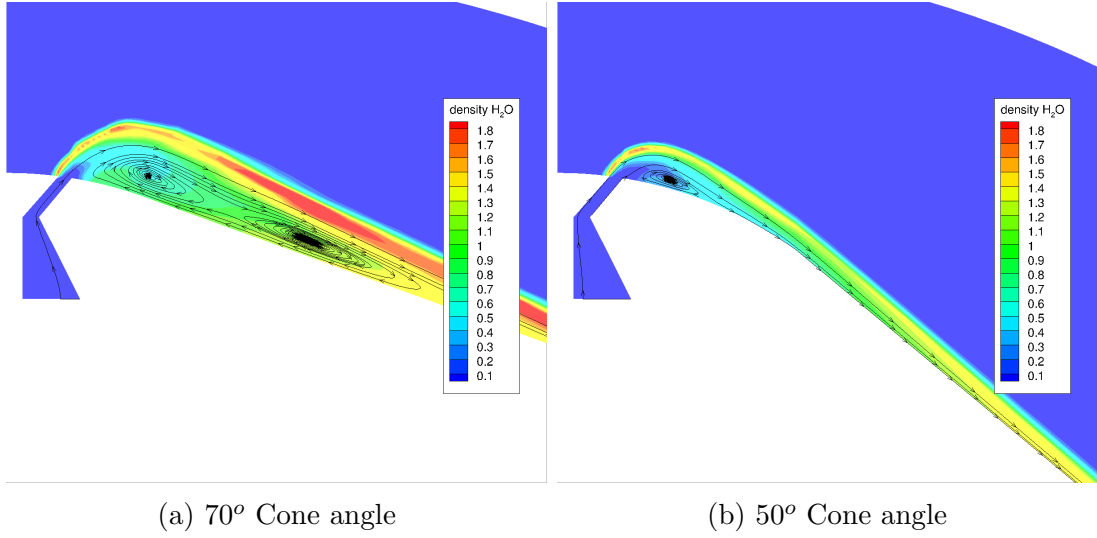


Figure 5.3: Annular jet  $H_2O$  density contours, blowing pure  $H_2$ .

The size of the separation bubble shown in Figure 5.3 has implications on the steadiness of the flow. While the reacting gas path of the FUN3D flow solver has the capability to simulate unsteady flows, the newly developed FUN3D reacting gas adjoint solver is currently limited in scope to steady flows. A full design optimization covers a wide va-

riety of flow solutions, and it is therefore important to verify that the geometry chosen results in steady flow for all design perturbations. A  $70^\circ$  cone angle was initially chosen, instead of  $50^\circ$ , because of a rich history of investigation associated with the Mars Pathfinder probe[22]. It was heuristically determined that blowing a light gas with a high cone angle leads to a sonic corner body, a state where the sonic line extends the shoulder of the vehicle. Numerical experiments indicate that the annular jet is susceptible to very low frequency and low amplitude pulsing of the entrained separation bubble on sonic corner bodies, where the separation bubble near the nozzle exit is relatively large. Figure 5.4 shows a comparison of mach number for the same flow conditions as those in

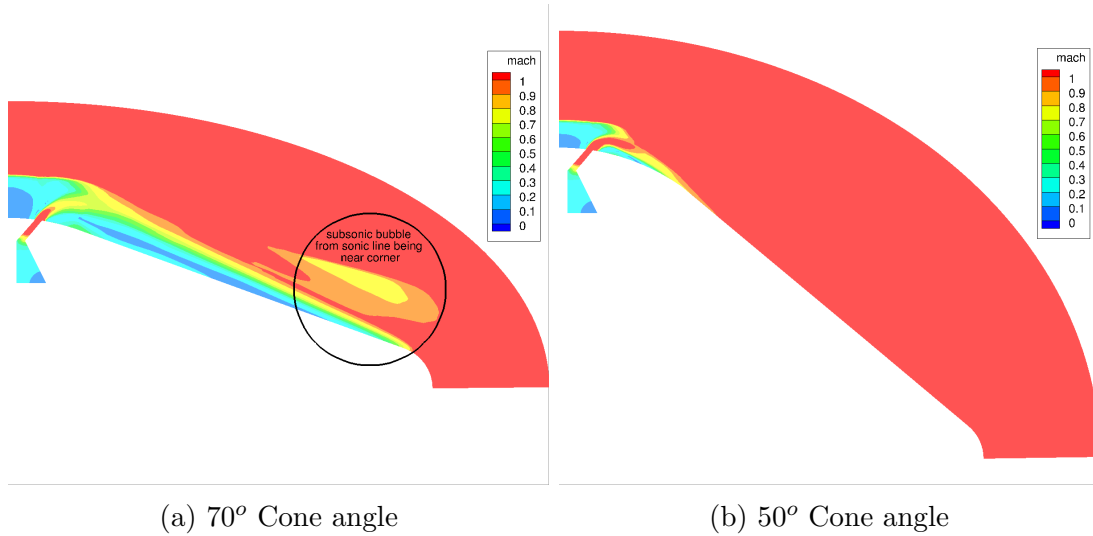


Figure 5.4: Annular jet sonic line comparison, blowing pure  $H_2$ .

Figures (5.2-5.3). Figure 5.4a highlights the subsonic bubble that is indicative of a sonic corner body, whereas Figure 5.4b shows that decreasing the cone angle moves the sonic line upstream and eliminates the subsonic bubble. The strong dependence between the position of the sonic line on the vehicle and the cone angle is the primary reason that

the cone angle was chosen to be decreased to  $50^\circ$ , rather than using the  $70^\circ$  chosen by Gnoffo et al.[21]. The comparison between the  $50^\circ$  and  $70^\circ$  cone angle geometries was done for a wide range of plenum conditions spanning the design space to be discussed in the next chapter, and no subsonic bubble was ever found for the  $50^\circ$  cone angle.

### 5.3 Mesh Refinement Study

To determine the sensitivity of the flow solution to mesh density, a grid convergence study was attempted by uniformly refining the original mesh, using the cut-cell method developed by Park[41] that uniformly subdivides each element in the mesh. The solution

Plenum Condition	Value
Plenum Pressure, $P_{p,o}$ , Pa	200,000
Plenum Temperature, $T_{p,o}$ , K	500
Plenum Fuel-Air Ratio $\phi_p$	0.7

Table 5.3: Plenum conditions.

on each grid level was computed using the freestream conditions in Table 5.2 and the plenum conditions in Table 5.3. Figure 5.5 shows the progression of refined meshes generated by this method, and Figure 5.6 shows the grid convergence of surface temperature and plenum mass flow rate for a nominal case. On the fine mesh (431,000 nodes), a frozen limiter was required to maintain steady flow. The flow solution for the very fine mesh (3,100,000 nodes) was very unsteady, and freezing the flux limiter did not recover a steady flow solution. The values for surface temperature and mass flow rate on the very fine mesh are time averaged quantities presented for qualitative purposes only. This grid convergence study shows that the demonstration problem enables unsteadiness on

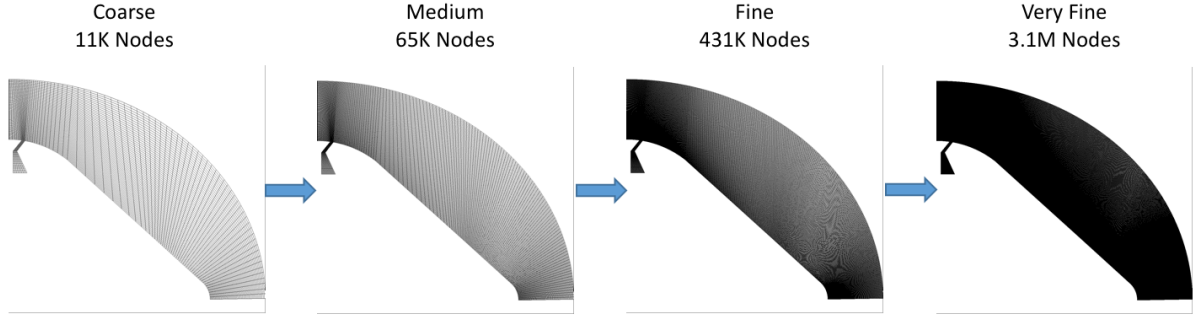


Figure 5.5: Uniformly refined meshes.

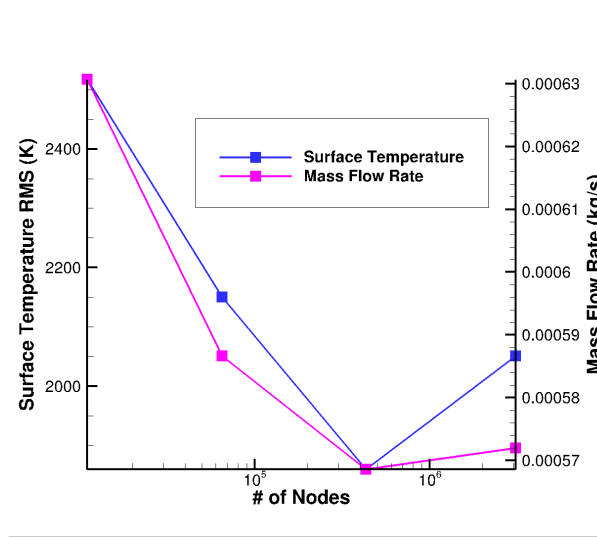


Figure 5.6: Grid convergence.

the finest mesh. For the purposes of demonstrating the decoupled discrete adjoint, the discretized flow solution must remain steady; therefore, the coarse mesh (11,000 nodes) is used as a baseline for the remainder of this study. The adjoint formulation only requires steady flow on the given grid; therefore, this test retains all of the challenging interaction associated with a large, recirculating buffer zone over the cone with a strong dependence on the reacting gas physics.



## 5.4 Sensitivity to Frozen Flux Limiter

The use of a flux limiter is mandatory to maintain monotonicity in hypersonic applications, where strong shocks are present; however, the solver is very sensitive to changes in the reconstruction, and a “ringing” of the residual is often observed[19] when using a flux limiter in FUN3D. While this sub-convergence of the flow equation residuals is not detrimental to the flow solver results, as most aerothermodynamic quantities are usually sufficiently converged by this point, the adjoint-formulation is predicated on the residual being machine zero. Because of this last point, the stalled convergence can cause the adjoint solver to give incorrect results or cause the adjoint solution to diverge. To prevent this divergence, the adjoint is required to be run with a “frozen” limiter, where a limiter value is only updated and re-frozen where a reconstruction is unrealisable using the current limiter value. Freezing the limiter in this way usually results in the residuals converging to machine precision.

A particular difficulty of this approach comes from simulations on shock-misaligned meshes involving chemical reactions. Because the annular jet plume and bow shock cannot remain aligned with the mesh during a design optimization, there is a larger degree of ringing as the scheme captures the discontinuities of these flow phenomena. The ringing is mitigated when the limiter is frozen; however, the solution will experience high-frequency errors as the shock and plume re-position due to the reconstruction changing somewhat asymmetrically. Species will quickly deplete and form as the shock and plume move, potentially requiring further reevaluation of the flux limiter at those nodes. This process will eventually settle out, and the flow solution will converge to machine zero, with the definition of machine zero being dependent on the conditioning of the problem being solved. Figure 5.7 shows a typical convergence history, obtained on a coarse mesh,

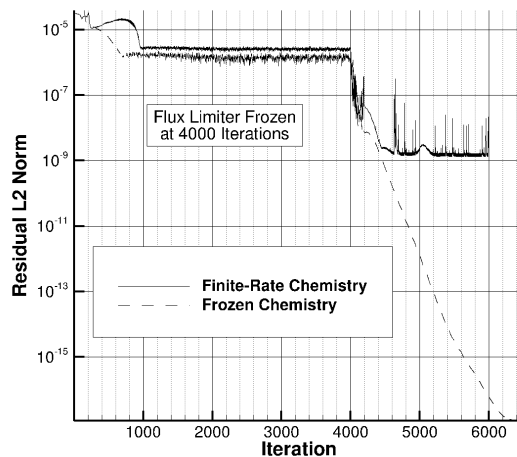


Figure 5.7: Typical residual convergence behavior.

for the annular jet case with a flux limiter engaged. If no chemical reactions are allowed to take place, i.e. “frozen” flow, the residual of all equations can be decreased to less than  $10^{-16}$ . If finite rate chemistry is included, convergence ends at  $\sim 10^{-8}$ . The difference is believed to be associated with the high degree of stiffness in the chemical source terms. The large reaction rates significantly increase the condition number of the Jacobian, and further updates to the solution do not improve convergence. This is not a problem for the adjoint solution, as both levels of convergence are sufficient to obtain a solution; however, the convergence of the flow equations with chemistry is marred by the high degree of sensitivity to the flux limiter used. It can be seen in Figure 5.7 that convergence to steady state is less smooth when chemistry is involved, and this is directly tied to the flux limiter field. In FUN3D, the frozen flux limiter is re-evaluated when a reconstruction is unrealisable. This reevaluation causes high-frequency errors, which manifest as “spikes” in the residual history. Fortunately, the reevaluation is only needed at a small number of nodes (usually  $< 10$  nodes), so integrated aerothermodynamic quantities are unaffected

by these reevaluations when convergence to steady-state is reached. It should be noted that while the results presented here are only on the coarsest (baseline) mesh level, the refined meshes also exhibit similar behavior.

