



**POLITECNICO**  
MILANO 1863



**SU2**  
code

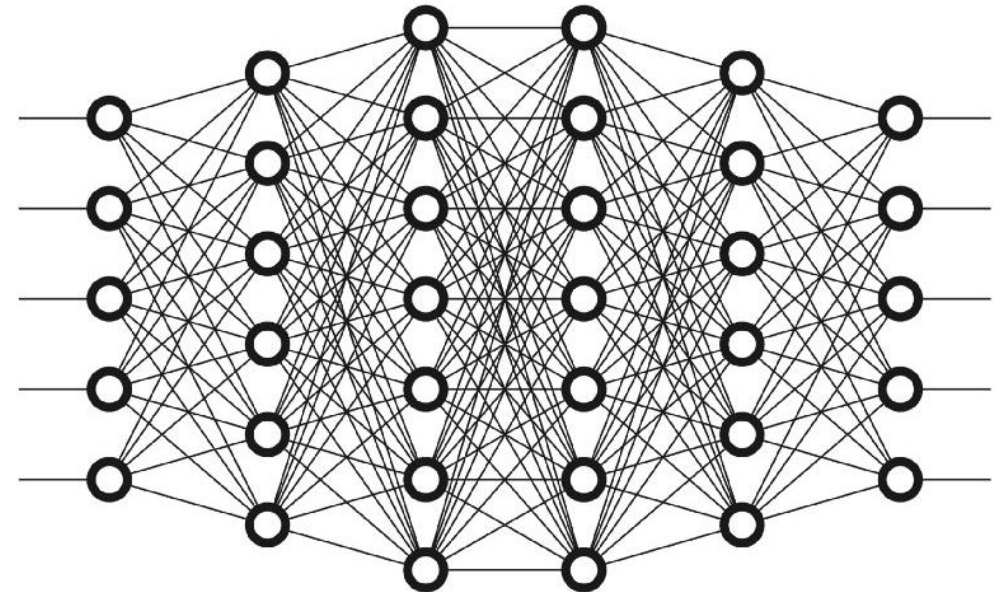
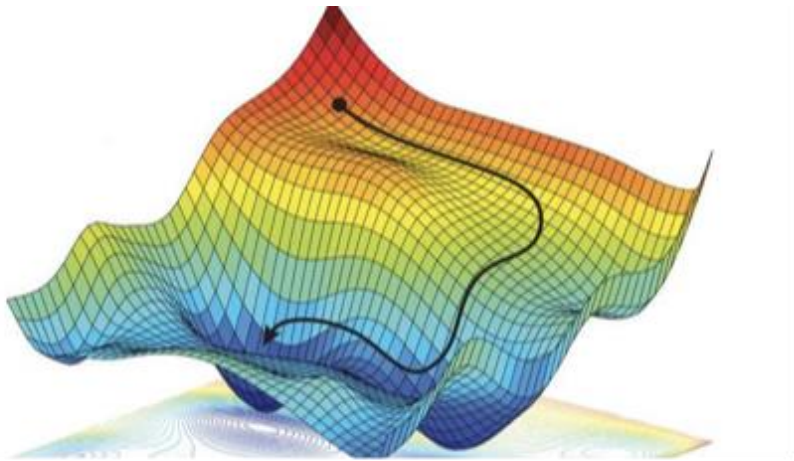
# SHAPE OPTIMIZATION BASED ON DISCRETE ADJOINT

CFD Course, 27 November 2023

Luca Abergo, Prof. Barbara Re

# INTRODUCTION

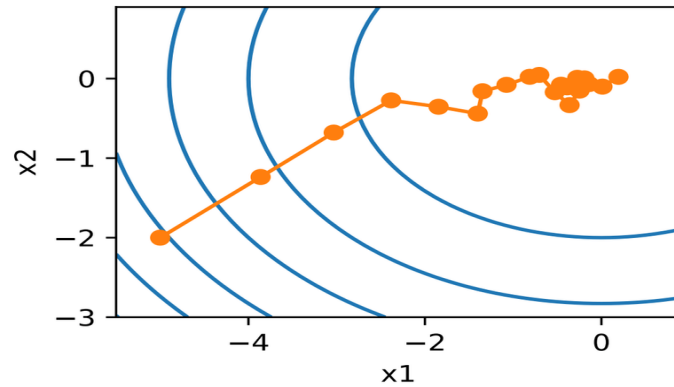
**Target:**  
Automatic Shape Optimization/Design of Aero Surfaces



