

# Model Reduction Using Machine Learning Methods with Domain Decomposition for Fluid Flow Problems

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## Abstract

Reduced order modelling is a powerful technique for rapidly modelling high dimensional fluid dynamics systems. Its speed could enable real-time decision making and operational modelling. Using a Long Short Term Memory (LSTM) neural network to train the data in the reduced space can obtain excellent predictions in a short time. Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) and domain decomposition GPR are also used to train the data in reduced space, which also give accurate results. The full process of reduced order modelling is integrated and implemented in both 2D and 3D problems governed by the Navier-Stokes equations.

**Keywords:** Reduced Order Modelling, Long Short Term Memory Neural Network, Domain Decomposition

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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Motivation

The Reduced Order Model (ROM) can exploit Domain Decomposition (DD) methods in order to increase its accuracy and further reduce the computational time for large systems [1, 2, 3], see Figures 1 & 2. ROM has an advantage in speed to make the real-time simulation of detailed fluid flows possible. Its speed could help with, for example, decision making in problems requiring the solution of large systems of equations, for example, weather forecasting.

### 1.2. Problem statement

Long Short Term Memory (LSTM) neural networks and Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) have demonstrated high accu-

racy on time-dependent deterministic problems. They have been widely adopted in stocks price prediction, driver-less cars, chess playing, translation and speech recognition. The ‘memory possessed in LSTMs is particularly important for model reduction and will be used for large scale problems here. For example, these methods may be able to resolve the flows within a building while simultaneously resolving the flows within an entire city. This project will develop LSTM networks and GPR machine learning by combining them with Domain Decomposition methods to produce a new Domain Decomposition Long Short Term Memory Neural Network DD-LSTM or DD-GPR. This would have an higher accuracy over the ‘standard LSTM as one needs to iterate between the subdomains

in order to distribute the subdomain solutions across the whole domain. This is important in order to satisfy the incompressibility constraint in many fluid flow problems.

The project will be divided into three steps:

The first step is using an existing High Fidelity Model (HFM) based on discretizations of the governing equations, such as using the finite element method for solving the advection equation or the Navier-Stokes equations that govern fluid flows. The data comes from the snapshots taken at different time levels of the HFM. The codes used for the HFM are IC-Ferst and Fluidity, and these codes solve the continuity and momentum equations, see equations (1) and (2) below.

Continuity equation:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0 \quad (1)$$

Momentum equation:

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v} \right) = -\rho \mathbf{g} h - \nabla p + \nabla \cdot \bar{\bar{\tau}} \quad (2)$$

in which  $\mathbf{v} = (u, v, w)^T$  is the velocity with 3D velocity components and in 2D  $\mathbf{v} = (u, v)^T$ . For the flow past the cylinder test case the viscosity was set to  $0.01Cst$  and the uniform inlet velocity (on the left) was set to unity which results in laminar flow with a Reynolds number of 100. In the above  $\nabla \cdot \bar{\bar{\tau}}$  contains the stress terms with the above viscosity.

Dimensional reduction methods will first be used to compress to reduce the number of independent variables that are solved for every time step. Proper Orthogonal Decomposition (POD) reduction methods, see [4], are used here but other new methods such as Auto-Encoders (AE) could also be used.

The second step is to use LSTM or GPR to make the prediction of future time steps. In

this step, I will apply LSTM or GPR to three test cases of increasing complexity. The first case uses LSTM to do prediction on a simple advecting square wave. I then use LSTM and GPR to perform prediction of 2D flow past a circular cylinder. In the final case, I apply LSTM and GPR to predict the 3D urban air-flow in a small region of London. I compare LSTM with GPR results.

The third aspect of the project uses the domain decomposition method to divide the domain into several smaller subdomains, using LSTM or GPR in each subdomain and transporting airflow into adjacent subdomains, see Figure 2.

### 1.3. Literature review and proposed approach

#### 1.3.1. Non-Intrusive Reduce Order Modeling (NIROM)

Intrusive Reduce Order Modeling (IROM) and NIROM are two types of ROMs. NIROM does not depend on the source code of the HFM. Moreover, it can avoid some of the instability and non-linearity efficiency issues associated with IROM [1].

NIROM has been used to solve various flow dynamic problems. Both POD and AEs have been employed by multiple NIROMs in previous studies. Coefficients of the reduced basis functions can be recovered by the decoder part of the AE network [5] or through the POD's use of Singular Value Decomposition rotation matrices. Those coefficients will be used to recover the full model.

NIROMs can be divided into two stages, *offline* and *online*. The *offline* stage is responsible for dimensionality reduction and generates a reduced basis from the data. The *online* stage handles the prediction based on the reduced basis on the current time step, then recovers the solution to the problem in the full dimensional space [6].

Wang et al. proposed a non-intrusive POD reduced basis method for parametrised unsteady flows [5]. Xiao et al. developed a NIROM for predicting the turbulent air flows found within an urban environment [1]. Xiao et al. developed a Domain Decomposition Non-Intrusive Reduced Order Model (DDNIROM) for turbulent flows [2]. Xiao et al. presents a DDNIROM for the Navier-Stokes equations to improve the capability of NIROM for complex flow problems over widely varying ranges of scales [3]. Xiao et al. modelled turbulent flow problem and an ocean gyre simulation [1, 6]. In this project, similar NIROMs will be applied to the three test cases.

Here we are using data generated by the HFM. The NIROM is constructed by training a neural network using LSTM with data from the HFM. The data-driven approach, as well as being applied here, has also been used in a number of disciplines. Chinesta et al. used a data-driven method on linear and nonlinear elasticity [7]. Eggersmann et al. extended the Data-Driven formulation to the elasticity problems studied by Kirchdoerfer and Ortiz. They benefited from the data-driven method by generalizing the model to handle different scenarios [8]. The data-driven approach has also been used in computational mechanics and nonlinear elasticity [9, 10].

Capuano et al. implemented the data-driven method on finite element formulations and demonstrated that the data-driven process could work with any machine learning and proved its effectiveness in reducing both the error and computational cost, see [11].

### 1.3.2. Long short term memory neural network

LSTM is a Recurrent Neural Network (RNN) for overcoming the vanishing of gradients, and it is formed by an explicit memory

cell and four gating units. Vanishing of gradients occurs when back-propagating errors across many time steps. But for LSTM, a self-connected recurrent edge for each memory cell will ensure the gradient will not vanish after passing across many times. This structure allows LSTMs to control the sequential information in the network [12, 13].

LSTM is widely used in time series problems [14], such as stock price prediction, [15, 16] diseases propagation, [17] and climate change prediction [18]. LSTMs are also commonly used in speech recognition [19, 20, 21], natural language processing [22, 23], and classification problems [24, 25, 26].

As shown in Figure 1, the latest hidden-layer output is  $h_{t-1}$ , the latest memory activation is  $c_{t-1}$ . The latest memory activation is an input of the current LSTM cell[21].

The general LSTM use these four units: (Note: The output of an LSTM cells with  $l$ -th layer and time  $j$  is  $h_j^l = o_j^l \tanh(c_j^l)$ ,  $b$  here is the bias term.)

(i) Memory units: store the temporal information.

The activation vector of Memory units:

$$c_j^l = f_j^l c_{j-1}^l + i_j^l \tanh(W_{xc}^l x_j^l + W_{hc}^l h_{j-1}^l + b_c^l) \quad (3)$$

(ii) Input gates: modulate the input activations into the cells.

The activation vector of input gates:

$$i_j^l = \sigma(W_{xi}^l x_j^l + W_{hi}^l h_{j-1}^l + W_{ci}^l c_{j-1}^l + b_i^l) \quad (4)$$

(iii) Output gates: modulate the output activations of the cells.

The activation vector of output gates:

$$o_j^l = \sigma(W_{xo}^l x_j^l + W_{ho}^l h_{j-1}^l + W_{co}^l c_{j-1}^l + b_o^l) \quad (5)$$

(iv) Forget gates: reset the cells memory.