Because the solution is not grid converged, there is a significant difference between the first-order and second-order solutions; therefore, the choice flux limiters presented in Section 3.4 has a large impact on the solution. Figure 5.8 shows that the RMS of surface

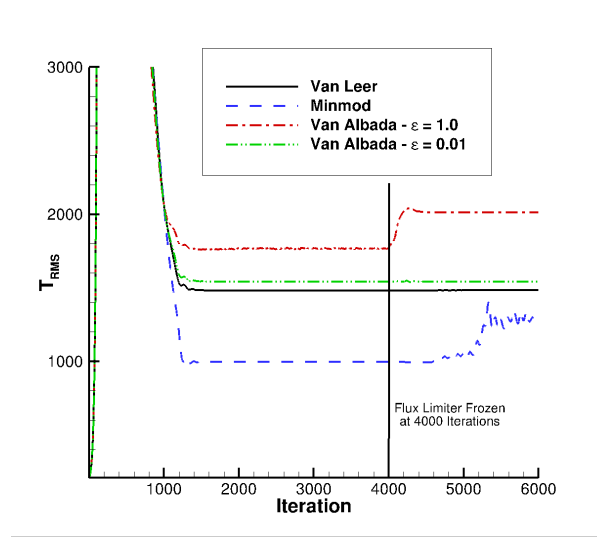


Figure 5.8: Convergence of surface temperature with different flux limiters.

temperature on the outer surface of the vehicle converges to significantly different results before the flux limiter is frozen at iteration 4000. The Minmod flux limiter exhibits very large oscillations after freezing, due to the large number of non-smooth reevaluations of the flux limiter where reconstructions became unrealisable. These oscillations in the solution make the Minmod flux limiter unusable for design optimization of this case. The Van Albada flux limiter converges to a much more steady solution after being frozen; however, care must be taken to “tune” this particular limiter based the grid. The

tunable parameter,  $\varepsilon$ , was evaluated at the recommended value of 1.0, and was found to increase the surface temperature by  $> 20\%$  after freezing. This is unacceptable for design optimization, as it indicates a high dependence on iteration that the flux limiter is frozen. The Van Leer flux limiter behaves much better in this regard; however, Figure 5.9 shows

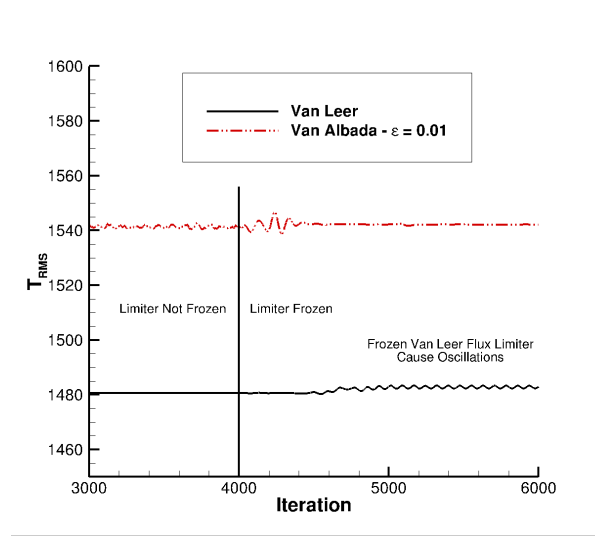


Figure 5.9: Van Leer and Van Albada flux limiter impact on surface temperature.

that the Van Leer limiter is also prone to oscillations in the surface temperature RMS. The oscillations are of small enough amplitude that it might be reasonable to use the Van Leer flux limiter in a design optimization of this problem, but a better alternative is to revisit the Van Albada flux limiter. Figure 5.9 also shows that if  $\varepsilon$  is tuned to a value of 0.01 the surface temperature RMS very closely matches the average of the ringing value before the limiter was frozen. For this reason, the Van Albada flux was used with  $\varepsilon = 0.01$ , which tends towards the highly limited solution, as it seems to produce the most steady result with the least dependence on the iteration that the flux limiter is frozen.

None of the aforementioned flux limiter choices are ideal. Because of the sensitivity of the solution, attributable to freezing the limiter, the integrated aerothermodynamic quantities demonstrated can vary between solutions with the same inputs, but different starting states. Tuning the Van Albada flux limiter mitigates this issue, but does not solve it entirely, with some cases resulting in a surface temperature RMS variance of  $+/- 5K$  with identical solver inputs but different flow starting conditions. This is a recognized problem, but one that is outside of the scope of this study. A number of novel discretizations at NASA Langley Research Center[20, 30, 31] show promise in mitigating or eliminating the need for a flux limiter, while achieving higher-order spatial accuracy, and future work may incorporate them.

# Chapter 6

## Design Optimization

Design optimization is a wide field that encompasses methods generally falling into two categories: local gradient-based optimization, and heuristic global optimization. Local gradient-based optimization techniques focus on determining an optimality condition by evaluating a function and its gradients. Provided certain conditions are met, it can be proven that the optimization procedure will find a local minimum or maximum on a bounded domain. Examples of local gradient-based optimization methods include steepest-descent[14], sequential quadratic programming (SQP)[16], as well as an interesting method that converts a constrained optimization problem into an unconstrained one by employing the Kreisselmeier-Steinhauser function[52]. A heuristic global optimization seeks to find the global extrema of a function. Although these methods are powerful, they often require a prohibitive number of function evaluation and are not the focus this research.

In the field of optimization, the function of interest is referred to as the “cost function” or “objective function”. Optimization methods seek to minimize this function; therefore, if the intent is to find the maximum value of the function, it should be formulated as

the negative of the original. This section focuses on the optimization of the annular jet demonstration problem that was discussed in Chapter 5. Details on the implementation of the cost function components and design variables used in the optimization are presented, as well as a sample first-order inverse design optimization and second-order direct design optimization. The purpose of an inverse design optimization is to match a target design by perturbing a set of design inputs, whereas the purpose of a direct design optimization is to improve an initial design by perturbing those same design inputs.

## 6.1 Integrated Quantities of Interest

The primary objective of this optimization is to explore the effects of the plume from the annular jet interacting with the bow shock. Rather than focus on the net force contribution of this annular jet geometry to drag, as was previously investigated by Gnoffo et. al [21], the primary objective of this study is to efficiently cool the surface of the vehicle with minimal mass added to the vehicle. Since only inviscid flow was done in this study, and the root-mean-square (RMS) of surface temperature is taken as an analog to the surface heating rate. Likewise, the mass flow rate through nozzle plenum boundary is taken as an analog to the addition of mass to the vehicle.

The RMS of surface temperature is defined as

$$T_{RMS} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_i^{N_{faces}} (T_{RMS} A_i)^2}{\sum_i^{N_{faces}} (A_i)^2}} \quad (6.1)$$

The area-weighted RMS of surface temperature was chosen over a simple area-weighted average of surface temperature, because the temperatures on the vehicle forebody are likely non-uniform, and there are regions of very high temperature near the stagnation

region of a vehicle forebody in hypersonic flows. Squaring of temperature in the RMS will give greater weight to these high-temperature regions in the design, as these are in the most danger of burn-through.

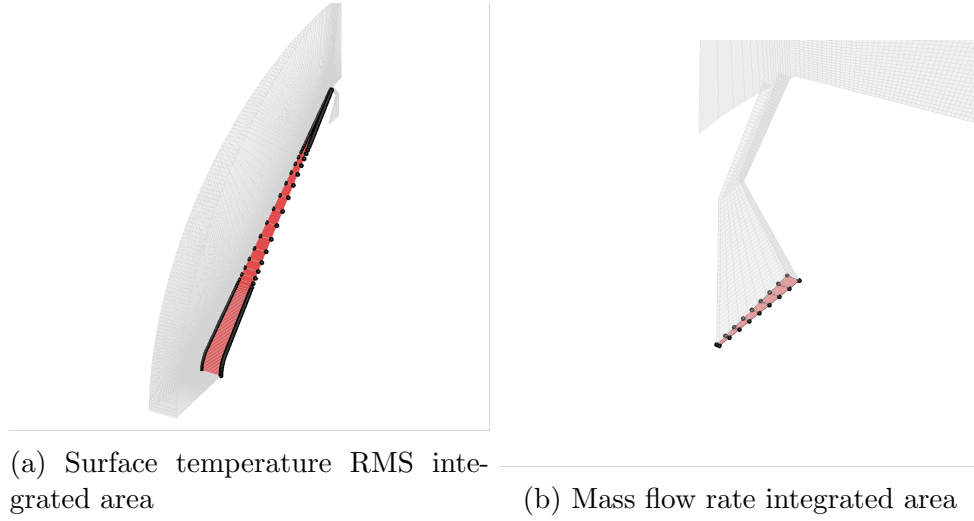


Figure 6.1: Cost function component integrated areas.

The mass flow rate,  $\dot{m}_p$ , through the area outlined in Figure 6.1b is computed as

$$\dot{m}_p = \sum_i^{N_{faces}} (\rho_i \bar{U} A) \quad (6.2)$$

and is used as a metric for the amount of propellant that is required to be carried by the vehicle for blowing. Again, for the purposes of this demonstration problem, a lower mass flow rate at the plenum is equated to less total vehicle mass.



## 6.2 Composite Cost Function Definition and Components

The cost function (or objective function) as formulated in FUN3D is a composite, weighted function

$$f = \sum_{j=1}^{N_{func}} w_j (C_j - C_{j*})^{p_j} \quad (6.3)$$

Where  $w_j$ ,  $C_{j*}$ , and  $p_j$  are the weight, target, and power of cost function component  $j$ .  $C_j$  is the component value, which is evaluated at each flow solution. For example, an optimization problem that seeks to minimize the surface temperature RMS without decreasing the drag, the cost function is defined as

$$f = w_1 (T_{RMS})^2 + w_2 (C_D - C_D^*)^2 \quad (6.4)$$

For this case the component weights must be determined heuristically, to normalize the changes in drag coefficient,  $C_D$ , and surface temperature Root-Mean-Square (RMS)  $T_{RMS}$ . The terms in Eq. 6.4 are squared to provide a convex design space.

## 6.3 Design Variables

The design variables for the optimization problem are the plenum total pressure,  $P_{p,o}$ , plenum total temperature,  $T_{p,o}$ , and plenum “fuel-air ratio”,  $\phi_p$ . These are provided explicitly in the optimization problem, and are used to directly set the flow conditions on plenum face boundary condition in the nozzle, shown in Figure 6.1b. For a reacting gas mixture, the “fuel-air ratio” specifies the mass fractions for two species leaving the

plenum. For example, if an  $H_2 - N_2$  mixture is ejected from the annular nozzle, the mass fractions of  $H_2$  and  $N_2$  are given by

$$\begin{aligned} c_{H_2} &= \phi_p \\ c_{N_2} &= 1 - \phi_p \end{aligned} \tag{6.5}$$

Thus, the ratio  $\phi_p$  dictates the mass fractions for two species injected into the domain via the plenum boundary.

## 6.4 Obtaining Sensitivity Gradients for Design Variables

The sensitivity gradients for the plenum design variables are easily obtained by manipulating Eq. 4.4 to obtain

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{D}} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{D}} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}^T}{\partial \mathbf{D}} \mathbf{\Lambda} \tag{6.6}$$

For the cost function components listed in Section 6.2, there is no direct dependence on the plenum design variables; thus, Eq. 6.6 can be reduced to

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{D}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}^T}{\partial \mathbf{D}} \mathbf{\Lambda} \tag{6.7}$$

Once the adjoint costate variables  $\mathbf{\Lambda}$  have been computed by solving the adjoint equations (Eq. 4.3) the sensitivity derivatives of the cost function with respect to the plenum design variables are obtained by evaluating relatively inexpensive matrix-vector products.

## 6.5 First-Order Inverse Design Optimization

The optimization procedure is done using the *opt\_driver* utility in FUN3D, which is a wrapper utility that executes the FUN3D flow solver, adjoint solver, and optimization algorithm sequentially. These steps are repeated until a termination criterion is reached. In practice, the termination of the optimization occurs when the cost function reaches a tolerance of less than  $10^{-8}$ , or when continuing towards the optimal condition would exceed the prescribed upper or lower bounds of the design variables. Due to the difficulties encountered with the flux limiter that were described in Section 5.4, a first-order inverse design optimization is shown in this section. Results of the second-order inverse design optimization failed due to the high sensitivity to the interaction at which the limiter is frozen.