**TWO MAJOR CATEGORIES  
CAN YOU NAME THEM?**

# INTRODUCTION

## GRADIENT BASED



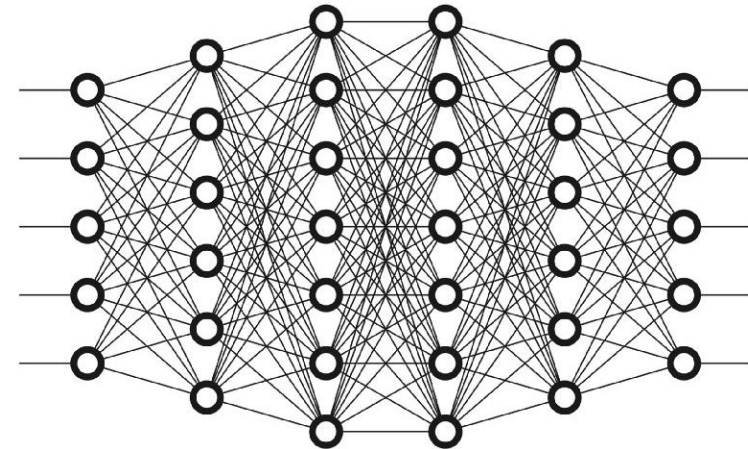
$$\alpha_{n+1} = \alpha_n - \frac{J(n)}{Jacobian(n)}$$

- Sequential Quadratic Programming
  - Stochastic Gradient Descent

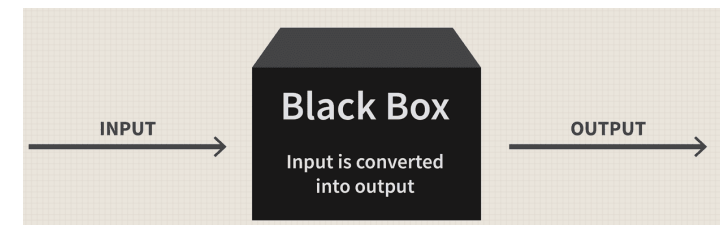
The derivative of the Objective Function is needed

There is more physics

## BLACK BOX APPROACH



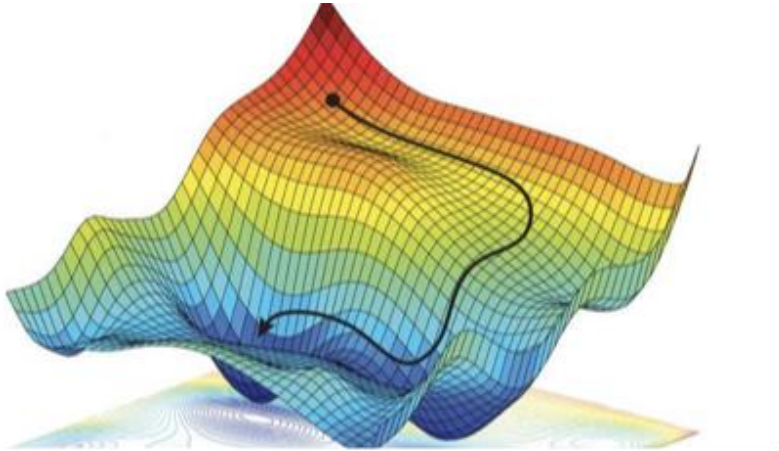
- Deep Learning
- Bayesian-RBF
- Genetic Algo
- Physics informed ML





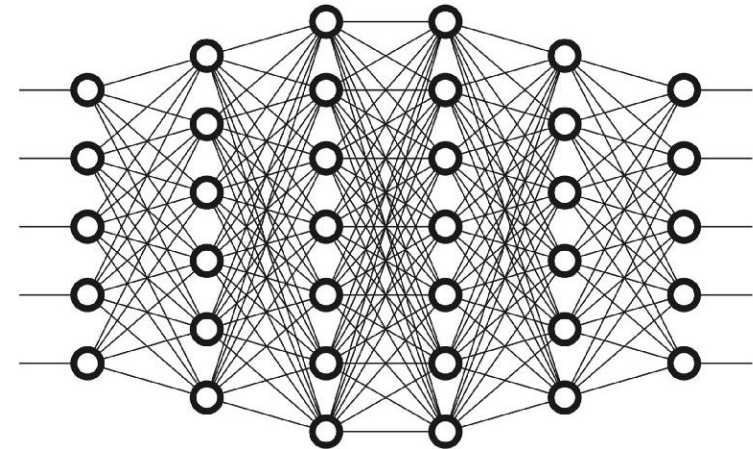
# INTRODUCTION

## GRADIENT BASED



- Scales better with the number of DV
- We need to obtain first (second) derivative
  - Get stuck in local minimum
- Used in the last stages of a design

## BLACK BOX APPROACH



- Easier to implement
  - Less DV but Higher Range
- Difficult to insert physics constraints
- Can be used in first stages of a design

# OPTIMIZATION PROBLEM

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min_{\alpha} & J(U(\alpha), X(\alpha)) \\ \text{subject to} & U(\alpha) = G(U(\alpha), X(\alpha)) \\ & X(\alpha) = M(\alpha). \end{array}$$