The activation vector of forget gate:

$$f_j^l = \sigma(W_{xf}^l x_j^l + W_{hf}^l h_{j-1}^l + W_{cf}^l c_{j-1}^l + b_f^l) \quad (6)$$

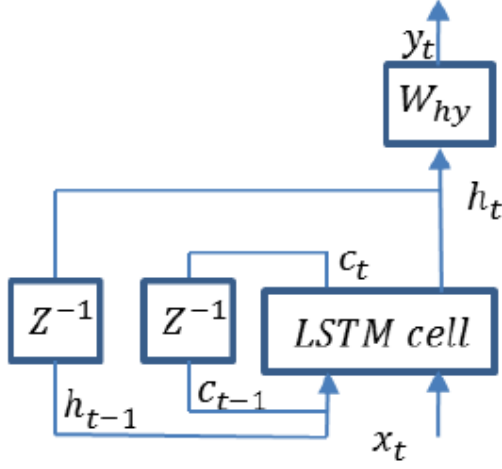


Figure 1: An LSTM Cell with One Recurrent Layer.  $Z^{-1}$  is the Time Delay Node



Figure 2: The figure shows a subdomain  $d$  with its four neighbouring subdomains [3]

In this project, LSTM is used to predict the compressed velocity time series [27]. For that, it is trained to learn the low dimensional dynamics of the fluid system. See also Francisco and Maciej who used a single loss function for losses from both AE and LSTM. Losses reflect the difference between flow snapshot data and predicted data. In their *offline* training process, the AE first takes  $N$  dimensional data and outputs the low dimensional representation. After the AE finishes the forward pass and constructs a batch of low-dimensional representations, the LSTM is trained with those representations. In their *online* prediction process, the trained AE retrieves the predictions from the LSTM in lower dimensions. The AE then uses the decoder in a forward pass to recover the predictions in the original dimension[27]. A similar structure will be used in this project, but we will introduce domain decomposition along with LSTM for implementation onto larger systems and call this method DD-LSTM. In addition, in this project, we decouple the compression (with either POD or AE) and the DD-LSTM *offline* training.

Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) has also been used in a similar way to LSTMs in previous studies, [28, 29]. LSTMs are suitable for dealing with sudden changes of the solution variables following relatively long periods of little change in the variables. The GPR method has flexibility but is limited to the number of dimensions it can form a hypersurface in. At least more limited potentially than LSTMs and feed-forward neural networks. In wind flow forecasting both LSTM and GPR achieved higher forecasting accuracy than the conventional forecasting methods like Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average model and Back-Propagation Neural Networks [29]. When forecasting high-dimensional chaotic system, the LSTM can better capture the nonlinear dynamics compared to GPR, while GPR has the better speed to obtain the same result than LSTM (20% percent better). As for computational complexity, the computational cost of the GPR-based approaches is significantly larger than LSTM. It was found that in short-term predictions, LSTM performs better. However, the prediction error increases faster for LSTM

when increasing the level of chaos in the system [30].

In setting up LSTM neural networks the general trend is to use only a small number of hidden layers, single-layer LSTM is used in learning low-dimensional feature dynamics of fluid systems [27]. The number of hidden layers is not mentioned in ocean gyre and flow past cylinder simulation studies, see [6], however more than one layer is used in that work. Twenty hidden neurons and single hidden layer is used in the chaoticity test case of [30]. In contrast to time dependent problems, in classification problems, classification accuracy is related to the number of hidden layers [26].

### 1.3.3. Domain decomposition

DD is used to solve large problems in the frequency and time domains. The main feature of DD is decomposing large problems into several smaller ones. Instead of relying on iterative techniques in conventional DD, we choose to transform the original large system into one whose size is small enough to be manageable [31]. DD is often used with model reduction methods to solve large problems [32].

Machine learning methods can be used to predict the geometric boundary for each domain and can reduce the number of compressed variables needed for prediction (e.g. POD coefficients), see [33].

Multi-grid partitioning methods can be used to decomposed large finite element meshes into several subdomains. Combining with automatic grid coarsening, unstructured meshes can also be decomposed. The subdomain boundaries discourage the high crossing activity and poor conditioning but improve load balance [34]. In this project, the multi-grid partitioning method will be used to decompose the unstructured mesh.

Domain decomposition/partitioning has been implemented into NIROM for modelling fluid flow and turbulent flow problems. Using Domain Decomposition methods allows one to construct local basis functions based on details of local flow solutions over each subdomain. A GPR based NIROM is implemented, as several local basis functions are generated using POD. The GPR multi-dimensional interpolation method is then used to construct a set of hypersurfaces representing the local fluid dynamics over this subdomain. When building the hypersurfaces for a given subdomain, the solution in the surrounding subdomains is taken into account by introducing their POD coefficients as inputs to the hypersurfaces of this particular subdomain. The resulting DD-NIROM is suitable for hard problems which global Singular Value Decomposition (SVD) may not decrease rapidly while its small subdomains SVD do [3].

The DD-LSTM method updates a subdomain by taking the current value from itself and the future value from all its neighbours as the input, getting the output to update itself. In this case, as the input structure of every subdomain is different because of the unstructured mesh, there will be the same number of LSTM models as the number of subdomains as shown in Figure 2.

Xiao et al.[2] has used GPR and DD to form their NIROM. The approach developed in this project is similar, but the LSTM replaces the GPR here in some of the examples. In Xiao et al. the Reynolds stresses are used to decided how to weight each node of the mesh for domain partitioning into subdomains. The aim is then to balance the weighted sum in each subdomain and minimize the communication or sum of the weights between the subdomains. In this

way, the subdomains are equally balanced, in terms of their dynamic complexity and the subdomains form (as much as possible) dynamically isolated regions (subdomains).

In our approach, the *offline* training process, first, divides up the domain into subdomains, then forms the reduced order model the DD-LSTM or DD-GPR that is trained for each subdomain separately. In the *online* process, the DD algorithm loops over all time steps, and forms the reduced order basis for each subdomain separately. Then iterating over all the subdomains the DD-LSTM or DD-GPR is able to predict future time levels. Finally, project the reduced order solution is compared with the high fidelity solution.

The work flow for this project is shown in figure 3.

## 2. Software Development Life Cycle

### 2.1. Existing code ecosystem

The new software developed here is based on IC-Ferst/Fluidity and Opal.

IC-Ferst/Fluidity are existing models for fluid mechanics problems. IC-Ferst/Fluidity will not be directly used in this program, but there are several modules from these codes that will be called during the process of forming the reduced order models. Another essential role of IC-Ferst/Fluidity is to generate the original flow data (the snapshots) for training and testing. The input of IC-Ferst/Fluidity is a mesh file and an mpml or flml file. These files contain the information of the fluid mechanics problem. IC-Ferst or Fluidity will use these files to calculate velocity and pressure. In this project, velocity data will be used as the input of ROM as for incompressible flows, this is the fundamental variable from which pressure can be calculated if needed.

Opal is a tool that allows one to interface with IC-FERST/Fluidity and can perform Reduced Order Modelling (ROM). It is a collection of python scripts that can manipulate input and output files of both IC-FERST and Fluidity, and has been used for calculating sensitivities as well as reduced order modelling. There are some pre-existing functions for dimensionality reduction such as POD and Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) for predicting. Opal has a GUI that is formed from the DIAMOND interface software. The interface of DIAMOND is shown in Figure 4.

Using DIAMOND, you can change the configuration of Opal. After opening the DIAMOND user interface you can set the options you require. The default configuration is based on the best practice we currently have, but it is also possible to change these values. Previous to this work the method for reduced order modelling in Opal was based on POD and Gaussian Process Regression (GPR).