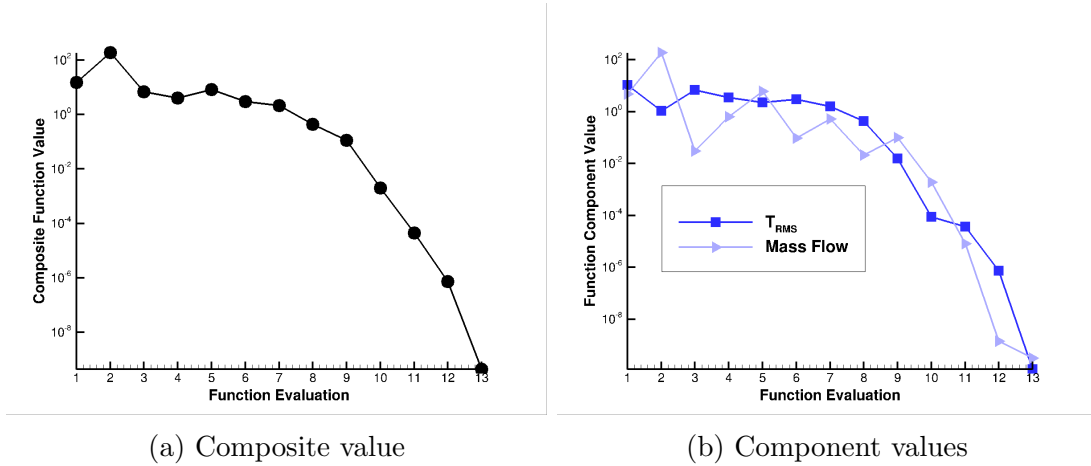


Figure 6.2: Cost function and component history.

To demonstrate the inverse design capability of an adjoint-based design optimization, targets of 2000 K for the surface temperature RMS and 0.0024  $kg/s$  for the annular

nozzle mass flow rate were specified. These targets were chosen semi-arbitrarily, and were heuristically determined to be feasible based the design variable bounds. The design variables specified for this optimization were the plenum total pressure,  $P_{p,o}$  and the plenum “fuel-air ratio”,  $\phi_p$ . The plenum total temperature,  $T_{p,o}$ , was fixed at 500 K. A species mixture consisting of  $H_2$  and  $N_2$  was blown from the plenum, with the mass fractions dictated by  $\phi_p$  as described in Eq. 6.5. For the cost function, the weights were chosen heuristically, such that

$$\frac{w_1}{w_2} = \frac{(T_{RMS} - T_{RMS}^*)^2}{(\dot{m} - \dot{m}^*)^2} \quad (6.8)$$

This results in a roughly equivalent weighting between the  $T_{RMS}$  and  $\dot{m}$ , which is desired as both targets should be met at optimality. Using the SNOPT optimizer, Figure 6.2a

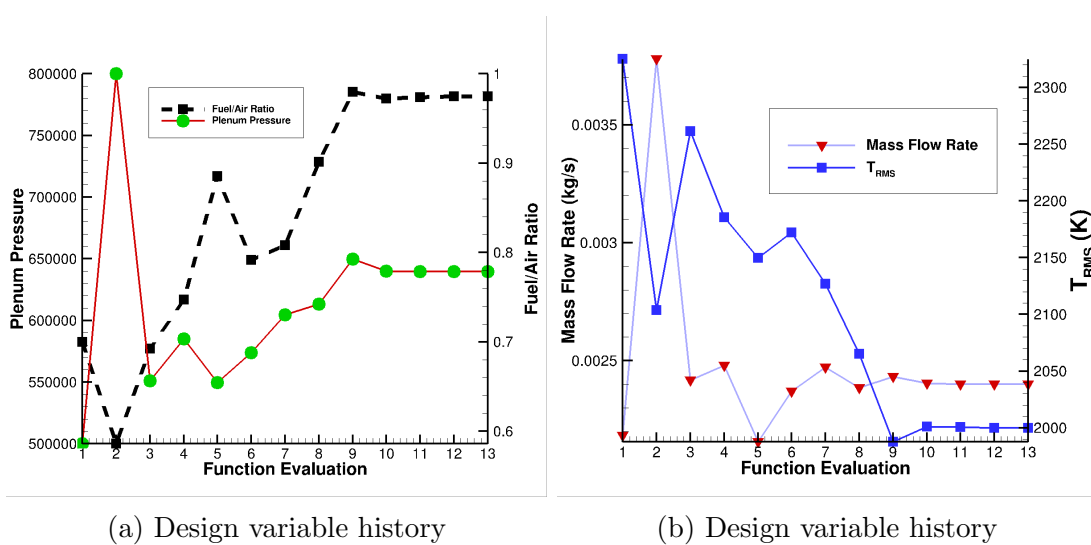


Figure 6.3: Inverse design history.

shows that the target design was met within 13 function evaluations. SNOPT explores

the entire design space, as is shown in the second function evaluation, where a spike in the cost function occurred. Figure 6.3a indicates that the optimizer tried the upper bound for the plenum pressure design variable, and found that sensitivity derivatives indicated that the lower pressure was required. This is common, and is an effective way to insure that there is a local minimum in the prescribed bound. The optimization terminated when the cost function value was less than the tolerance of  $10^{-8}$ , and Figure 6.2b shows that both components of the cost function were within one order of magnitude of each other during the optimization. This last point is important, since non-normalized components can skew the optimization results, where competing components can cause oscillations in the function evaluations and stall the optimization procedure. Figure 6.3b shows the history of the surface temperature RMS and annular nozzle mass flow rate, with the design targets. The optimization clearly made significant progress early, with smaller gains as the solution approached the target.

## 6.6 Second-Order Direct Design Optimization

A direct design problem is possible with the second-order reconstruction scheme, by defining the termination of the optimization as the point where changes in the design variables or cost function are below a supplied threshold. Using the same cost function components and design variables as in Section 6.5, a direct design problem was completed to minimize both mass flow rate and surface temperature RMS. The cost function was formulated as

$$f = w_1 (\dot{m}_p)^2 + w_2 (T_{RMS})^2 \quad (6.9)$$

With the weights chosen in the same manner as the inverse design problem to insure that the components are normalized to the same order of magnitude

$$\frac{w_1}{w_2} = \frac{(\dot{m}_p)^2}{(T_{RMS})^2} \quad (6.10)$$

The SNOPT optimizer was able to very quickly determine that blowing pure  $H_2$ , i.e.  $\phi_p = 1.0$ , would yield the lowest surface temperature RMS and mass flow rate. Figure 6.4a shows that most of the improvement in the design was made within the first three function evaluations, and the subsequent steps were significantly less. The optimization was terminated by the ninth function evaluation, as no meaningful improvement to the design was made after that point. Figure 6.4b verifies that weights determined by

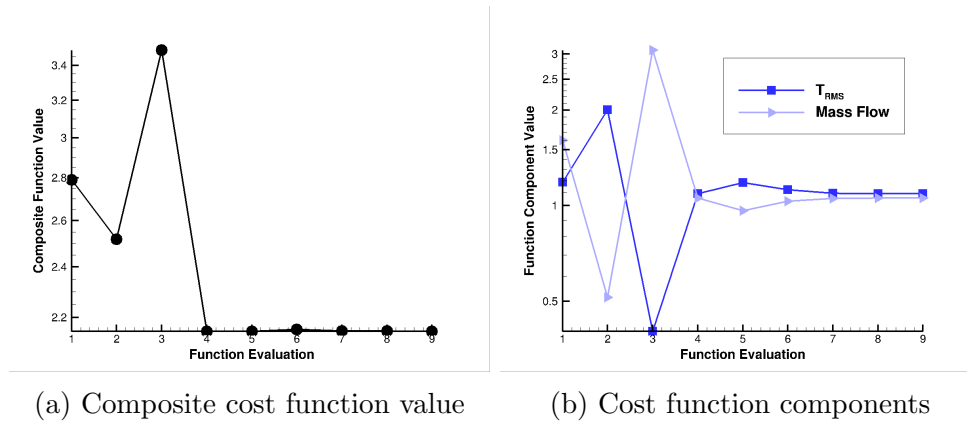


Figure 6.4: Direct design cost function.

Eq. 6.10 were indeed sufficient to normalize  $\dot{m}_p$  and  $T_{RMS}$  contributions to the composite cost function. Figure 6.5a shows that the optimization was largely dependent on the plenum pressure, and Table 6.1 shows that larger pressure at the plenum resulted in a 4.044% lower surface temperature, and 18.93% lower mass flow rate. Thus, the optimizer

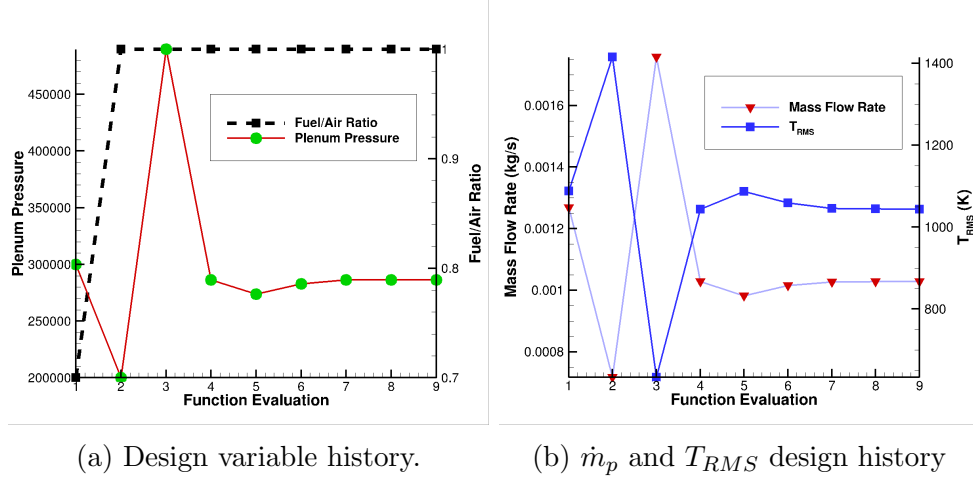


Figure 6.5: Direct design history.

Component	Initial	Final	Improvement
$\dot{m}$ , $kg/s$	1.268e-3	1.028e-3	18.93%
$T_{RMS}$ , $K$	1088	1044	4.044%

Table 6.1: Direct design optimization improvement.

was able to improve both components of the cost function. This is an excellent problem for a high-fidelity gradient-based optimization, as the non-linear effects of plenum-shock interaction makes the optimum plenum condition difficult to determine intuitively.

There is a much stronger dependence on the choice of cost function weights for this problem than for the inverse design problem in Section 6.5. For the inverse design problem, the target mass flow rate and surface temperature RMS were known a priori; therefore, the weighting was chosen as a purely normalizing measure to accelerate convergence to the target condition. For this direct design problem the target mass flow rate and surface temperature RMS are not known a priori, and the weights chosen have a direct impact on the optimum condition. A “skewed” weighting may be advisable from an engineering perspective when attempting a direct design approach. For example, if

the surface thermal protection system (TPS) is rated to withstand much higher surface heating than what is nominally predicted, a higher weight might be given to the mass flow rate in order to decreased the required vehicle mass. The heuristic nature of this approach can be avoided by setting a component target, or converting a composite cost function component to an explicit constraint. The latter option is more robust, but comes at the cost of an additional adjoint solution.



# Chapter 7

## Verification of Adjoint Sensitivity Gradients

In this chapter the sensitivity gradients computed by the adjoint-formulation are verified against derivatives obtained with a complex step, which is also described. Additionally, this chapter details the methods by which the gradient information is computed in the forward-mode and in the reverse-mode.

### 7.1 Forward-mode Sensitivities Using Complex-Variables

The sensitivities can be computed in the forward-mode by using finite-difference. While this approach is unfavorable to use in practice, because a minimum number of flow solves equivalent to the number of design variables are required, it is a straight-forward way to verify that sensitivities computed by the adjoint solver are correct. To avoid cancellation errors associated with real-variable finite difference, an approach that uses complex variables was originally suggested by Squire and Trapp[47] and evaluated by Newman et

al[33]. This complex-variable approach can be used to determine the derivative of a real valued function,  $f$ , by considering the Taylor series expansion of  $f$  using a complex step  $ih$

$$f(x + ih) = \sum_{k=0} \left( \frac{(ih)^k}{k!} \frac{\partial^k f}{\partial x^k} \right) = f(x) + ih \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} - \frac{h^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} - \frac{h^3}{6} \frac{\partial^3 f}{\partial x^3} + \dots \quad (7.1)$$

taking the imaginary parts of both sides of Eq. 7.1 and solving for the first derivative yields

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} &= \frac{\text{Im}[f(x + ih)]}{h} - \frac{h^2}{6} \frac{\partial^3 f}{\partial x^3} \\ &= \frac{\text{Im}[f(x + ih)]}{h} - O(h^2) \end{aligned} \quad (7.2)$$

Thus, this complex-variable approach provides a means of computing the cost function derivatives without subtractive cancellation error, giving truly second order accuracy. The power of using this approach is that very little additional code is required to compute the derivative of any function with respect to a single design variable. All that is needed is all functions be made to use complex arithmetic and a complex-valued perturbation be applied.