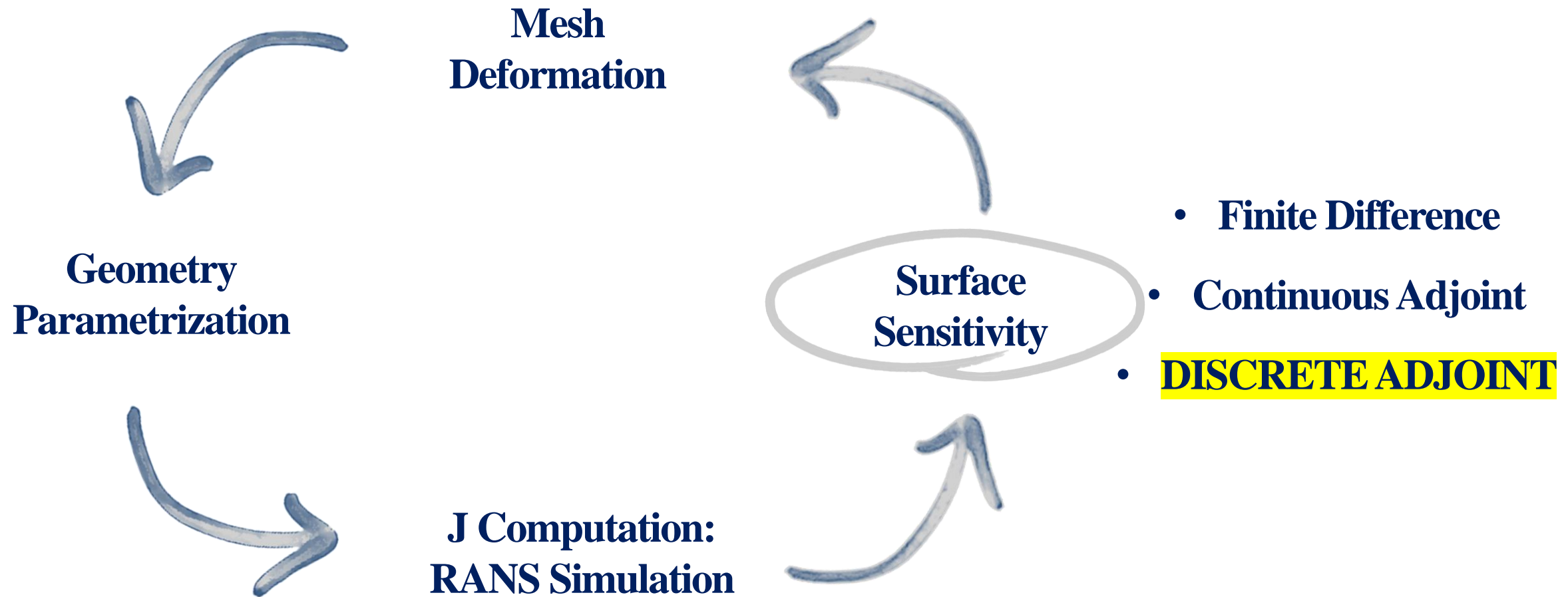
+ Geometrical Constraints

**Where:**

- $J$  = Objective Function
- $\alpha$  = Design Variables: ffd-box
- $U$  = Flow Variables
- $X$  = Mesh