The data structures for output files are defined by vtktools functions from Fluidity. It allows Opal to read in vtu files generated by IC-ferst/Fluidity and write the resulting predictions to vtu files.

The visualisation software of vtu files is paraview. Using paraview we can directly see the animation of the flow solution variables (e.g. velocities) in vtu files.

A CPU-efficient Fortran library was used for decomposing the domain which is used within Opal; it requires the information in the vtu files of the original data to decide how to decompose the unstructured mesh. It feeds back a list of numbers which is the subdomain number (label) for each node, along with a compressed sparse row (CSR) representation matrix for allocating the position of nodes in the unstructured mesh.

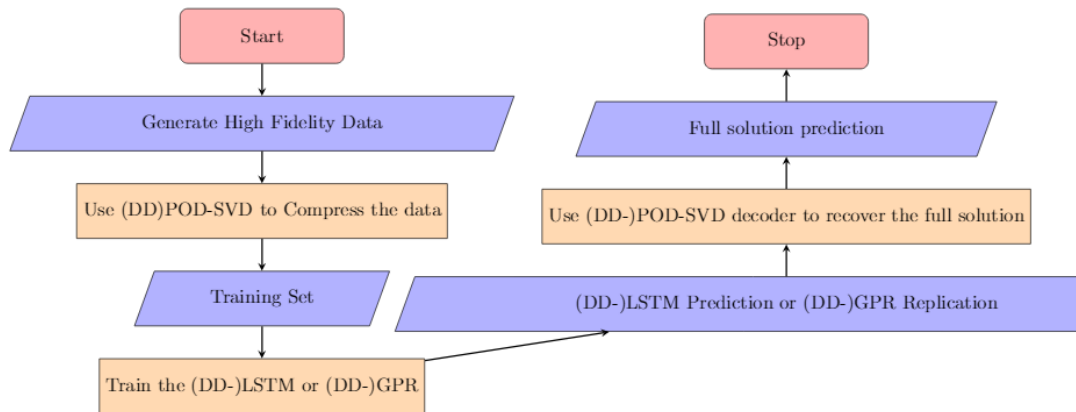


Figure 3: Algorithm describing the application of the (DD-)LSTM or (DD-)GPR to an example problem.

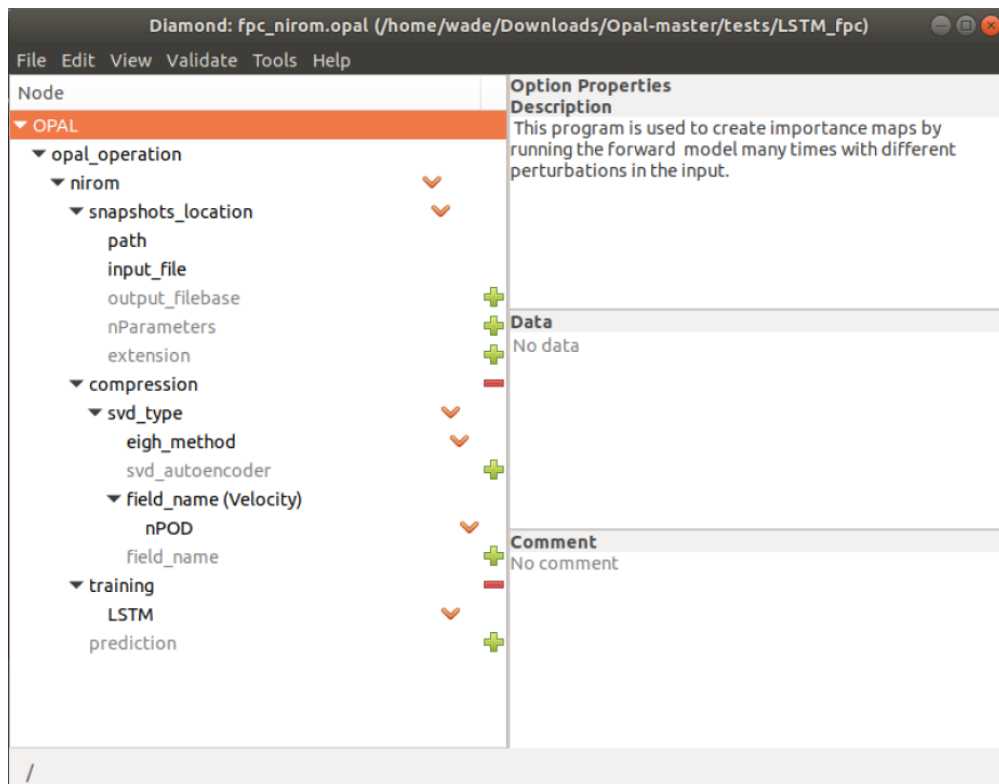


Figure 4: Interface of the DIAMOND, functions on the left hand side and details on the right hand side

## 2.2. Development methodology

During the development of the new software, I used Waterfall as the operation tool, which can increase the speed of development. As the new software should be integrated within Opal, I followed the added to what had already been done in Opal so that the user will be free to choose from the pre-existing Opal options or my new options. The new software includes domain decomposition, LSTM and domain decomposition GPR. Each was implemented in a staged approach, each passing the test cases within the Opal. After developing the software within Opal, more options were added to the DIAMOND GUI.

## 2.3. Design rationale

The design of software inherited the ideas behind Opal, which divided the tasks into four parts.

The first part is reading in the configuration and vtu files. After the user has defined the configuration in DIAMOND, there will be an .opal file, which stores those settings. The settings include the path to the dataset files, the methods for compression, training, and predicting, and their options. Then, the vtu files in the path mentioned above will be read in. Here there are two classes storing different functions of variable. One called fwd\_options which saves all configurations, and would never be changed during the whole process. Another called nirom\_options will be updated by what is obtained during the process. Here, the vtu data for velocity is stored in a variable called snapshots in nirom\_options, which can be used in any part later.

The second part is compression. In this part, there are several options for users. Compression is one of the most critical components for reduced order modelling, and using POD is one of the fastest and effective ways

of doing that. There are two options suited to different situations. One called eigenvalue method is used for globally reduced the dimension. Another is called DD eigenvalue method, which is used for doing domain decomposition and dimensionality reduction. The first one, eigenvalue method, requires the user to choose how many POD coefficients to maintain after compression. For the second one, the user should provide the number of subdomains desired. To keep the DD efficient, the user can only select a number that is a power of 2. When DD eigenvalue method is used, each subdomain is treated as a whole domain and POD will be applied to this in order to obtain POD coefficients, with the number set by user.

The third part is training. The user should choose from LSTM or GPR if they have chosen eigenvalue method in compression, and select DD-LSTM or DD-GPR when they have chosen DD eigenvalue method. For the global one, LSTM or GPR will take the compressed POD coefficients as inputs and train the neural network. And for the DD method, for each subdomain, it has an LSTM neural network or GPR neural network for only itself, the input for training comes from the compressed POD coefficients of itself and its neighbours. More details will be introduced in the Implementation Strategy section.

The last part is the prediction and output. For the global method, the input is the POD coefficients from several time steps. For the LSTM or GPR, one prediction will be made by the trained the neural network to predict the POD coefficients for future time steps. Using the DD method, the logic is similar, and the only difference is that for each subdomain; it takes historical data from itself and prediction data from its neighbours.



## 2.4. Implementation strategy

### 2.4.1. 1D square wave LSTM

I began by implementing an LSTM to understand a one dimension square problem. The 1D problem is used to verify that the LSTM neural network can carry out the prediction of in time. This then provides the confidence needed before applying it to 2D and 3D problems.

The domain is divided into 100 cells and where each cell has the value 0 or a 1 in such a way that this represents a square wave at a single instance in time. We then advect this square wave to the right preserving its shape. The width of the square wave is 3 cells - that is 3 cells have a value of 1 associated with them and all others 0. The whole dataset of the 1D square wave is implemented using the Toeplitz matrix, [35]. By using this, its easy to change the width of the square for example.