In practice, this complex-variable approach is implemented by transforming the source code such that all real variables used in a function evaluation are re-declared to be complex variables. A specified step size is then added to the complex part of the design variable that the cost function is to be linearized with respect to in the function evaluation. Provided the “complexified” solver converges in the same manner as the real-variable solver, the complex part of the function of interest is the sensitivity derivative.

As mentioned before, the complex-variable and real-variable solvers must converge to the same solution for the comparison between the adjoint-computed sensitivity derivatives and those computed by the complex-variable approach to be valid. Section 5.4 described the need for a frozen limiter to satisfy the Lagrangian in Eq. 4.1, from which the discrete

adjoint equations are derived. A significant obstacle with using a frozen limiter is that the real-variable and complex-variable solvers do not freeze the limiter identically. Although the solvers are nearly identical, their floating-point operations will be different since complex arithmetic is involved in only the complex-variable solver. The flux limiter formulation is sensitive to these differences and will result in a different converged state, regardless of the limiter being frozen at the same iteration between the solvers.

To overcome the sensitivity of solution to the flux limiter state, the complex-variable solver must not be allowed to change the value of the flux limiter. Enforcing consistency between the real-value and complex-value flow solver is done by converging the real-value flow solver to machine precision, and then starting the complex-variable solver with the flow field of the converged real-variable solution. The complex step is then added to the design variable; however, the flux limiter is frozen. Because the limiter value is constant, the real solution from the complex-variable and real-variable solutions will match identically, and the complex part of the solution will be converged without ever needing to update the flux limiter. This will ensure that the sensitivity derivatives from the complex and adjoint solvers match to high precision for hypersonic cases with a frozen flux limiter.

## 7.2 Verification of 2nd-order Adjoint Linearizations

To verify the hand-coded linearizations implemented in the adjoint solver, the derivatives of the drag, surface temperature, and mass flow rate cost functions components for the annular nozzle geometry were computed using both the adjoint method and the complex-variable approach. To facilitate checking the linearizations of all of these components

efficiently, a composite cost function was formed with three components

$$f = w_1 (\dot{m}_p - \dot{m}_p^*)^2 + w_2 (T_{RMS} - T_{RMS}^*)^2 + w_3 (C_D - C_D^*)^2 \quad (7.3)$$

By combining all components into a single composite function, only one real-valued flow and one adjoint solution are needed to obtain the sensitivity derivatives for all design variables, computed by Eq. 6.7. One complex-valued flow solution is needed for each design variable. Table 7.1 shows the relative difference between the sensitivity derivatives computed by Eq. 6.6 and Eq. 7.2, for a perfect gas annular jet simulation. The adjoint

Design Variable	Adjoint	Complex	Relative Difference
$P_{p,o}$	0.12067860106210E-04	0.12067860106758E-04	4.54e-11
$T_{p,o}$	0.36654635117980E-03	0.36654635118188E-03	5.67e-12

Table 7.1: Sensitivity derivative comparison - perfect gas.

and complex solvers match within machine zero, which is  $\sim 10^{-15}$  for this case. Table 7.2 shows the same comparison as that in Table 7.1, but with a  $H_2$ - $N_2$  mixture ejected in a 5-species freestream air mixture with frozen flow. There is very strong agreement between

Design Variable	Adjoint	Complex	Relative Difference
$P_{p,o}$	-0.18451007644622E-06	-0.184510076442032E-06	2.27e-11
$T_{p,o}$	0.62086963151678E-03	0.620869631517086E-03	4.93e-13
$\phi_p$	-0.34045335117520E-01	-0.340453351177196E-01	5.86e-12

Table 7.2: Sensitivity derivative comparison -  $H_2$ - $N_2$  frozen.

all the design variable sensitivities computed by the adjoint and complex solvers, with all matching discretely to within 11 digits. Table 7.3 shows the same comparison as

those in Table 7.2, with reactions allowed to take place. It is clear that these do not

Design Variable	Adjoint	Complex	Relative Difference
$P_{p,o}$	-0.11081315601976E-06	-0.110529774659536E-06	2.56e-03
$T_{p,o}$	0.19089941237390E-03	0.190892847933810E-03	3.44e-05
$\phi_p$	-0.28035409045530E-01	-0.280251731728184E-01	3.65e-04

Table 7.3: Sensitivity derivative comparison -  $H_2$ - $N_2$  reacting.

match as well as those in Tables (7.1-7.2). The difference is explained by the relative convergence of the flow solver residuals shown in Figure 5.7. Because convergence of the flow solver residuals involving chemistry typically stalls at eight orders of magnitude higher than without chemistry, it should be likewise be expected that the sensitivity derivatives also degrade in comparison. The large condition number increase from the chemical source term linearizations being added to the Jacobian is believed to be the cause of the stalled convergence. Despite this poor relative agreement, Section 6.6 demonstrates that the accuracy of the derivatives in Table 7.3 is more than sufficient to complete design optimizations.

# Chapter 8

## Relative Efficiency of Decoupled Flow Solver

At this point, the reacting gas adjoint in FUN3D has been utilized to obtain sensitivity information needed to drive design optimization, and the sensitivities of the fully coupled scheme have been validated against finite-difference derivatives with a complex step method for accuracy. A key point of this study is to demonstrate the increased computational efficiency and relative memory saving of using a decoupled variable set for the flow and adjoint solvers, instead of a fully coupled variable set. This chapter details the benefits of applying the decoupled flow solver over the fully coupled solver for a variety of test cases, including the annular jet demonstration problem.

### 8.1 5 km/s Flow over Cylinder

To demonstrate the improved efficiency in computation cost and memory required to utilize the decoupled scheme, and that both the fully coupled and decoupled approaches

converge to the same result, a grid convergence study was conducted on a simple cylinder geometry (radius 0.5 m). Due to the presence of strong shocks in blunt body flows, it was advantageous to generate structured-type grids to preserve grid alignment with the bow shock. A  $50 \times 50$ ,  $100 \times 100$ , and  $200 \times 200$  family of grids were adapted using the adaptation capability in FUN3D[3] to produce shock-aligned grids. These grids serve as a surrogate for conducting a grid convergence study, in that differences observed between the decoupled and fully coupled schemes decrease as the average mesh spacing decreases. These grids are unstructured, consisting totally of hexahedra elements with a single cell in the spanwise direction, and the  $50 \times 50$  grid is shown in Figure 8.1. The cell elements of these grids were also subdivided into tetrahedral elements, and it was verified that there are no issues with a true unstructured grid topology. The free stream conditions used were  $V_\infty = 5000 \text{ m/s}$ ,  $\rho_\infty = 0.001 \text{ kg/m}^3$ , and  $T_\infty = 200 \text{ K}$ . Several chemical kinetics models were used, including a 5-species model with 5 reactions, an 11-species model with 22 reactions, and an 18-species model with 29 reactions. All cases were run in thermal equilibrium, with a one-temperature model.

### 8.1.1 Cylinder - Verification of Implementation

To be valid, the decoupled scheme must yield converged solutions that are nearly identical to those of the fully coupled system. To quantitatively assess this, we compare the predicted surface pressure, surface temperature, and the species composition on the stagnation line for both schemes. Figure 8.2 shows the predicted quantities on the  $100 \times 100$  grid, for species mixture of N, N<sub>2</sub>, O, O<sub>2</sub>, and NO with five reactions. All results are indeed nearly identical, with temperature and pressure matching discretely to eight digits and the species mass fractions on the stagnation line matching to four digits. This

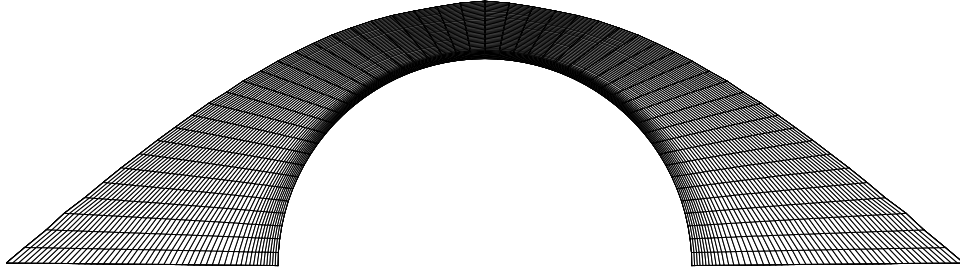


Figure 8.1:  $50 \times 50$  cylinder grid.

difference was further reduced on the finest grid level of  $200 \times 200$ , suggesting that both schemes converge to the same solution with grid refinement.

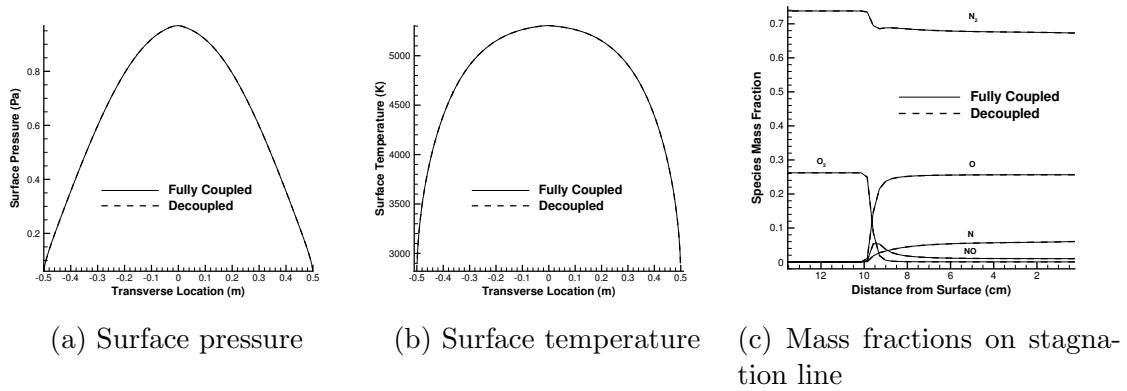


Figure 8.2: Cylinder predicted quantities.



### 8.1.2 Cylinder - Memory Cost

To validate the theoretical memory savings predicted by Eq. 3.33, a study was conducted using Valgrind[1] to determine the memory actually allocated by FUN3D for a series of simulations where the number of species is systematically increased from one simulation to the next. Figure 8.3 shows that the relative memory cost converges asymptotically to  $\sim 1/4$ , which is nearly twice the predicted value of  $1/7$ . For the implementation of FUN3D, this is correct because the off-diagonal entries are reduced from double to single precision. Each structured grid node has six neighboring nodes, with the exception of those at the boundary. Because each of these six neighboring nodes yields single precision, off-diagonal Jacobian elements,

$$N_{nz} = \frac{6N_{nodes}}{2} = 3N_{nodes} \quad (8.1)$$

Substituting Eq. 8.1 into Eq. 3.33, the relative memory cost is:

$$Relative\ Memory\ Cost = \frac{N_{nodes}}{N_{nodes} + N_{nz}} = \frac{N_{nodes}}{N_{nodes} + (3N_{nodes})} = \frac{1}{4} \quad (8.2)$$

thus, the relative memory saved by using the decoupled scheme correctly approaches a factor of  $1/4$ .