**J can be anything that we can calculate from the flow solution:  
drag, lift, thrust, noise, pressure drop....**

# OPTIMIZATION CHAIN

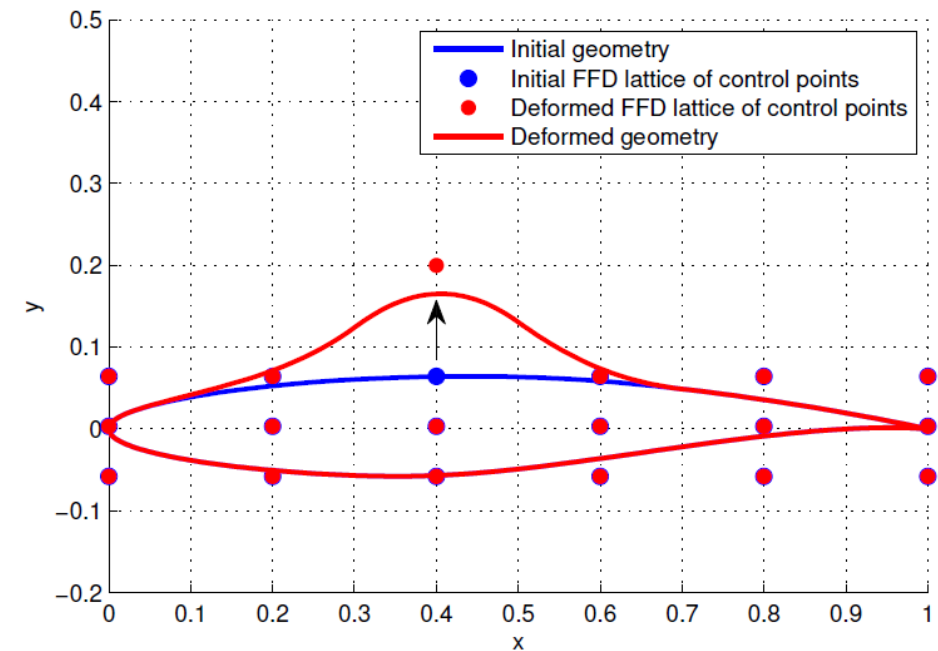
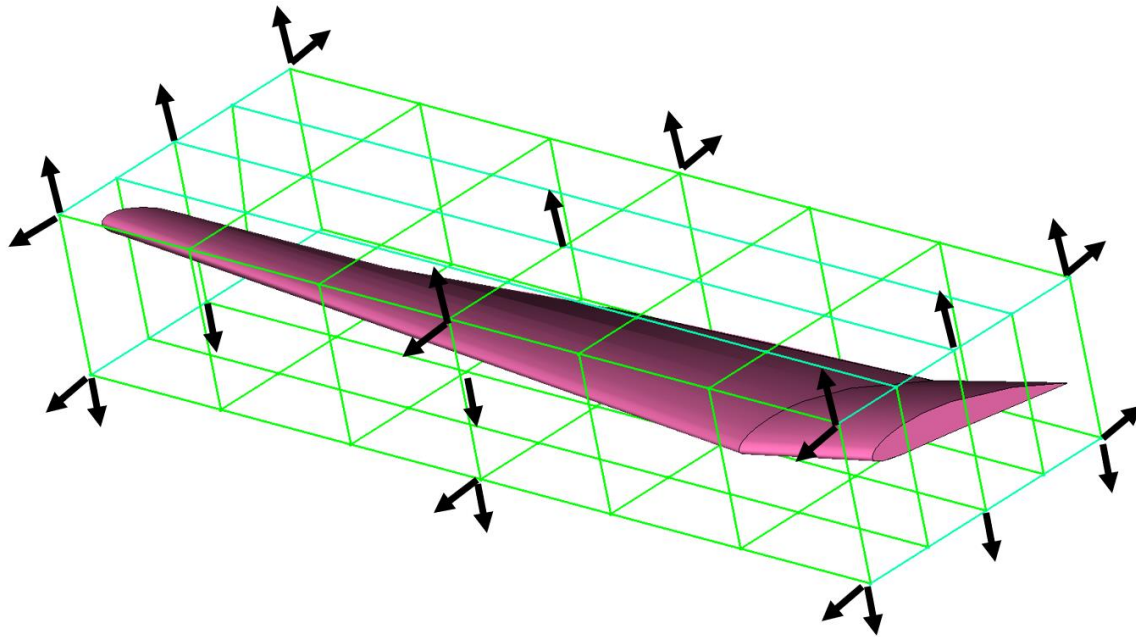