Since this problem is relatively simple, I used an LSTM with one recurrent layer with 50 hidden neurons. As the feature for this square wave is straightforward, using only two neurons in only one hidden layer can also result in reasonable results.

### 2.4.2. 1D square wave DD-LSTM

In this part, the 1D square wave is manually partitioned into several subdomains. Each subdomain has an LSTM within it which takes the input from both itself and its neighbouring subdomain LSTMs. We require our method to be implicit in order to be able to apply it to incompressible fluid flow problems, where only implicit methods of solving for pressure can spread the pressure information across the domain every time step to satisfy the incompressibility constraint. That is each subdomain's state will be affected all the others subdomains, not only its neighbours. However, by iterating several times,

each time each subdomain takes the input both from the current value from itself and the prediction value from its neighbours. In this way the DD-LSTM demonstrated that it could learn the dynamics of the propagating 1D square wave. See figures 5, 6, 7.

### 2.4.3. 2D flow past a cylinder

In order to solve fluid flow problems we integrated the new reduced order models into the Opal model framework. Opal is developed in Linux system. To add a function to Opal, I need to modify the class and the used interface .rng files used by the DIAMOND user interface, 4. A separate module for the LSTM neural network and training along with predicting is added and connected with Opal. In this case, one layer and 10 neurons are used for the LSTM. Each time step the LSTM takes reduced variable (e.g. from POD) at 3-time previous levels. This is used to train the LSTM as well as to predict with it. See figure 8. There are 11136 nodes and 2 velocity components (velocity  $u$  and  $v$ ) for the 2D flow past a cylinder problem. I ran the 2D flow past the cylinder problems on a laptop with 8 GBytes of memory and with i7-8750h of CPU.

For training and predicting, the GPR takes the reduced variables (or POD coefficients) at just one single time level - the previous level.

For the input with 10 POD coefficients, each POD coefficient can also be visualised. Each one of them gives information to the LSTM. The way to choose how many POD coefficients to use is also observed if there are new features in the POD with larger index. Typically the more POD coefficients used, the more information from the snapshots is captured. Six basis functions are shown in figures 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14.

After training the LSTM, it can be used to predict the time step's POD coefficients. The

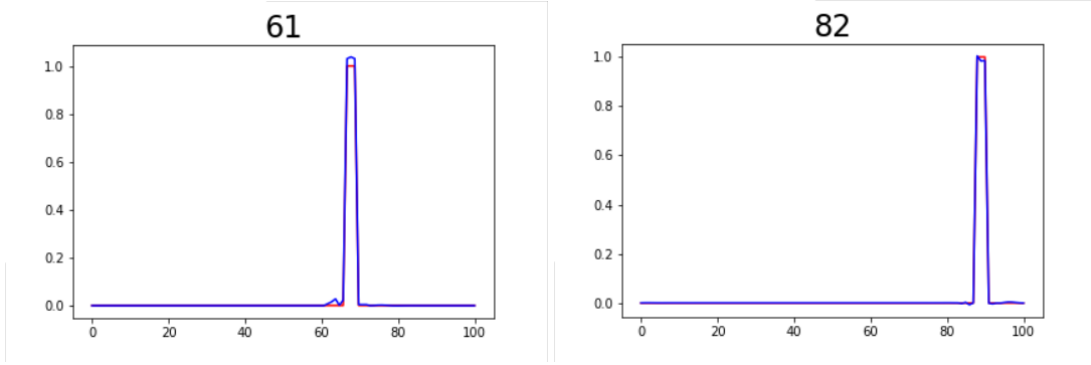


Figure 5: The animation snapshots during the train- Figure 6: The animation snapshots for the predicting process of 1D square wave, with one layer and 50 neurons LSTM

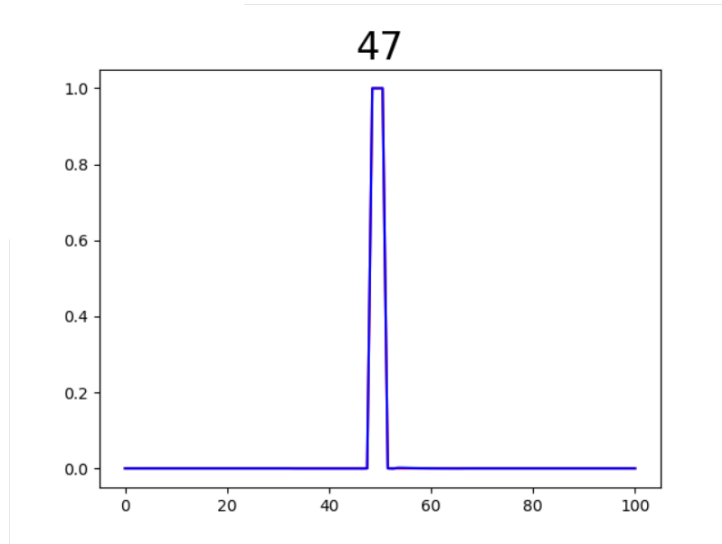


Figure 7: Train Performance of 1D DD-LSTM in 47th Step

logic of predicting is the same as for the 1D problem, see figure 15.

The LSTM requires data from 3 previous time levels, and it uses these three original time levels to get the first prediction in the first step. So in the second step, there are 2 original data and one prediction data and receives the second prediction. According to this process, in step 4, the input data for LSTM is only coming from prediction data, which makes it possible to predict whatever given time step.

#### 2.4.4. 2D flow past a cylinder using DD methods

Here I implemented domain decomposition for the flow past a cylinder problem. The first step of domain decomposition is to partition the unstructured mesh into several subdomains. There is an existing Fortran code that can perform the domain partitioning. So the first step is to make connection between the Fortran module and python module. This was achieved by a numpy function which transfers the .f90 file into a .so file. After that, the

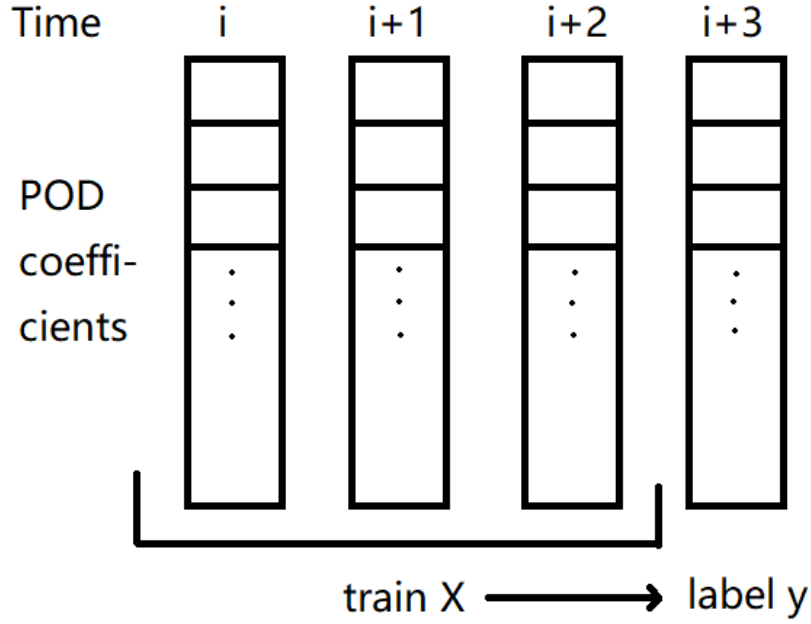


Figure 8: The method to obtain the training data X and label y for LSTM

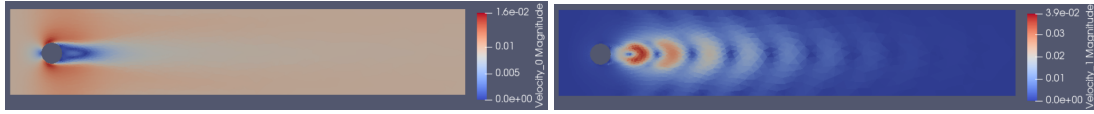


Figure 9: Recover the full model from POD coefficient 0 by basis functions, the most important feature