### 8.1.3 Cylinder - Computational Cost

As stated before, the cost of solving the decoupled implicit system should scale approximately linearly with the number of species, whereas the fully coupled problem should scale quadratically; thus, the speedup of the linear solve should be approximately linear

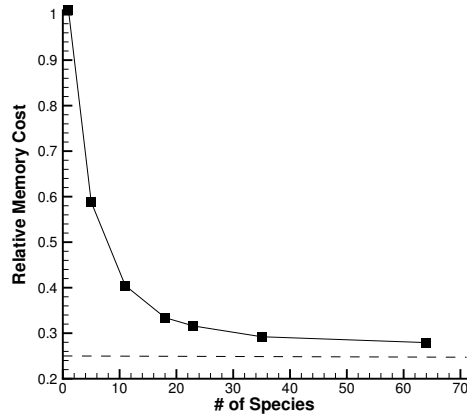


Figure 8.3: Memory required convergence study.

when comparing the decoupled and fully coupled approaches. Figure 8.4 shows this to be true for the cylinder test case, but that the total speedup of the problem is less than that of just the linear solve. The fact that the overall gains are not as large as those

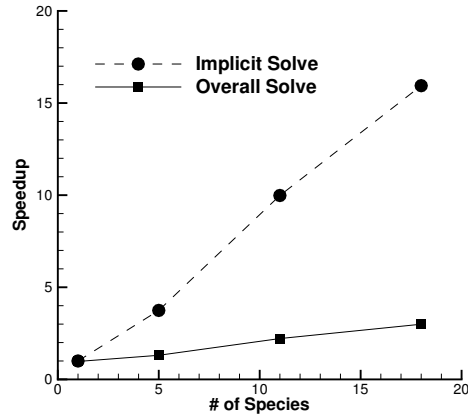


Figure 8.4: Relative speedup for the decoupled scheme vs. fully coupled scheme.

for the linear solve is due to Amdahl's law: the overall speedup is always limited by the

slowest component. There are many other factors that scale with the number of species, especially calculating the species source term and its linearization. Figure 8.5 shows that

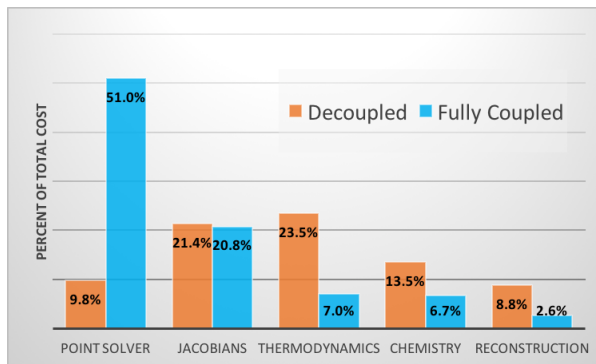


Figure 8.5: Relative cost of flow solver components for 11-species.

Jacobian evaluations and computing the thermo-chemical state have superseded the linear solver as the dominant cost of the simulation. The overall speedup of the decoupled scheme over the fully coupled scheme is constrained by these, and also highlights the sensitivity to the Jacobian evaluation frequency. When the non-linear update is rapidly converging the residuals, the Jacobian is usually updated only once every 10 iterations. Likewise, when the non-linear update is not resulting in a sustained residual decrease the Jacobian is updated every iteration. This has a large effect on relative computational efficiency, and poorly converging solutions can be expected to show less relative speedup between the fully coupled and decoupled schemes.

## 8.2 15 km/s Flow over Spherically-Capped Cone

To ensure that the decoupled scheme is robust and accurate at higher velocities, both the fully coupled and decoupled approaches were run on a sphere-cone geometry identical to

that presented by Candler et al. [10] (10 cm nose radius, 1.1 m length,  $8^\circ$  cone angle). For this case, a simple  $64 \times 64$  hexahedra grid was constructed, and freestream conditions were set as  $V_\infty = 15000 \text{ m/s}$ ,  $\rho_\infty = 0.001 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ,  $T_\infty = 200 \text{ K}$ . Due to the large reaction rates during the transients at startup, when the stagnation temperatures are very high, it was necessary to employ the scaling factor,  $\omega_r$  in order to ramp the magnitude of the chemical source term. Ramping was only required during the first 500 iterations, and no scaling was performed on the source term when the solution was well with the radius of convergence.

### 8.2.1 Spherically-Capped Cone - Verification of Implementation

As with the cylinder test case, the surface pressure and temperature were used as metrics to determine that both the decoupled and fully coupled approaches give the same answer when converged to steady-state. The species composition consisted of N, N<sub>2</sub>, O, O<sub>2</sub>, NO, N<sup>+</sup>, N<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>, O<sup>+</sup>, O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>, NO<sup>+</sup>, and electrons, with 22 possible reactions. Figure 8.6 shows that both methods again yield similar results, and the high stagnation temperature indicates that this is an inviscid, one-temperature simulation. This demonstrates that the decoupled approach is able to converge to the same solution as the fully coupled solution, in spite of the chemical reactions proceeding very rapidly due to a high stagnation temperature.

### 8.2.2 Spherically-Capped Cone - Convergence Quality

The limits on the stability of the decoupled scheme derives from introducing explicitness in creating and destroying species. By scaling the magnitude of the chemical source

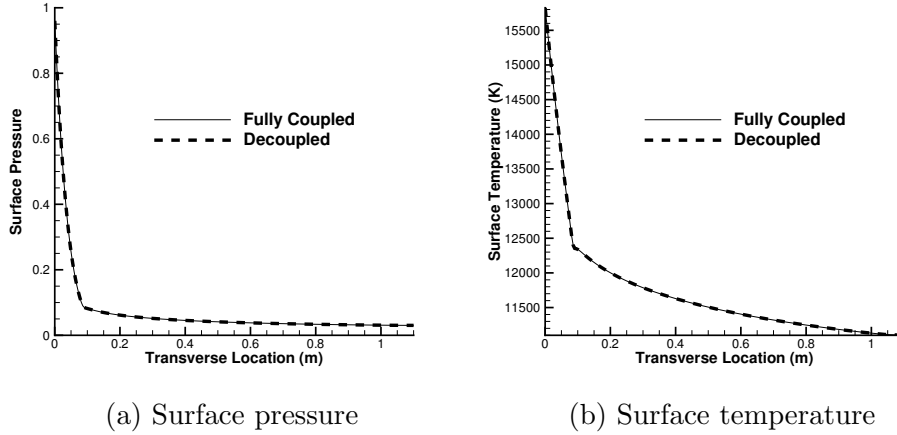


Figure 8.6: Sphere-cone predicted quantities.

term during the transient phase of the solve, this instability can be mitigated, and the convergence of decoupled scheme approaches that of the fully coupled scheme. Scaling of the chemical source term was done identically between the decoupled and fully coupled scheme by ramping the factor  $\omega_r$  from 0.001 to 1.0 over the first 500 timesteps. Figure 8.7 shows that the convergence of both schemes progresses nearly identically, with the decoupled scheme converging in significantly less computational time and, interestingly, fewer timesteps. This demonstrates that the decoupled scheme has significant potential to improve the efficiency of high-velocity simulations, and that the stiffness of the source term can be overcome in the presence of large chemical reaction rates.

### 8.2.3 Spherically-Capped Cone - Convergence Improvement with Exact First-Order Linearizations

An important benefit of implementing an adjoint solver in FUN3D derives from the requirement of exact linearizations, because the linearizations needed to form the residual

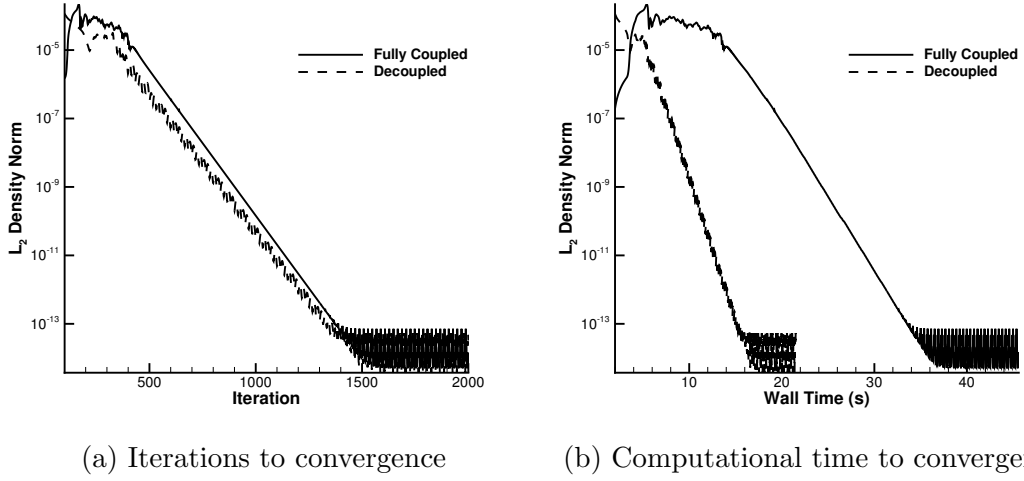


Figure 8.7: Sphere-cone convergence details.

in the adjoint solver can be reused by the flow solver. Due to the high storage requirements associated with exactly linearizing the gradient terms in the reconstruction, an approximate Jacobian is used in the flow solver. This approximate Jacobian consists of linearizations of the first-order scheme, as is used to solve the governing equations via defect correction. Previously, the reacting gas path employed a Jacobian also, that approximated the linearizations of the Roe FDS scheme[23] as

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_c}{\partial \mathbf{U}} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\tilde{c}}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \right) \quad (8.3)$$

where  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_c}{\partial \mathbf{U}}$  is the linearization of the convective portion of the Roe FDS scheme, and  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\tilde{c}}}{\partial \mathbf{U}}$  is the approximation to the dissipation term in the Roe RDS scheme, formed by evaluating  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_c}{\partial \mathbf{U}}$  with Roe averaged quantities. This approximation is used by others [43] to mitigate the development time of implementing an exact linearization of the dissipation term in the Roe FDS scheme, as well the large computational cost in computing those

linearizations at each Jacobian update.

To demonstrate any benefit of the exact linearization of the Roe FDS scheme on iterative convergence of the flow solver, the sphere cone case was converged using both the Jacobian employing exact linearizations of the Roe FDS scheme flux, and the Jacobian employing the approximation in Eq. 8.3. Figure 8.8 shows that up to a five-species air

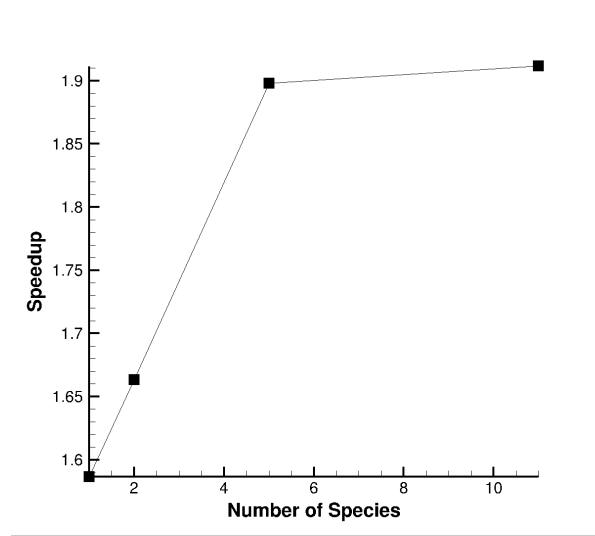


Figure 8.8: Relative speedup using exact linearizations.

mixture, the convergence to steady state is completed in 58% to 90% less simulation time. For the 11 species air mixture, involving ionization, the speed up promptly plateaus, as the additional costs incurred by computing the exact linearizations supersede the improved iterative convergence. It can be inferred from Figure 8.8 that the improvements compounded by the decoupled scheme, which affords iterative converge similar to the exact fully coupled scheme, will be significantly faster than the baseline scheme that was originally implemented in the reacting gas path of FUN3D.

Quantity	Decoupled	Fully Coupled	Relative Difference
$\dot{m}_p$	0.8450858226893225E-03	0.8450858226893034E-03	2.26E-14
$T_{RMS}$	0.1508600871984388E+04	0.1508600871984388E+04	0

Table 8.1: Difference with frozen chemistry.

## 8.3 Re-entry Vehicle with Retro-Firing Annular Jet

The demonstration problem presented in Chapters (5-6) presents the most challenging problem for the decoupled scheme, due to the Hydrogen-air combustion. To verify that the solution is not effected by employing the decoupled scheme over the fully coupled scheme, the comparison is made between solutions of the decoupled and fully coupled flow solvers on the cost function component quantities in Section 6.2. The freestream conditions in Table 5.2 were used for this comparison, along with the plenum conditions in Table 5.3.

### 8.3.1 Annular Jet: Verification of Implementation

To determine consistency between the fully coupled and decoupled schemes, the surface temperature RMS,  $T_{RMS}$ , and mass flow rate,  $\dot{m}_p$ , were computed and compared. Because of the flux limiter sensitivity and poor relative convergence with finite-rate chemistry discussed in Section 5.4, the comparison was made for both frozen flow and flow in chemical non-equilibrium. Table 8.1 shows that, for frozen chemistry, the decoupled and fully coupled schemes match discretely for surface temperature, and to within approximately machine precision for the mass flow rate through the plenum. The residual was less than  $10^{-16}$  for all equations in this comparison, and only the last digit of both quantities in Table 8.1 were changing by the end of the solution. Table 8.2 shows, for



Quantity	Decoupled	Fully Coupled	Relative Difference
$\dot{m}_p$	0.8448720721551258E-03	0.8448720721551088E-03	2.01E-14
$T_{RMS}$	0.1545729169703027E+04	0.1545720949811712E+04	5.32E-06

Table 8.2: Difference with finite-rate chemistry.

reacting chemistry, similar agreement with regard to the plenum mass flow rate, but poorer agreement of the surface temperature. Given the varying degrees of convergence shown in Figure 5.7, this difference in surface temperature is not surprising. At the point the convergence stall, with the residual of all equations hanging at  $\sim 10^{-8}$ , only the last nine digits were still changing. This indicates that improving the conditioning of the problem, in order to enable further converge of the flow equation residuals to machine zero, would likely decrease the relative difference between the fully coupled and decoupled flow solver schemes. For engineering applications this difference is trivial and it has only minimal impact, if any, on the design optimization procedure. The effect of the flux limiter sensitivity is much greater on the design optimization procedure, and it was found that the using the decoupled scheme or the fully-coupled scheme in the optimization from Chapter 5 converged to the same result if the limiter fields were made identical between the schemes.