## FREE FORM DEFORMATION

Plastic Box

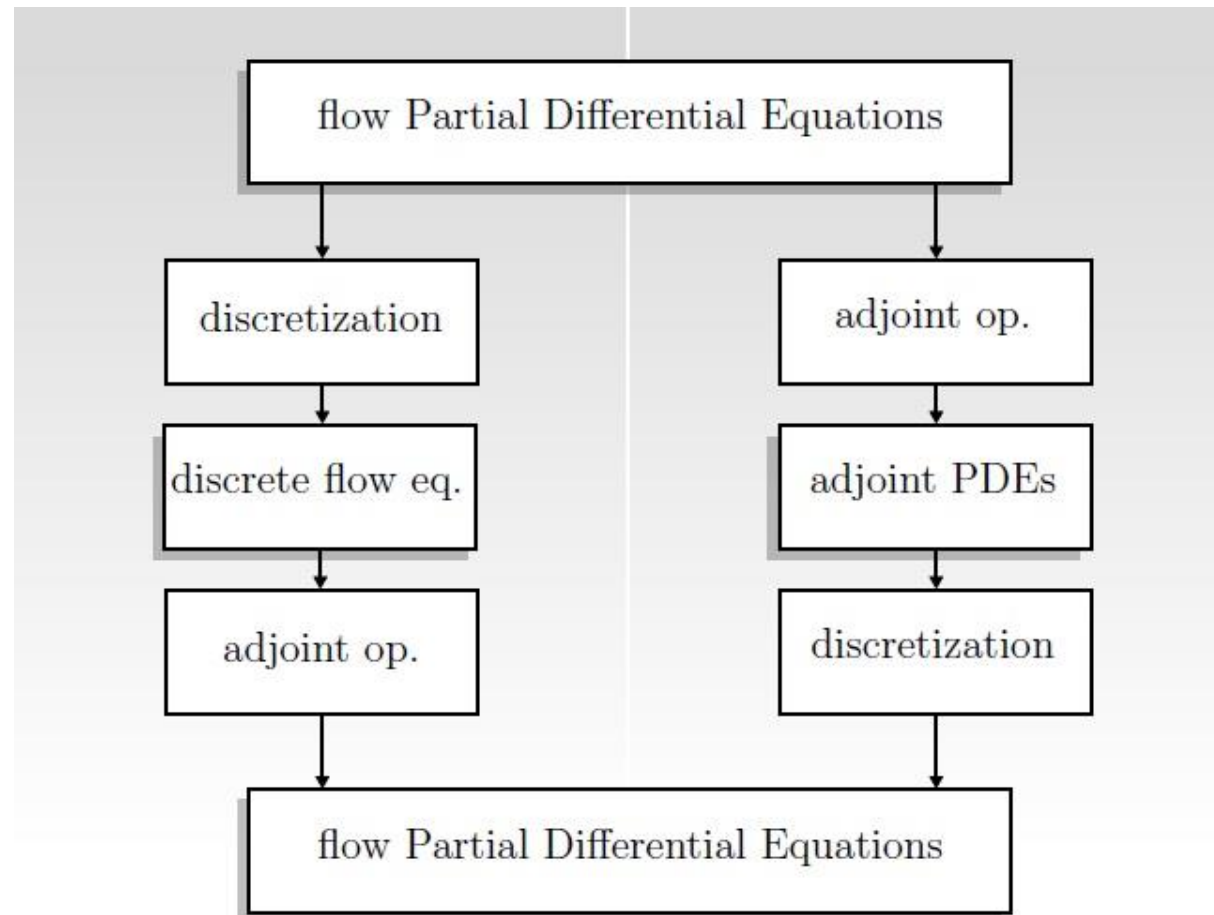
Interpolation method

$L \times M \times K$  sub-control volume



THE POSITION OF THE VERTICES OF THE FFD BOX ARE THE DESIGN VARIABLES

# CONTINUOS VS DISCRETE ADJOINT





## C. The Continuous Adjoint Equations

Eqn. 20 can now be introduced into Eqn. 12 to produce

$$\begin{aligned} \delta \mathcal{J} = \delta J + \frac{1}{\mathbb{T}} \int_{t_o}^{t_f} \int_{\Omega} \Psi^T \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\delta U) d\Omega dt + \frac{1}{\mathbb{T}} \int_{t_o}^{t_f} \int_{\Omega} \Psi^T \nabla \cdot \left( \vec{A}^c - \bar{\bar{I}} \vec{u}_{\Omega} - \mu_{tot}^k \vec{A}^{vk} \right) \delta U d\Omega dt \\ - \frac{1}{\mathbb{T}} \int_{t_o}^{t_f} \int_{\Omega} \Psi^T \nabla \cdot \mu_{tot}^k \bar{\bar{D}}^{vk} \delta(\nabla U) d\Omega dt - \frac{1}{\mathbb{T}} \int_{t_o}^{t_f} \int_{\Omega} \Psi^T \frac{\partial \mathcal{Q}}{\partial U} \delta U d\Omega dt. \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

**FROZEN  
TURBULENCE  
ASSUMPTION**

Consider a perturbation to the flow equations while assuming constant, or frozen, viscosity, ( $\delta \mu_{tot}^k = 0$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} \delta \mathcal{R}(U, \nabla U) &= \delta \left[ \frac{\partial U}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \vec{F}_{alc}^c - \nabla \cdot \mu_{tot}^k \vec{F}^{vk} - \mathcal{Q} \right] \\ &= \delta \left[ \frac{\partial U}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \vec{F}^c - \nabla \cdot (U \otimes \vec{u}_{\Omega}) - \nabla \cdot \mu_{tot}^k \vec{F}^{vk} - \mathcal{Q} \right] \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\delta U) + \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{\partial \vec{F}^c}{\partial U} \delta U \right) - \nabla \cdot \left[ \frac{\partial (U \otimes \vec{u}_{\Omega})}{\partial U} \delta U \right] - \nabla \cdot \mu_{tot}^k \left[ \frac{\partial \vec{F}^{vk}}{\partial U} \delta U + \frac{\partial \vec{F}^{vk}}{\partial (\nabla U)} \delta(\nabla U) \right] - \frac{\partial \mathcal{Q}}{\partial U} \delta U \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\delta U) + \nabla \cdot \left( \vec{A}^c - \bar{\bar{I}} \vec{u}_{\Omega} - \mu_{tot}^k \vec{A}^{vk} \right) \delta U - \nabla \cdot \mu_{tot}^k \bar{\bar{D}}^{vk} \delta(\nabla U) - \frac{\partial \mathcal{Q}}{\partial U} \delta U, \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

where

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \vec{A}^c &= (A_x^c, A_y^c, A_z^c), & A_i^c &= \frac{\partial \vec{F}_i^c}{\partial U} \Big|_{U(x,y,z)} \\ \vec{A}^{vk} &= (A_x^{vk}, A_y^{vk}, A_z^{vk}), & A_i^{vk} &= \frac{\partial \vec{F}_i^{vk}}{\partial U} \Big|_{U(x,y,z)} \\ \bar{\bar{D}}^{vk} &= \begin{pmatrix} D_{xx}^{vk} & D_{xy}^{vk} & D_{xz}^{vk} \\ D_{yx}^{vk} & D_{yy}^{vk} & D_{yz}^{vk} \\ D_{zx}^{vk} & D_{zy}^{vk} & D_{zz}^{vk} \end{pmatrix}, & D_{ij}^{vk} &= \frac{\partial \vec{F}_i^{vk}}{\partial (\partial_j U)} \Big|_{U(x,y,z)} \end{aligned} \right\} \quad i, j = 1 \dots 3, \quad k = 1, 2, \quad (19)$$