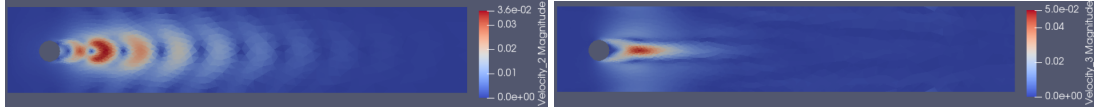


Figure 11: Recover the full model from POD coefficient 2 by basis functions

Figure 12: Recover the full model from POD coefficient 3 by basis functions

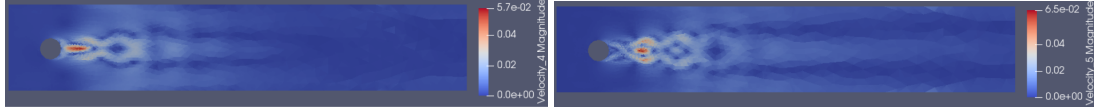


Figure 13: Recover the full model from POD coefficient 4 by basis functions

Figure 14: Recover the full model from POD coefficient 5 by basis functions

python module can directly import the .so file as a module, and the subroutines in Fortran would become the functions in python. The Fortran code would show which variables are

inputs and which are outputs.

First, to obtain the Compressed Sparse Row matrix (CSR matrix), the Fortran module needs the coordinates for all nodes and the

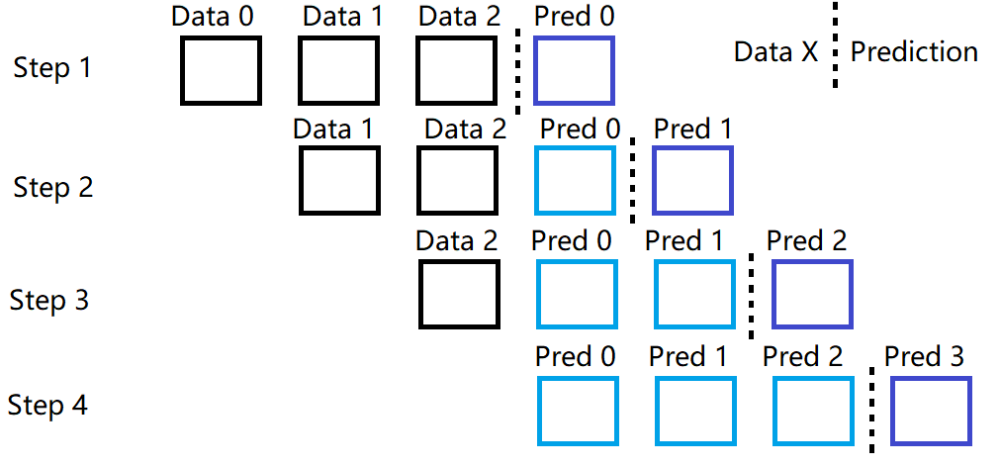


Figure 15: Prediction process of LSTM when history level = 3

number of nodes, which can be obtained from the vtu files. The CSR representation contains *fin* and *cola*. *Fin* is an array start with one, and store the cumulative number of data in each row. *Cola* stores the column position for each node [36].

After getting the expression for the CSR matrix, I defined the other inputs such as the number of subdomains and the weight of each node. The Fortran module provides an array called *whichd* which is the the same length as the number of nodes. The value  $\mathcal{D}_i$  of *whichd* at node  $i$  means the node  $i$  belongs to subdomain  $\mathcal{D}_i$ . For efficiency, the number of subdomains will always be a power of 2. This results in 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64 subdomains as shown in figures 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21.

Comparing with the mesh (figure 22), we know that the domain decomposition is based on the sparsity of the mesh. The area with dense nodes or activity will be divided into smaller subdomains in order to balance all the subdomains.

After obtaining *whichd*, the number of snapshots should be changed. The new *dd\_snapshots* variable is an array with the number of subdomains in shape 0, with the

number of time steps in shape 1, and with the number of nodes in the corresponding subdomain in shape 2. The major problem here if the sequence of nodes is changed without being recorded, it will be impossible to transfer *dd\_snapshots* back to general snapshots. So there I use a loop with complexity  $O(n)$  to record the original position of each node for *dd\_snapshots*.

After getting *dd\_snapshots*, each subdomain's snapshots will be compressed by POD. Here, I used the same number of POD coefficient in each subdomain. The compression is the same as the global method but applied to each subdomain separately.

Then the method above is used to train the DD-LSTM or DD-GPR. Each subdomain's LSTM and GPR will receive the data from itself and its neighboring subdomains, and will iterate several times.

After training, the difference between the LSTM and GPR is that LSTM can only take several time steps of the original data and predict the data in further time steps, while GPR replicates the original training data. The GPR could also predict in time, beyond the latest snapshot that it has seen, although this has

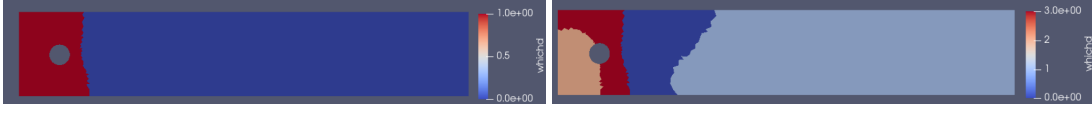


Figure 16: The domain division status after being decomposed to 2 subdomains

Figure 17: The domain division status after being decomposed to 4 subdomains

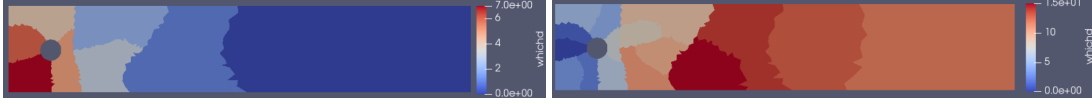


Figure 18: The domain division status after being decomposed to 8 subdomains

Figure 19: The domain division status after being decomposed to 16 subdomains

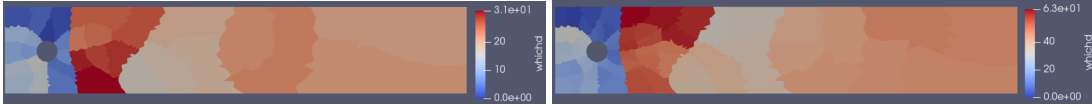


Figure 20: The domain division status after being decomposed to 32 subdomains

Figure 21: The domain division status after being decomposed to 64 subdomains

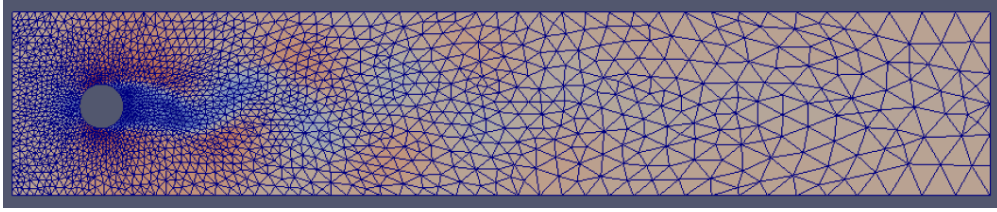


Figure 22: The finite element mesh of flow past a cylinder problem

not been done in the project. Here we can get the prediction from DD-LSTM and the replication by the GPR. The result of the replication of DD-GPR is good, while for the DD-LSTM, the result is poor. The reason will be discussed later.