### 8.3.2 Annular Jet: Convergence Quality

Due to startup transients, where reaction rates grew very large as nearly all  $H_2$  and  $O_2$ , and most of  $N_2$ , dissociated near the stagnation region, the source term scaling factor,  $\omega_r$ , was employed for this problem to maintain stability. It was empirically determined that the source term scaling could be removed within the first third of the way to convergence for this problem.

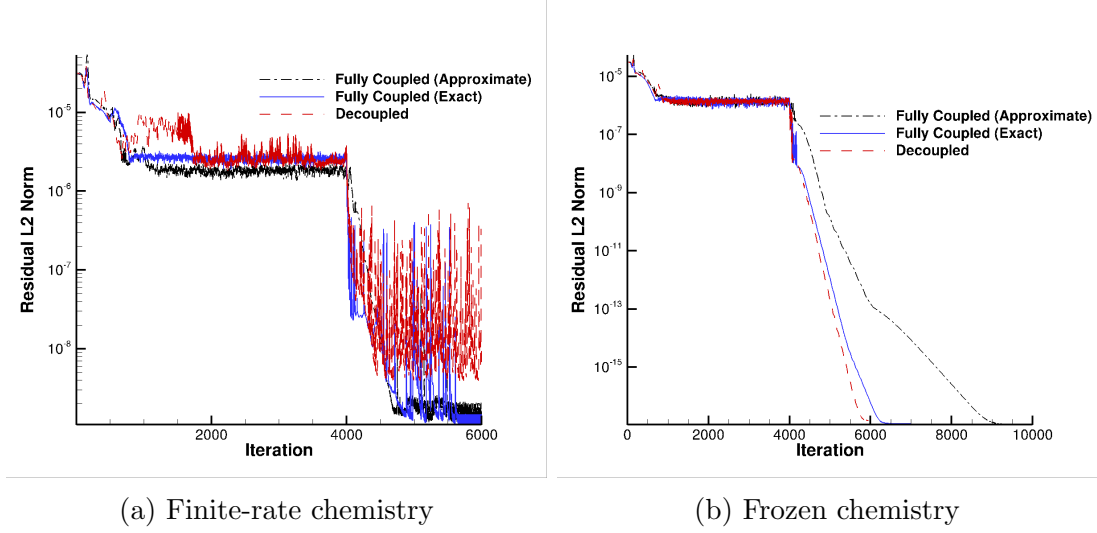


Figure 8.9: Second-order residual convergence history.

Figure 8.9 shows a comparison of the residual convergence for the fully coupled schemes, with exact first-order linearizations and the approximations described in Section 8.2.3, and the decoupled scheme. Comparing Figures (8.9a-8.9b), there is a stark difference both the minimum residual convergence and the “smoothness” of the convergence profile. When the no chemical source terms are present (frozen flow), the flow equation residuals are able to be converged to  $< 10^{-16}$ , with very few high-frequency errors encountered after the limiter is frozen at 4000 iterations. When chemistry is engaged, the convergence of the flow equation residuals stalls at approximately  $10^{-8}$ , and there are a large number of high-frequency errors in the solution updates after the limiter is frozen, due to the frozen limiter needing to be re-evaluated. Figure 8.9b shows that the decoupled scheme is more sensitive to the frozen limiter than either of the fully coupled schemes. This is not overly surprising, since the re-evaluation of the flux limiter is sensitive to subtle changes in the species densities, and the decoupled scheme Jacobians have a large number of approximations with regard to species density linearizations. As

show in Section 8.3.1, the impact of this poor convergence quality on the quantities of interest is minimal, and this degree of convergence is more than sufficient to obtain the sensitivity gradients required in design optimization.

### 8.3.3 Annular Jet: Relative Speedup

The computational cost of decoupled scheme and fully coupled scheme with exact first-order linearizations is compared to the previously implemented fully coupled scheme with approximate first-order linearizations. For flow with frozen chemistry, show in Figure 8.9a, the solution is considered converged when the flow residual  $L_2$  norm is less than  $10^{-16}$ , and the relative speedup is shown in Table 8.3 The decoupled scheme is

Scheme	Time (s)	Speedup
Fully Coupled (Approximate)	348.6	1.0 (baseline)
Fully Coupled (Exact)	265.6	1.31
Decoupled	138.7	2.51

Table 8.3: Relative speedup for frozen chemistry.

considerably faster than either of the two fully coupled schemes, and the improved iterative convergence afforded by the exact linearizations prove valuable to the fully coupled scheme for this case, where the residuals can be converged an additional 10 orders of magnitude after the limiter is frozen. Determining the relative speedup is difficult for the schemes in Figure 8.9b, where finite-rate chemistry is engaged, due to noise in the convergence history. Because of this, total solution time is used in lieu of a residual convergence level to compute the relative speedup in Table 8.4 The gains associated with chemistry engaged are significantly less than those with frozen chemistry for this annular jet case.

Scheme	Time (s)	Speedup
Fully Coupled (Exact)	280.6	1.0 (baseline)
Fully Coupled (Approximate)	270.4	1.04
Decoupled	168.6	1.66

Table 8.4: Relative speedup for finite-rate chemistry.

Due to stalled convergence, there is no clear advantage of using exact linearizations over approximate linearizations in the fully coupled scheme, although the relative savings of use approximate linearizations are almost negligible (4%). The decoupled scheme is 66% faster than the exact, fully coupled scheme, and the difference between this result and the frozen flow result is the poorer iterative convergence quality. As discussed in Section 8.1.3, the frequency of the Jacobian evaluation is tied to the decrease in the residual from each non-linear solution update. Due to the poorer convergence seen in Figure 8.9b, the Jacobian is reevaluated at each iteration. This significantly diminishes the relative speedup of the decoupled scheme. This causes the Jacobian update to become a bottleneck in computational time required, and the additional cost of computing chemical source term and its Jacobian at each timestep reduces the relative speedup further in comparison to frozen flow.

# Chapter 9

## Relative Efficiency of Decoupled Adjoint Solver

At this point, the reacting gas adjoint in FUN3D has been utilized to obtain sensitivity information needed to drive design optimization, and the sensitivities of the fully coupled scheme have been validated against complex Frechet derivatives for accuracy. A key point of this study is to demonstrate the increased computational efficiency and relative memory saving of using a decoupled variable set for the flow and adjoint solvers, instead of a fully coupled variable set. This chapter details the benefits of applying the decoupled adjoint solver over the fully coupled solver for the annular jet demonstration problem.

### 9.1 Verification of Consistency

Section 4.3 showed in detail that, in the adjoint, changing from the fully coupled variable and equation sets to the decoupled variable and equation sets could be accomplished by a series of matrix transformations on the Jacobian. This transformation is equivalent

to a left and right preconditioning of the fully coupled scheme, enabling the reuse of the approximate Jacobians used by the flow solver. Provided the adjoint system is well conditioned and convergence is sufficient, preconditioning should not affect the final adjoint solution; thus, we expect to recover the exact same solution from both the fully coupled and decoupled adjoint schemes.

The 5 *km/s* spanwise cylinder case from Section 8.1 and the 15 *km/s* sphere cone case from Section 8.2 are re-examined here to determine the consistency of the adjoint solution computed by the fully coupled schemes. In this case, the sensitivity of the drag coefficient,  $C_D$  to the angle of attack,  $\alpha$ , is computed by both schemes and compared. Table 9.1 shows that the solutions match discretely to at least 11 digits, and is indicative

Case	Decoupled Sensitivity	Fully Coupled Sensitivity	Rel. Diff
Cylinder	0.764409218044021E-07	0.764409218054372E-07	1E-11
Sphere-Cone	-0.877773486565165E-02	-0.877773486565157E-02	2E-14

Table 9.1: Angle of attack sensitivity relative difference.

that the decoupled iterative mechanism can be used to compute the adjoint solution without changing the result. It should be recognized here that, in the continuous sense, the drag on a cylinder is independent of angle of attack; however, in the discrete sense of this grid, which is only a half-body cylinder, there is a minimal dependence between angle of attack and drag.

For the annular jet demonstration problem, the sensitivities computed in Table 7.3 were checked to verify that decoupled and fully coupled adjoint solutions matched to give the same sensitivity. Table 9.2 also demonstrates excellent agreement between the decoupled and fully coupled adjoint schemes. Examining the differences of sensitivities

Design Variable	Decoupled Sensitivity	Fully Coupled Sensitivity	Rel. Diff
$P_{p,o}$	-0.11081315601976E-06	-0.11081315649260E-06	4E-9
$T_{p,o}$	0.19089941243495E-03	0.19089941237390E-03	3E-10
$\phi_p$	-0.28035409093945E-01	-0.28035409045530E-01	1E-9

Table 9.2: Annular jet plenum sensitivity relative difference.

in Tables (9.1-9.2), it is clear that the absolute difference is almost always on the order of  $10^{-15}$  for each case. Because double precision was used in all floating point operations for these cases, these results are consistent with the level of precision used.

As a note on robustness, none of the stability issues found in the decoupled flow solver have been observed for the decoupled adjoint scheme. The non-linear nature of the chemical source term was the primary stability concern in the decoupled flow solver, because the explicitness introduced by the decoupled mass fraction update exacerbates CFL restrictions. These problems disappear in the adjoint equations, because it is a linear system being solved instead of a highly non-linear one. The full stability and convergence properties of the fully coupled adjoint solver were recovered by the decoupled adjoint solver, and it is therefore concluded that there is no advantage of solving the adjoint system in a fully coupled manner.

## 9.2 Relative Memory Savings and Speedup

The computational cost of the solution process in the adjoint can be greatly improved by storing the exact linearizations of the discrete flow solver equations, as discussed in Section 4.5. For a second order scheme Figure 9.1 shows the comparison of the fully coupled adjoint and decoupled adjoint time to solution with the two mechanisms for computing the exact linearizations. Table 9.3 shows that the reduction in simulation

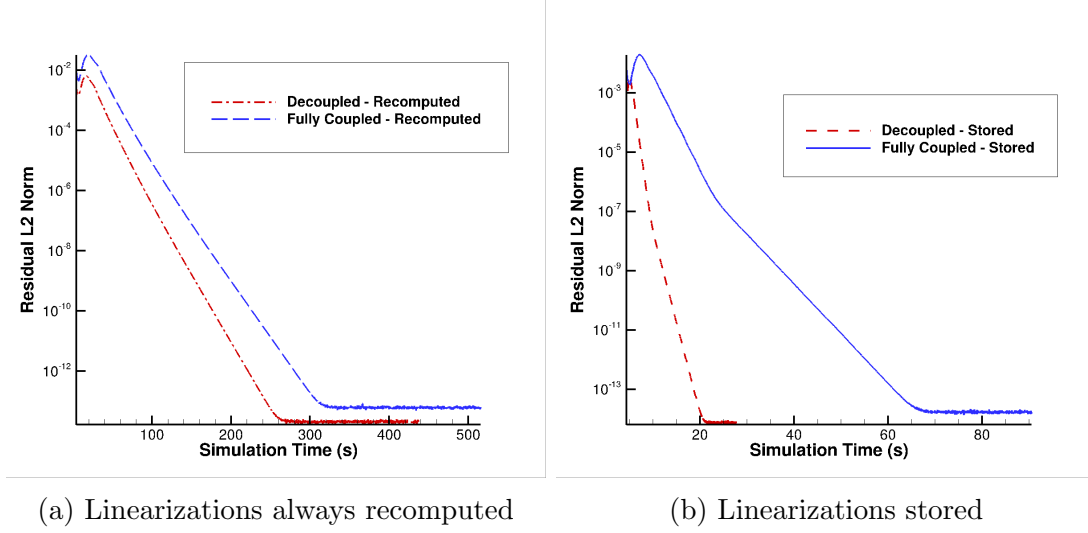


Figure 9.1: Simulation time comparison.

time of the decoupled scheme is only truly realized when the exact linearizations are stored, rather than recomputed at each timestep. This reduction is because computing