# DISCRETE ADJOINT

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\alpha} \quad & J(U(\alpha), X(\alpha)) \\ \text{subject to} \quad & U(\alpha) = G(U(\alpha), X(\alpha)) \\ & X(\alpha) = M(\alpha). \end{aligned}$$

## LAGRANGE EXPRESSION

$$L(\alpha, U, X, \Delta_f, \Lambda_g) = J(U, X, \alpha) + [G(U, X) - U]^T \Lambda_f + [M(\alpha) - X]^T \Lambda_g$$

## DIFFERENTIATION

$$\frac{dL}{d\alpha} = \frac{dJ}{d\alpha} + \left[ \frac{\partial U}{\partial \alpha} \right]^T \left\{ \frac{\partial J^T}{\partial U} + \frac{\partial G^T}{\partial U} \Lambda_f - \Lambda_f \right\} + \left[ \frac{\partial X}{\partial \alpha} \right]^T \left\{ \frac{\partial J^T}{\partial X} + \frac{\partial G^T}{\partial X} \Lambda_f - \Lambda_g \right\} + \frac{dM^T}{d\alpha} \Lambda_g$$

## ADJOINT SYSTEM

$$\Lambda_f = \frac{\partial J^T}{\partial U} + \frac{\partial G^T}{\partial U} \Lambda_f$$

$$\Lambda_g = \frac{\partial J^T}{\partial X} + \frac{\partial G^T}{\partial X} \Lambda_f$$

**LET'S GIVE A  
NAME TO EACH TERM**

$$\frac{dL^T}{d\alpha} = \frac{dJ^T}{d\alpha} = \frac{dM(\alpha)^T}{d\alpha} \Lambda_g.$$

# AUTOMATIC DIFFERENTIATION

Every complex code in the end is just a long sequence of simple operations

$$f(x) = Q_m \circ \Phi_l \circ \Phi_{l-1} \circ \dots \circ \Phi_2 \circ \Phi_1 \circ P_n^T(x),$$

The sequence of simple operations is registered,  
We know the first order derivative of each of them  
The chain rule is applied

$$w = ((a + b) * (c - d))^2$$

$$t_1 = a + b$$

$$t_2 = c - d$$

$$t_3 = t_1 * t_2$$

$$w = t_3^2.$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[ (f(x))^n \right] = n(f(x))^{n-1} \cdot f'(x)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} [f(g(x))] = f'(g(x))g'(x)$$

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} = Q_m A_l A_{l-1} \dots A_2 A_1 P_n^T.$$

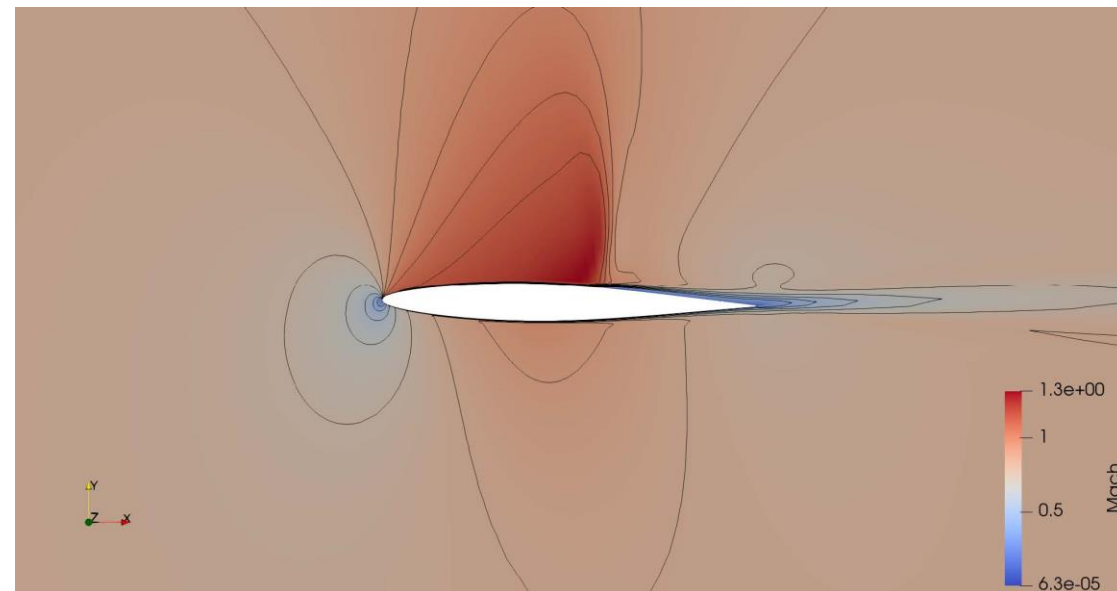
# TRANSONIC AIRFOIL OPTIMIZATION

Freestream conditions:

- $M=0.796$
- $P= 101325$
- $Re= 12.56 \text{ E}6$
- $\alpha_0 = 3^\circ$

Numerical methods:

- JST
- SA turbulence model

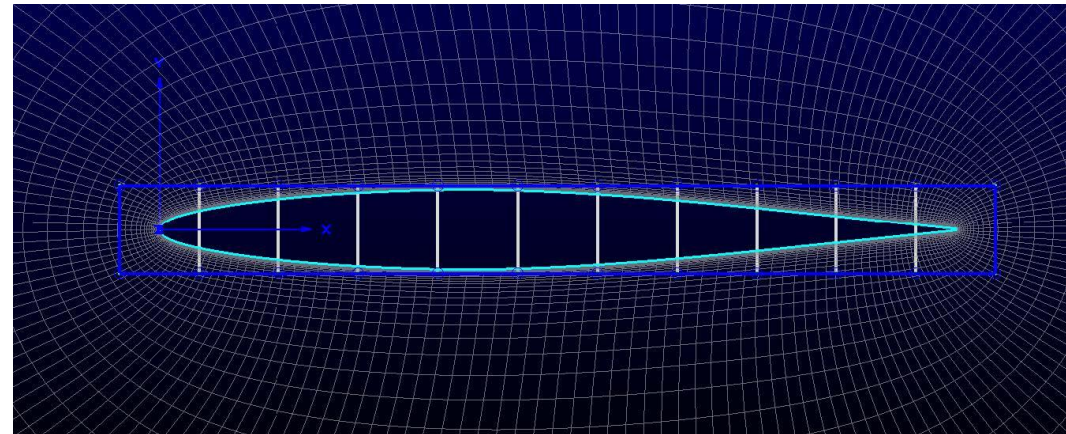


**Fig.1 Transonic NACA64A010**

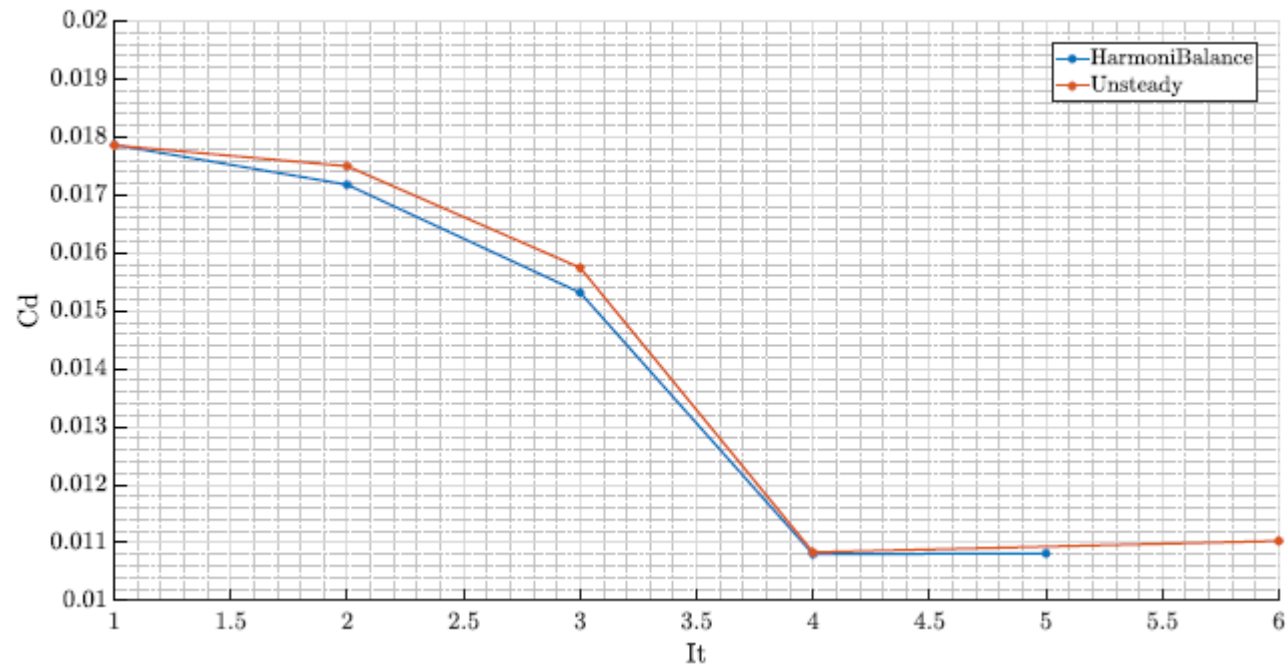