#### 2.4.5. 3D London South Bank University

When writing the LSTM and DD functions, I made the software flexible so that it can be directly used for 3D modelling as well as 2D. After changing the basic setting in DIAMOND, we can train the LSTM and GPR to learn about the features of this 3D model. The major difference is that this 3D problem has a large memory footprint because there are 670975 nodes and three velocity compo-

nents ( $u, v, w$ ). I ran this problem on a high powered workstation. See the 3D mesh in figures 23, 24.

After setting up the workstation, I started by using the same configuration as the 2D problem to solve the 3D London South Bank University test case. We solve for 10 POD coefficients at each time step by using this configuration. To visualise the flow features I used a cut a plane which is perpendicular to the  $z$ -axis, at  $z = 10$  metres and plot the first four basis functions, see figures 25,26,27,28.

Looking at the figure 29 we see that the area with higher activity has more nodes within it.

The training of the model on a CPU is rapid for both LSTM and GPR. However, writing

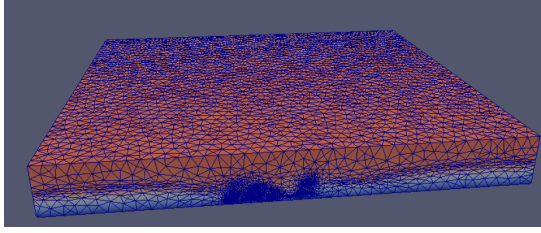


Figure 23: A view of the 3D mesh from outside of the model

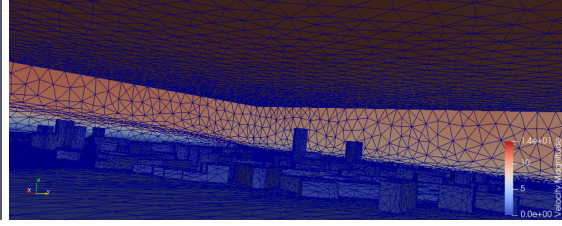


Figure 24: A view of the 3D mesh from inside of the model

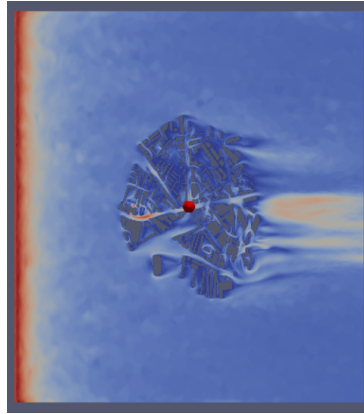


Figure 25: First basis function on a cut plane at  $z = 10$

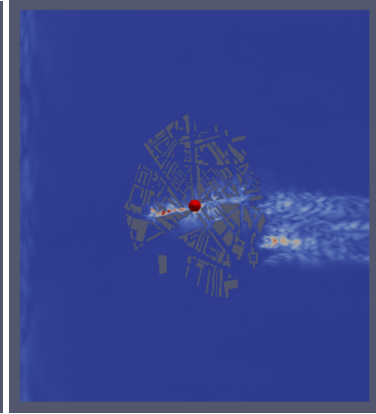


Figure 26: 2nd basis function on a cut plane at  $z = 10$

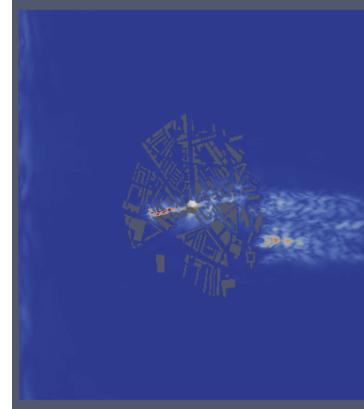


Figure 27: 3rd basis function on a cut plane at  $z = 10$

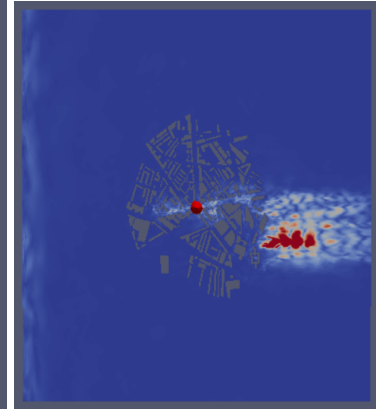


Figure 28: 4th basis function on a cut plane at  $z = 10$

the output files to disc takes considerable wall clock time due to the large numbers of nodes within the mesh. To obtain better accuracy of the method one can use more POD coefficients, see section 4.

### 3. Code metadata

#### 3.1. Developing environment and setting up a problem

In this section the commands to install these package are listed, see also Table 1 for

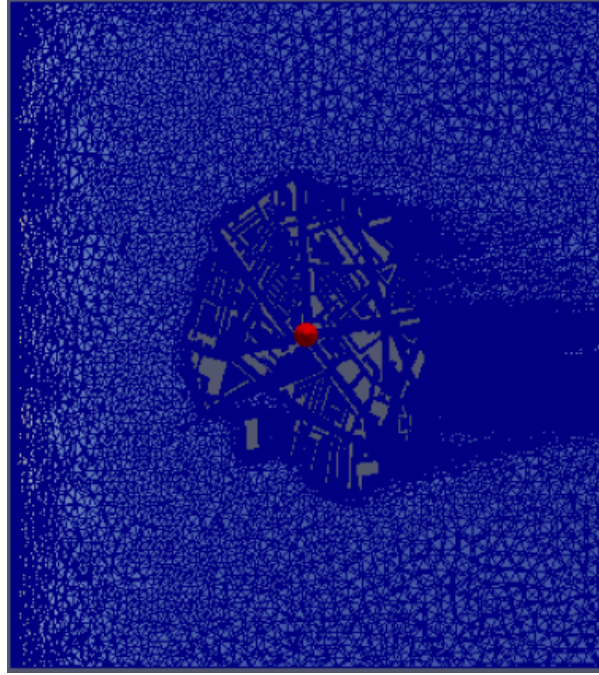


Figure 29: Mesh of 3D problem in a cut plane with  $Z = 10$

Code metadata description	Information
Permanent link to github repository used for this code version	<a href="https://github.com/msc-acse/acse-9-independent-research-project-Wade003.git">https://github.com/msc-acse/acse-9-independent-research-project-Wade003.git</a>
Legal Code License	MIT License
Code versioning system used	none
Software code languages, tools, and services used	python, fortran, cpp
Compilation requirements, operating environments & dependencies	Linux [37], python [38], numpy [39], sklearn [40], keras [41], tensorflow [42], pytorch [43], IC-first, Opal-spud
SSH remote computer HOST NAME (for 3D)	ese-theos.ese.ic.ac.uk
Support email for questions	ys8718@ic.ac.uk

Table 1: Code metadata

the meta data used. After setting up the Linux system, run these commands in the terminal:

```
pip install -U numpy
pip install sklearn
```

```
pip install keras
```

```
pip install tensorflow
```



```
pip install torch==1.2.0+cpu
torchvision == 0.4.0+cpu -f
https://download.pytorch.org/
whl/torch_stable.html
```

```
export PYTHONPATH ='/[PATH_TO_IC-
ferst]/python:$PYTHONPATH'
```

```
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=${
LD_LIBRARY_PATH}:/[
PATH_TO_Opal]/spud
```

```
export PATH="/[PATH_TO_Opal]/spud
:$PATH"
```

To run a 2D test case, you need to go to the directory in *Opal/test/LSTM\_fpc*. In this directory, make sure there are a folder called snapshots, which has the original data from the HFM. Then change the configuration if you want to. You can change the setting in the DIAMOND GUI user interface:

```
diamond -s ../software/Opal/
schemas/opal.rng fpc_nirom.
opal
```

For the configuration of 2D problem, the best default settings are given where possible. The user can change nPOD in field\_name(Velocity) in svd\_type in compression. Having too many or too few POD coefficients will affect the performance.