Scheme	Linearizations	Time to Convergence (s)	Speedup
Fully Coupled	Recomputed	309.4	1.0 (baseline)
Decoupled	Recomputed	244.2	1.27
Fully Coupled	Stored	61.22	5.05
Decoupled	Stored	18.69	<b>16.6</b>

Table 9.3: Relative speedup.

the exact linearizations in the adjoint is the dominant cost. The comparison between storing the linearizations and recomputing them is somewhat unfair, as the ability to store the full Jacobian of the second order reconstruction may not be possible, due to memory constraints. That said, a significant advantage of the decoupled scheme over the fully coupled scheme is the memory savings offered by the LHS Jacobian sparsity. It was



show in Section 3.3 that the predicted memory savings for an infinite number of species is  $1/7$  for a hexahedra grid where the average number of neighbors is 6. Unfortunately, the storage requirements for the exact linearizations will not change between the decoupled and fully coupled schemes; however, as the average number of neighbors in the grid increases, the relative memory savings will also increase. To effectively demonstrate this, the amount of memory required by the adjoint solver with the exact linearizations stored was determined for each mesh of the refinement study in Section 5.3. As shown

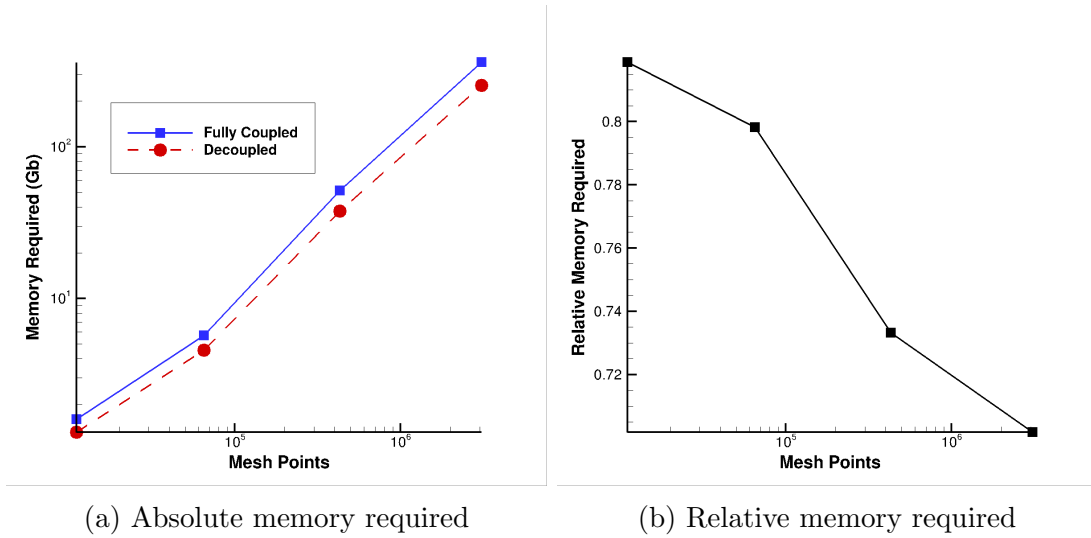


Figure 9.2: Memory required to store full linearizations.

in Figure 9.2 it is possible to store the exact linearizations for the 3.1 million node mesh, simulating a 9-species hydrogen air mixture. Figure 9.2a show, as expected, that the memory requirements for both the fully coupled and decoupled schemes scale directly with the number of mesh points. The relative savings for this case are nowhere near the predicted  $1/7$  value, because the exact linearizations require significantly more memory than anything else in the adjoint solver. That said, the  $\sim 20\%$  decrease in memory

required by the decoupled adjoint solver is significant, because the ability to store the exact linearizations is a binary problem: either there is enough memory or there is not. The increased savings are as important as the reduction in simulation time, if not more so, because the decoupled scheme can facilitate larger problems to be solved with greater than an order of magnitude increase in computational efficiency, if the exact linearizations can be stored.

# Chapter 10

## Concluding Remarks

An implicit, decoupled scheme has been implemented in the reacting gas path of the FUN3D flow solver, and an adjoint solver employing a fully coupled and decoupled scheme has also been implemented. The decoupled adjoint scheme, demonstrated here, is a significant improvement to the state-of-the-art in the field of sensitivity analysis for reacting flows. The decreased memory and computational costs afforded by solving a decoupled dependent variable set in the adjoint solver enabled a speedup greater than an order of magnitude for some cases.

The consistency and robustness of decoupling the variable sets in the flow solver was examined. It was found that the decoupled scheme only exhibited stability issues when the chemical source term was very large, due to large reaction rates. This stability issue was mitigated by multiplying the chemical source term uniformly by scaling term, which could be ramped from zero to one over the course of the simulation. Provided that the ramping was completed, the true steady-state solution, achieved without ramping, was recovered. The consistency of the solutions computed by the fully coupled and decoupled methods was found to match discretely to eight digits for surface temperature

and pressure, and four digits for mass fractions on the stagnation line of a spanwise cylinder case in a 5  $km/s$  flow. It was also determined that this difference in mass fraction was reduced with mesh spacing.

Sample inverse and direct design optimizations were completed on a hypersonic re-entry vehicle geometry that employed a retro-firing annular jet. Using the sensitivity derivatives computed by the adjoint, the annular jet plenum conditions were modified to improve the surface temperature RMS and mass flow rate through the annular jet plenum. The direct design case demonstrated the ability to tune a design based on favorable engineering attributes, and serves as a proof-of-concept for future work to develop re-entry vehicles with active thermal protection systems.

To determine the accuracy of the sensitivity derivatives provided by the adjoint solver, a complex-variable approach was employed. By transforming the source code of FUN3D, complex-variable Frechet derivatives were computed and compared to those computed by the adjoint solver. Both of these were found to match to a high degree of accuracy when both the flow solver and adjoint solver were sufficiently converged. Cases involving strong chemical reactions were typically found to produce the greatest differences between the flow and adjoint solvers; however, the accuracy of the sensitivity derivatives was still sufficient to complete direct and inverse design optimizations.

An analog to the decoupled iterative mechanism in the flow solver was derived for the adjoint solver, and its consistency and efficiency was compared to the fully coupled scheme. The adjoint solution, obtained using the decoupled scheme, was found to discretely match the fully coupled solution, and numerical tests showed that the decoupled adjoint scheme reached a solution three times faster than the fully coupled adjoint scheme for the annular jet demonstration problem, if the exact linearizations were stored rather than recomputed at each time step. The decoupled adjoint scheme also afforded 20% less

memory required than the fully coupled adjoint scheme, and the decoupled scheme was over 16 times faster than the fully coupled scheme when the decoupled scheme utilized storing the exact linearizations and the fully coupled scheme did not. Future work will include methods to speedup the computation of the linearizations, as well as schemes that employ mixed storage and recomputing of these linearizations, in order to further improve the efficiency of the decoupled adjoint scheme.

The ability to perform high-fidelity sensitivity analysis and design optimization on reacting flows is significantly aided by the increased computational efficiency that the decoupled flow and adjoint schemes provide. The improvement to iterative convergence provided by using exact linearizations in the Jacobians, also compounds the beneficial aspects of the decoupled schemes. It is hoped that these improvements will encourage interest in the field of adjoint-based sensitivity analysis for hypersonic flows, by enabling solutions to problems that were previously intractable due to the high computational and memory cost requirements. Future work will extend these schemes to viscous flows, incorporate multi-temperature models, and apply adjoint-based sensitivities to mesh adaptation and mesh movement strategies.

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## APPENDIX

# Appendix A

## Derivations

### A.1 Decoupled Flux Derivation

For the Roe flux difference splitting scheme, the species mass fluxes are given by

$$F_{\rho_s} = \frac{\rho_s^L \bar{U}^L + \rho_s^R \bar{U}^R}{2} - \frac{\tilde{c}_s (\lambda_1 dv_1 + \lambda_2 dv_2) + \lambda_3 dv_{3_s}}{2} \quad (\text{A.1})$$

$$dv_1 = \frac{p^R - p^L + \tilde{\rho} \tilde{a} (\bar{U}^R - \bar{U}^L)}{\tilde{a}^2} \quad (\text{A.2})$$

$$dv_2 = \frac{p^R - p^L - \tilde{\rho} \tilde{a} (\bar{U}^R - \bar{U}^L)}{\tilde{a}^2} \quad (\text{A.3})$$

$$dv_{3_s} = \frac{\tilde{a}^2 (\rho_s^R - \rho_s^L) - \tilde{c}_s (p^R - p^L)}{\tilde{a}^2} \quad (\text{A.4})$$

$$\lambda_1 = | \bar{\mathbf{U}} + \tilde{\mathbf{a}} |, \quad \lambda_2 = | \bar{\mathbf{U}} - \tilde{\mathbf{a}} |, \quad \lambda_3 = | \bar{\mathbf{U}} | \quad (\text{A.5})$$

where the  $\tilde{\phantom{x}}$  notation signifies a Roe-averaged quantity, given by:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{U}} = \tilde{w}\tilde{\mathbf{U}}^L + (1 - \tilde{w})\tilde{\mathbf{U}}^R \quad (\text{A.6})$$

$$\tilde{w} = \frac{\tilde{\rho}}{\tilde{\rho} + \rho^R} \quad (\text{A.7})$$

$$\tilde{\rho} = \sqrt{\rho^R \rho^L} \quad (\text{A.8})$$

The species mass fluxes must sum to the total mass flux; thus, the total mixture mass flux is given as

$$F_\rho = \sum_s F_{\rho_s} = \frac{\rho^L \bar{U}^L + \rho^R \bar{U}^R}{2} - \frac{\lambda_1 dv_1 + \lambda_2 dv_2 + \lambda_3 dv_3}{2} \quad (\text{A.9})$$

$$dv_3 = \frac{\tilde{a}^2(\rho^R - \rho^L) - (p^R - p^L)}{\tilde{a}^2} \quad (\text{A.10})$$

Multiplying Eq. A.9 by the Roe-averaged mass fraction and substituting it into Eq. A.1 results in:

$$F_{\rho_s} = \tilde{c}_s F_\rho + \frac{(c_s^L - \tilde{c}_s)\rho^L(\bar{U}^L + |\tilde{U}|)}{2} + \frac{(c_s^R - \tilde{c}_s)\rho^R(\bar{U}^R - |\tilde{U}|)}{2} \quad (\text{A.11})$$

It should be noted here that the Roe-averaged normal velocity,  $\tilde{U}$ , requires an entropy correction in the presence of strong shocks[24]. This correction has a dependence on the roe-averaged speed of sound, and therefore has a dependence on the species mass fractions; however, through numerical experiments it has been determined that omitting this dependence does not adversely affect convergence. The notation can be further

simplified by defining the normal velocities as follows:

$$\lambda^+ = \frac{\bar{U}^L + |\tilde{U}|}{2}, \quad \lambda^- = \frac{\bar{U}^R - |\tilde{U}|}{2} \quad (\text{A.12})$$

Finally, substituting Eq. A.12 into Eq. A.11 yields the final result for calculating the species flux in the decoupled system:

$$F_{\rho_s} = \tilde{c}_s F_\rho + (c_s^L - \tilde{c}_s) \rho^L \lambda^+ + (c_s^R - \tilde{c}_s) \rho^R \lambda^- \quad (\text{A.13})$$

Forming the convective contributions to the Jacobians is straightforward. Because the  $\mathbf{U}'$  level variables are constant, only the left, right, and Roe-averaged state mass fractions vary. Differentiating Eq. A.13 with respect to the mass fraction,  $c_s$ , the left and right state contributions are

$$\frac{\partial F_{\rho_s}}{\partial c_s^L} = \tilde{w} F_\rho + (1 - \tilde{w}) \rho^L \lambda^+ - \tilde{w} \rho^R \lambda^- \quad (\text{A.14})$$

$$\frac{\partial F_{\rho_s}}{\partial c_s^R} = (1 - \tilde{w}) F_\rho + (\tilde{w} - 1) \rho^L \lambda^+ + \tilde{w} \rho^R \lambda^- \quad (\text{A.15})$$

Because there is no dependence between species in decoupled convective formulation, the Jacobian block elements are purely diagonal for the convective contributions, of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial F_{\rho_1}}{\partial c_1} & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \frac{\partial F_{\rho_{N_s}}}{\partial c_{N_s}} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{A.16})$$

## A.2 Quadratic Interpolation Between Thermodynamic Curve Fits

We seek to blend the two thermodynamic curve fits in such a way that we maintain  $c_0$  continuity in both specific heat ( $C_p$ ) and enthalpy ( $h$ ). To accomplish this, a quadratic function must be used, of the form

$$aT^2 + bT + c = C_p \quad (\text{A.17})$$

The coefficients  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are determined by solving the system that results from the boundary value problem

$$\begin{cases} aT_1^2 + bT_1 + c = C_{p_1} \\ aT_2^2 + bT_2 + c = C_{p_2} \\ a\frac{(T_2^3 - T_1^3)}{3} + b\frac{(T_2^2 - T_1^2)}{2} + c(T_2 - T_1) = h_2 - h_1 \end{cases} \quad (\text{A.18})$$

Where the  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  subscripts describe the left and right states, respectively. Solving the linear system, the coefficients are

$$\begin{cases} a = \frac{3(C_{p_2} + C_{p_1})}{(T_2 - T_1)^2} - \frac{6(h_2 - h_1)}{(T_2 - T_1)^3} \\ b = -\frac{2[(C_{p_2} + 2C_{p_1})T_2 + (2C_{p_2} + C_{p_1})T_1]}{(T_2 - T_1)^2} + \frac{6(T_2 + T_1)(h_2 - h_1)}{(T_2 - T_1)^3} \\ c = \frac{C_{p_1}T_2(T_2 + 2T_1) + C_{p_2}T_1(T_1 + 2T_2)}{(T_2 - T_1)^2} - \frac{6T_1T_2(h_2 - h_1)}{(T_2 - T_1)^3} \end{cases} \quad (\text{A.19})$$

This can be simplified to

$$\begin{cases} a = 3B - A \\ b = \frac{-2(C_{p1}T_2 + C_{p2}T_1)}{(T_2 - T_1)^2} + (T_2 + T_1)(A - 2B) \\ c = \frac{C_{p1}T_2^2 + C_{p2}T_1^2}{(T_2 - T_1)^2} + T_1T_2(2B - A) \end{cases} \quad (\text{A.20})$$

$$A = \frac{6(h_2 - h_1)}{(T_2 - T_1)^3} \quad (\text{A.21})$$

$$B = \frac{C_{p2} + C_{p1}}{(T_2 - T_1)^2} \quad (\text{A.22})$$

Note that this does not ensure that entropy will be continuous across curve fits.