Another setting that could be changed is the training method from LSTM to GPR. When using GPR, further settings are required - the scaling bounds are  $[0, 10]$ . The value of the constant kernel function is 1 and its bounds are  $[10^{-3}, 10^3]$ . The Radial Basis Function (RBF) length scale is 100 and the RBF lengthscale bounds are  $[10^{-2}, 10^2]$ . Type Ctrl + s to save your settings.

To run the model, you should enter the following commands in the terminal:

```
python2 ../software/Opal/opal.py
fpc_nirom.opal
```

When it finishes, enter "paraview" in the command line to see the result. After opening the paraview, open the nirom\_replication.vtu files, that would be the prediction of LSTM and the replication of GPR. Click apply, and click a dropbox showing solid colour, switch that to velocity. Then click a button to go to the second snapshots, click the re-scale button so you can see the result in reasonable colour. Then you can click play button to see the whole animation.

If you want to run a DD test case, make sure you change both the method in compression and training to the DD method. In compression, you should use the dd\_eigh method and in training, I recommend you to use the DD GPR method. You are free to choose the number of subdomains. However, the number of subdomains is restricted to powers of 2 i.e enter an  $n$ th power of 2. Avoid using a large value for  $n$  (e.g.  $\geq 100$ ) which would lead to the number of nodes being too small for subdomains.

For 3D problems, the data is large and it can be challenging to visualise the results in paraview. The total time for testing a 3D problem is more than 3 hours and a powerful workstation is required. For the 3D DD problem, it is even more demanding.

## 4. Implementation

### 4.1. Simulation capabilities

For a different test case, the simulation capacity is different. The 1D test case is only capable of a fixed 1D problem, as the code of that is hard-wired. For 2D and 3D test case, the code is general and flexible, and can be applied to any given test case. The performance will be affected by the configuration,



such as the number of POD coefficients used or the method of prediction chosen.

#### 4.2. Investigated test cases

As is discussed in Part 2 Software Development Life Cycle, there are many test cases in this project, for 1D, 2D and 3D, with and without DD. In this section, I describe how I obtained the results and analyze them.

The functions and associated coefficients used in the machine learning problems are coming from torch[44]:

- Loss function: Mean square loss (Using torch.nn.MSELoss)
- Learning rate: 0.02
- Optimizer: Adam (Using torch.optim.Adam)

##### 4.2.1. Determining the subdomains

When splitting the domain into subdomains, the weight of each node will affect the division. The weight of a node is determined by the nodal Reynolds stresses, see [2]. The equation for calculating the weight of node  $i$  is:

$$\lambda_i^{max} = \frac{1}{\beta} \ln \left( \frac{\tau_i^{max}}{\alpha} + 1 \right), \quad (7)$$

where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are scalars,  $\alpha = 0.05$ ,  $\beta = 0.0019183$ ,  $\lambda_i^{max}$  is the weight of node  $i$ ,  $\tau_i^{max}$  is the maximum value in the Reynolds stress tensor associated with node  $i$ .

Using the weights in equation (7) the subdomain partitioning balances, in some sense, the load (ie. the complexity of the physics) associated within each subdomain as well as minimizing the activity between the subdomains, see [2].

##### 4.2.2. 1D square wave test case

The result for 1D square wave predicting by LSTM is qualitatively good. Using different hidden neuron sizes leads to differences in accuracy. However, as long as the number of hidden neurons is not greater than the number of inputs – in this case the number of cells used to represent the 1D wave – then the results are also good.

For the 1D LSTM, during the training, I visualize the predictions made by the LSTM at each time step so that I can generate a real time animation that shows the accuracy of the LSTM. This is implemented using functions in matplotlib.pyplot(), such as plt.ion(), plt.draw(), plt.pause(0.5) and plt.clf(). From this visualization it was observed that the training for the 1D DD-LSTM was quantitatively good, see figure 7.

##### 4.2.3. 2D flow past a cylinder test case

The LSTM in Opal adapts its structure according to the given number of POD coefficients used. It adjusts the hidden layer size by setting the number of neurons in the only hidden layer to equal the number of POD coefficients.

A new function for compression is developed for DD problems. It is based on a global POD method, but using a data structure which is suitable for DD snapshots, to reduce the dimensionality in each subdomain. The new method can transfer the DD's POD coefficients back to the HFM.

The result for flow past a cylinder using LSTM is quantitatively good. Comparing the LSTM result with the original data they are visually identical. The GPR results, using the same number of POD coefficients, is also shown. See figures 30, 31, 32.

For comparison, here I also put the result for DD-LSTM and DD-GPR in figures 33, 34.



Figure 30: The velocity magnitude of HFM (Use this as the standard)



Figure 31: The velocity magnitude of the prediction by LSTM



Figure 32: The velocity magnitude of the replication by GPR



Figure 33: The velocity magnitude of the prediction by DD-LSTM



Figure 34: The velocity magnitude of the prediction by DD-GPR

The result from the DD-LSTM is not so accurate. The reason for this is that LSTM is a

neural network base on time series data and every input for LSTM will influence the inner

memory of the LSTM. As is discussed above, our LSTM for each subdomain not only takes inputs for one time but several times during an iterative process. Several possible ways of solving this problem have been investigated. The first potential solution is to store the LSTM for each subdomain temporarily at the beginning of each time step. This is used every iteration in order to find a solution that is converged through all the subdomains. Once a solution has been achieved then the LSTM is allowed to have its internal memory updated. By doing this, the convergence of the predicting result for each local iteration is improved. In the last step iteration, use the prediction made by the original LSTM as the input for the temporarily LSTM. By doing this, the inner state of LSTM is only updated once the DD iteration has converged and the time step can be performed, see result in figure 35.

The prediction result of the global LSTM is relatively good.

Using more POD coefficients will not necessarily lead to better prediction result for LSTM because of increased errors associated with high dimensional hypersurface fitting using say GPR or LSTM. The result with 10, 20, 50, 100 POD coefficient are shown in figures 36, 37, 38, 39, 40.

#### 4.2.4. 3D London South Bank University test case

This section demonstrates the ability of DDNIROM using a test case in the London South Bank University (LSBU) area, shown in Figure 23. The computational domain has a size of  $[0, 2041] \times [0, 2288] \times [0, 250]$  (meters). The incoming-eddy boundary condition method uses the settings from [2].

In this case, the streamwise direction corresponds to a westerly wind direction. The

high-fidelity solutions were obtained by running, in parallel, Fluidity, see [2].

The high fidelity model was run with adaptivity for one hour of real time simulation to initialise the problem. After this initialisation stage, the adaptivity was switched off so the mesh is now fixed (but still unstructured, 670,975 nodes) and the simulation continues for 1680 s with a time-step size of 4/3 s. During this time snapshots were taken every 4 seconds, in total generating 420 snapshots. The DDNIROM was trained with these 420 snapshots.

The result of LSTM's prediction and GPR's replication of snapshot results is shown in the figures 41, 42, 43. The results are shown on a plane perpendicular to the  $z$ -axis, with  $z = 10$ . Using the snapshots from the 100th time level equivalent to 400 seconds, see figures 41, 42, 43.

The complexity of the dynamics of this 3D problem involving turbulent and chaotic flows means that the use of 10 POD coefficients is not enough to capture all the turbulent fluctuations.

The result with more POD coefficients seems better but is still losing detail of the flow information. So without using LSTM or GPR to train the model, I directly generate the snapshots from the compressed variables, see figures 44, 45 to see that the POD results have lost much of the detail in the flow although the basic features are present.

## 5. Discussion & Conclusions

### 5.1. Strengths and limitations

For reduced order modelling, the two key factors are accuracy and speed. To gain higher accuracy generally need longer time, and the objective is to use a shorter time to increase as much accuracy as possible.



Figure 35: Storing the state of LSTMs to implement DD-LSTM

Method	Offline Calculation Time
IC-Ferst calculate	30 min
LSTM	10 s
GPR	25 min
DD-LSTM	35 s
DD-GPR	1 h 25 min

Table 2: Running time using different training method with 10 POD coefficients



Figure 36: The velocity magnitude of HFM (Use this as the standard)



Figure 37: LSTM prediction with 10 POD basis functions and global LSTM.



Figure 38: LSTM prediction with 20 POD basis functions and global LSTM.

The accuracy will be affected by two processes, compression and prediction/replica-

tion. Here, we fix the number of POD basis functions so we effectively fix the accuracy



Figure 39: LSTM prediction with 50 POD basis functions and global LSTM.

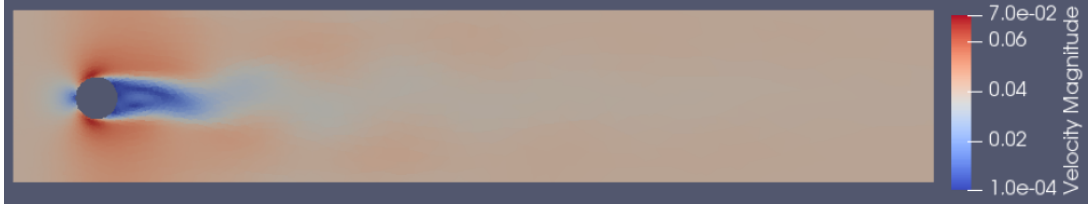


Figure 40: LSTM prediction with 100 POD basis functions and global LSTM.

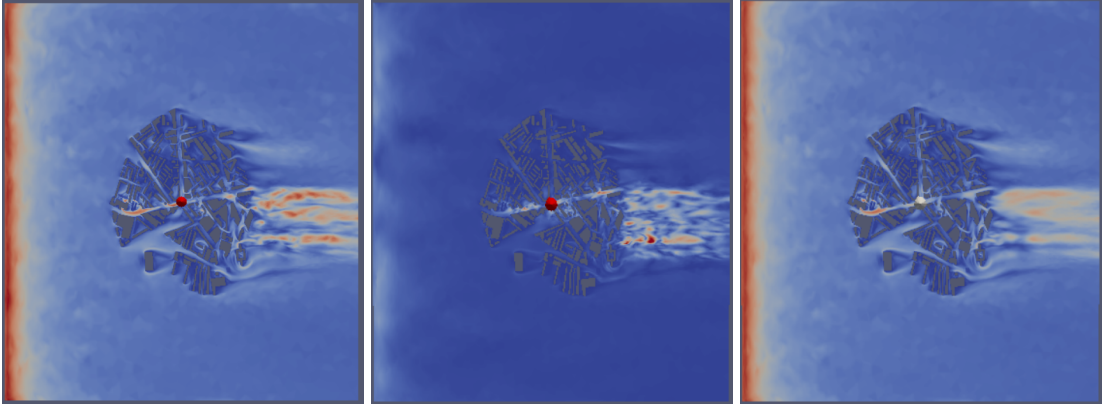


Figure 41: HFM of 3D test case

Figure 42: Prediction by LSTM for 3D test case

Figure 43: Replication by GPR for 3D test case

of the compression part of the error and we can thus focus on the prediction error. For prediction, using LSTM as a training method has the fastest speed. Training is normally achieved in less than 10 seconds which is very much quicker than for the GPR. If one looks at the prediction using LSTM what one observes is that after several time steps the prediction becomes very similar to that of the high fidelity model. The accuracy for GPR is generally better than LSTM in the short term, but longer simulations seem to favour LSTM,

so both methods are competitive. A drawback of GPR is its lengthy training times.

There are issues with the internal memory of the LSTM when using DD which makes it difficult to obtain good results. If this could be solved, it could give better accuracy than global LSTM. However, DD-GPR gives the best accuracy for short term prediction at a cost of considerable offline training times.

Using increased numbers of POD coefficients increases the accuracy of the compression of the velocity variables. However, in-

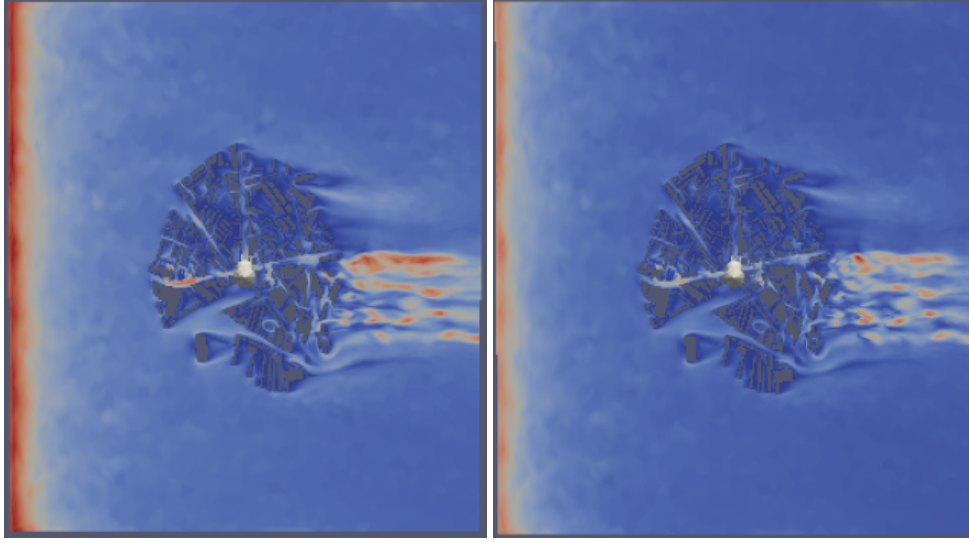


Figure 44: 3D test case original data at a cut plane

Figure 45: 3D test case recovering after being compressed by POD at a cut plane

creasing the number of POD coefficients does not necessarily increase the accuracy of the simulations, as the GPR or LSTM has then to form a hypersurface with increased number of dimensions which is difficult to form an accurate representation of. For example, in the 2D flow past a cylinder test case, using 10 POD coefficients provided the best result, using fewer or more POD coefficients leads to reduced accuracy in global GPR or LSTM. Moreover the DD-LSTM or DD-GPR has an advantage here, as the problem is broken down into a series of small (in dimension) hypersurfaces with potentially greater accuracy in the resulting models.

When using LSTM, the number of time levels of the compressed solution variables that are used as inputs into the LSTM in order to predict the future time level should be explored. In the 2D flow past a cylinder problem using 3 previous time levels resulted in the best performance. There is no direct way of picking the number of time levels other than trial and error. The GPR uses only one previ-

ous time level as its input to predict the compressed solution at the next time level.

There are three major limitations for the GPR- and LSTM-based NIROMs developed here: 1) First, for compression, POD is a linear compression method, so it may not be able to capture many of the nonlinear flow features of the Navier-Stokes equations. Using a compressing method than is capable of retaining nonlinear features will be helpful e.g. an auto-encoder. 2) There are internal memory issues associated with the LSTM which make it problematic for use with DD methods. 3) The domain decomposition method with GPR is computationally expensive and does not have speed advantage over the global method.

## 5.2. Conclusions:

Using ROM for fluid flow problems will effectively speed up the prediction process. LSTM's offline training has the advantage in speed. In low dimensional problems, using more POD coefficients will not guarantee better prediction performance; using an appro-

priate number of POD coefficients will make the prediction more accurate. Both LSTM and GPR can learn the features of fluid flow in reduced space.

### 5.3. Future work:

1) For compression, it is suggested that the POD method may be replaced by more powerful nonlinear compression methods such as auto-encoders which may be able to capture more details of highly nonlinear fluid flow problems.

2) For DD-LSTM, it may be a good idea to perform the domain decomposition iterations while avoiding updating the internal memory of LSTM. Once this iteration has converged then the memory can be updated and the time step advanced.

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