### A.3 Change of Variable Sets

The decoupled scheme developed by Candler et. al[10] is based upon the change of variables

$$\mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho_1 \\ \vdots \\ \rho_{N_s} \\ \rho \mathbf{u} \\ \rho E \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_{N_s} \\ \rho \\ \rho \mathbf{u} \\ \rho E \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{A.23})$$



To avoid confusion between variable sets, we re-write the variable vectors,  $\mathbf{U}$  and  $\mathbf{V}$ , in a more generic sense

$$\mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_{N_s+2} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_{N_s+3} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{A.24})$$

For simplicity, consider a system with two species,  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$ . Using the relationship  $\rho_s = c_s \rho$ , then the original variable vector,  $\mathbf{U}$  can be rewritten in terms of the new variables,  $\mathbf{V}$  as

$$\mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \\ u_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 v_3 \\ v_2 v_3 \\ v_4 \\ v_5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{A.25})$$

This allows the derivation of the Jacobian

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial \mathbf{V}} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial v_1} & \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial v_2} & \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial v_3} & \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial v_4} & \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial v_5} \\ \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial v_1} & \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial v_2} & \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial v_3} & \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial v_4} & \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial v_5} \\ \frac{\partial u_3}{\partial v_1} & \frac{\partial u_3}{\partial v_2} & \frac{\partial u_3}{\partial v_3} & \frac{\partial u_3}{\partial v_4} & \frac{\partial u_3}{\partial v_5} \\ \frac{\partial u_4}{\partial v_1} & \frac{\partial u_4}{\partial v_2} & \frac{\partial u_4}{\partial v_3} & \frac{\partial u_4}{\partial v_4} & \frac{\partial u_4}{\partial v_5} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} v_3 & 0 & v_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & v_3 & v_2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{A.26})$$

At this point, it is important to note that the Jacobian in Eq. A.26 has two psuedo-inverse matrices, that correspond to the right and left inverse. The right inverse,  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{V}}{\partial \mathbf{U}}|_R$ ,

can be constructed based on the previously defined steps

$$\left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{V}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \right|_R = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial u_1} & \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial u_2} & \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial u_3} & \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial u_4} \\ \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial u_1} & \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial u_2} & \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial u_3} & \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial u_4} \\ \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial u_1} & \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial u_2} & \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial u_3} & \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial u_4} \\ \frac{\partial v_4}{\partial u_1} & \frac{\partial v_4}{\partial u_2} & \frac{\partial v_4}{\partial u_3} & \frac{\partial v_4}{\partial u_4} \\ \frac{\partial v_5}{\partial u_1} & \frac{\partial v_5}{\partial u_2} & \frac{\partial v_5}{\partial u_3} & \frac{\partial v_5}{\partial u_4} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1-v_1}{v_3} & \frac{-v_1}{v_3} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{-v_2}{v_3} & \frac{1-v_2}{v_3} & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{A.27})$$

It is easily verified that the matrix product of Eq.s (A.26-A.27) produces identity

$$\left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial \mathbf{V}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{V}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \right|_R = \begin{pmatrix} v_3 & 0 & v_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & v_3 & v_2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1-v_1}{v_3} & \frac{-v_1}{v_3} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{-v_2}{v_3} & \frac{1-v_2}{v_3} & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{A.28})$$

however, Eq. A.28 is not associative

$$\begin{aligned}
\left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{V}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \right|_R \frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial \mathbf{V}} &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1-v_1}{v_3} & \frac{-v_1}{v_3} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{-v_2}{v_3} & \frac{1-v_2}{v_3} & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_3 & 0 & v_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & v_3 & v_2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} 1-v_1 & -v_1 & \frac{-(v_1)^2-v_1v_2+v_1}{v_3} & 0 & 0 \\ -v_2 & 1-v_2 & \frac{-(v_2)^2-v_1v_2+v_2}{v_3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}
\end{aligned} \tag{A.29}$$

to correctly compute identity, the property of matrix transpose multiplication is used

$$\begin{aligned}
\left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial \mathbf{V}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{V}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \Big|_R \right)^T &= \frac{\partial \mathbf{V}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \Big|_R^T \frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial \mathbf{V}}^T \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1-v_1}{v_3} & \frac{-v_2}{v_3} & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{-v_1}{v_3} & \frac{1-v_2}{v_3} & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & v_3 & 0 & 0 \\ v_1 & v_2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}
\end{aligned} \tag{A.30}$$

This is critical in understanding the relationships needed to switch transform variables sets. For linearizations of the residual,  $\mathbf{R}$ , the correct transformation from the variable set  $\mathbf{U}$  to the variable set  $\mathbf{V}$  is

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{V}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial \mathbf{V}} \tag{A.31}$$

which is intuitively understood; however, the transformation from the variable set  $\mathbf{V}$  to the variable set  $\mathbf{U}$  must follow Eq. A.30

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} = \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}^T}{\partial \mathbf{V}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{V}^T}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \right)^T \quad (\text{A.32})$$

The transposition in Eq. A.31 is critical, as the linearizations will be incorrect if the multiplication is done without it. Fortunately, Eq. A.31 is rarely seen in practice, as most linearizations are done for the fully-coupled system that requires Eq. A.32 to transform the linearizations

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{V}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial \mathbf{V}} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho 1}}{\partial \rho_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho 1}}{\partial \rho_{N_s}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho 1}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho 1}}{\partial \rho E} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho N_s}}{\partial \rho_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho N_s}}{\partial \rho_{N_s}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho N_s}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho N_s}}{\partial \rho E} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho_{N_s}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho E} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho_{N_s}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho E} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \rho & \cdots & 0 & c_1 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \rho & c_{N_s} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{A.33})$$

likewise, in the adjoint the transformation is applied to the tranpose of the Jacobian

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}^T}{\partial \mathbf{U}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{U}^T}{\partial \mathbf{V}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}^T}{\partial \mathbf{U}} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & \rho & 0 & 0 \\ c_1 & \dots & c_{N_s} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho 1}}{\partial \rho_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho N_s}}{\partial \rho_1} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho_1} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho_1} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho 1}}{\partial \rho_{N_s}} & \dots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho N_s}}{\partial \rho_{N_s}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho_{N_s}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho_{N_s}} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho 1}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} & \dots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho N_s}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho 1}}{\partial \rho E} & \dots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho N_s}}{\partial \rho E} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho E} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho E} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{A.34})$$

Since the tranformation is left-multiplied, the matrix vector products of the exact Jacobian with costate variables,  $\Lambda$ , in the adjoint linear system can be done first, and the

transformation can then be applied to the system

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}^T}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \rho & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & \rho & 0 & 0 \\ c_1 & \dots & c_{N_s} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_1}}{\partial \rho_1} \Lambda_{\rho_1} & \dots & + & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{N_s}}}{\partial \rho_1} \Lambda_{\rho_{N_s}} & + & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho_1} \Lambda_{\rho \mathbf{u}} & + & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho_1} \Lambda_{\rho E} \\ \vdots & \ddots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_1}}{\partial \rho_{N_s}} \Lambda_{\rho_1} & \dots & + & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{N_s}}}{\partial \rho_{N_s}} \Lambda_{\rho_{N_s}} & + & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho_{N_s}} \Lambda_{\rho \mathbf{u}} & + & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho_{N_s}} \Lambda_{\rho E} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_1}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} \Lambda_{\rho_1} & \dots & + & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{N_s}}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} \Lambda_{\rho_{N_s}} & + & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} \Lambda_{\rho \mathbf{u}} & + & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}} \Lambda_{\rho E} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_1}}{\partial \rho E} \Lambda_{\rho_1} & \dots & + & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{N_s}}}{\partial \rho E} \Lambda_{\rho_{N_s}} & + & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho \mathbf{u}}}{\partial \rho E} \Lambda_{\rho \mathbf{u}} & + & \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\rho E}}{\partial \rho E} \Lambda_{\rho E} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{A.35})$$

This indicates the important point that the transformation of the adjoint residual is not dependent on the number of equations solved, but only the number of dependent variables the equations are linearized with respect to, namely  $\mathbf{U}$ .

## A.4 Change of Equation Sets

In addition to a change of variables, the decoupled scheme also changes the equations being solved, effectively solving is one more equation than the fully-coupled scheme. The residual vector for the decoupled scheme,  $\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{V}}$ , and the residual vector for the fully

coupled scheme,  $\mathbf{R}_U$ , can be written as

$$\mathbf{R}_U = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\rho_1} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{N_s}} \\ \mathbf{R}_{\rho_u} \\ \mathbf{R}_{\rho_E} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}_V = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\rho_1} - c_1 \sum_{i=1}^{N_s} (\mathbf{R}_{\rho_i}) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{R}_{\rho_{N_s}} - c_{N_s} \sum_{i=1}^{N_s} (\mathbf{R}_{\rho_i}) \\ \sum_{i=1}^{N_s} (\mathbf{R}_{\rho_i}) \\ \mathbf{R}_{\rho_u} \\ \mathbf{R}_{\rho_E} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{A.36})$$

Eq. A.36 shows that  $\mathbf{R}_V$  is completely comprised of components from  $\mathbf{R}_U$ ; therefore, a relationship between these equation sets can be derived in a similar fashion to Appendix A.3. Rewriting  $\mathbf{R}_V$  in terms of  $\mathbf{R}_U$

$$\mathbf{R}_V = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{U_s} - c_s \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N_s} \mathbf{R}_{U_i} \right) \\ \sum_{i=1}^{N_s} \mathbf{R}_{U_i} \\ \mathbf{R}_{U_{N_s+1}} \\ \mathbf{R}_{U_{N_s+2}} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{A.37})$$



it is possible to form the transformation

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{V}}}{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{U}}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - c_1 & -c_1 & \dots & -c_1 & 0 & 0 \\ -c_2 & 1 - c_2 & \dots & -c_2 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ -c_{N_s} & -c_{N_s} & \dots & 1 - c_{N_s} & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{A.38})$$

Because all transformations performed on the equation set are also performed on the adjoint costate variables, Eq. A.38 enables the mapping between the costate variables associated with the fully coupled and decoupled flow solver equations

$$\Lambda_{\mathbf{U}} = \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{V}}}{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{U}}} \right)^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{V}} \quad (\text{A.39})$$

where costate variables associated with the fully coupled flow solver equations,  $\Lambda_{\mathbf{U}}$ , come from solving

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{U}}}{\partial \mathbf{U}}^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{U}} = -\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \quad (\text{A.40})$$

and the costate variables associated with the decoupled flow solver equations,  $\Lambda_{\mathbf{V}}$ , come from solving

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{V}}}{\partial \mathbf{V}}^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{V}} = -\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{V}} \quad (\text{A.41})$$

Eq. A.39 facilitates a right preconditioning of Eq. A.40 to transform the adjoint solution as post-processing step. This also decreases the length of the solution vector storage required, since the fully coupled system has one less equation than the decoupled system.