## Adjoint Optimization:

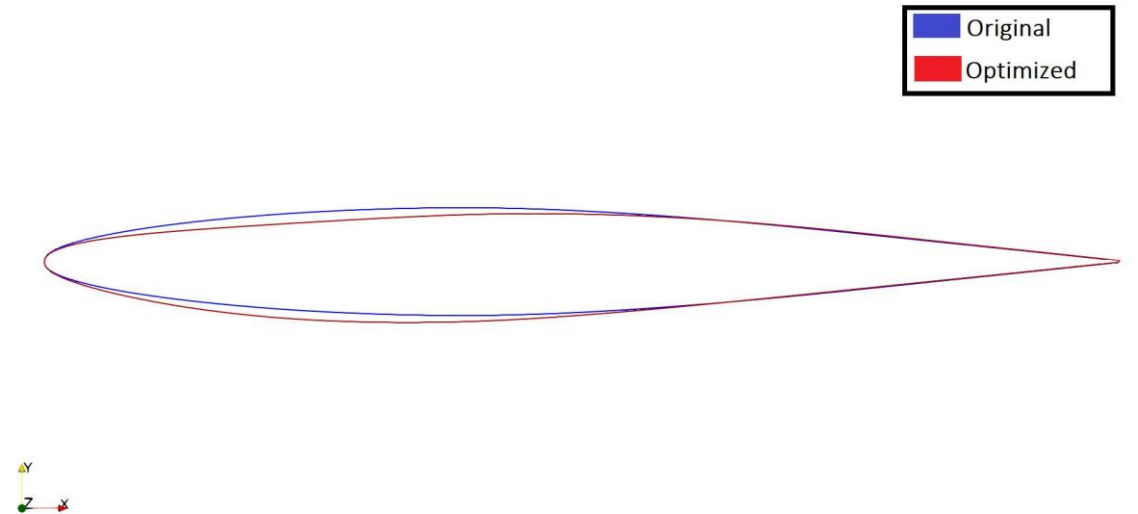
- Reduce the Drag
- Preserve the Lift
- Fixed  $\alpha_0$
- Single FFD box
- 20 DVs free in y direction
- RBF with Wendland C2



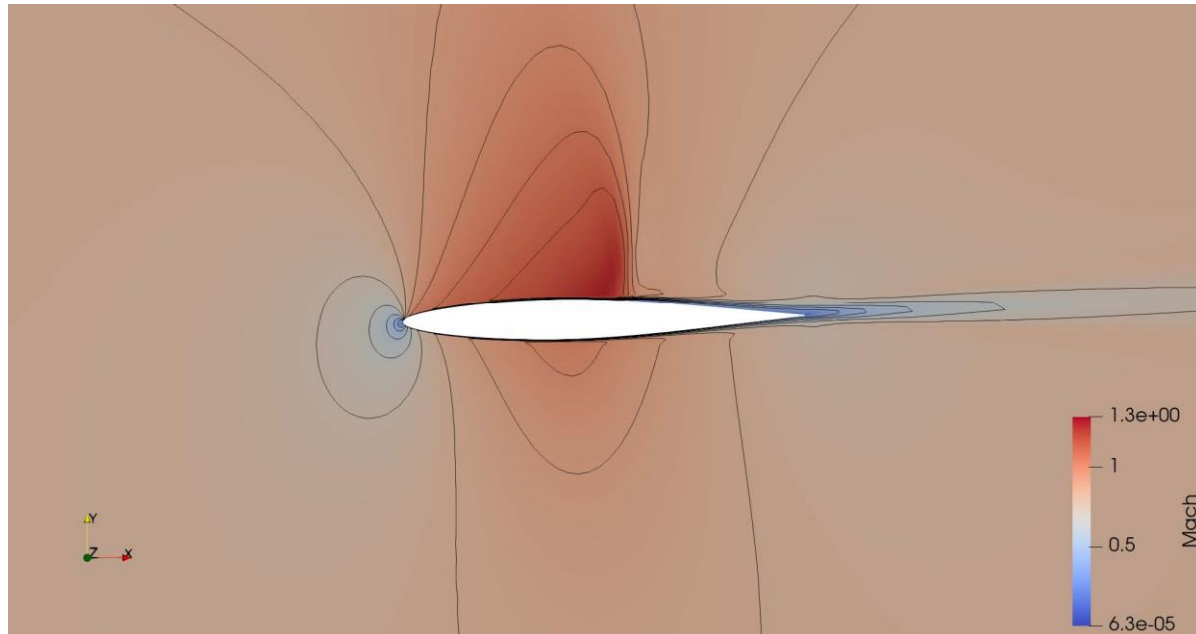
**Fig.2 Pitching airfoil: FFD-Box**



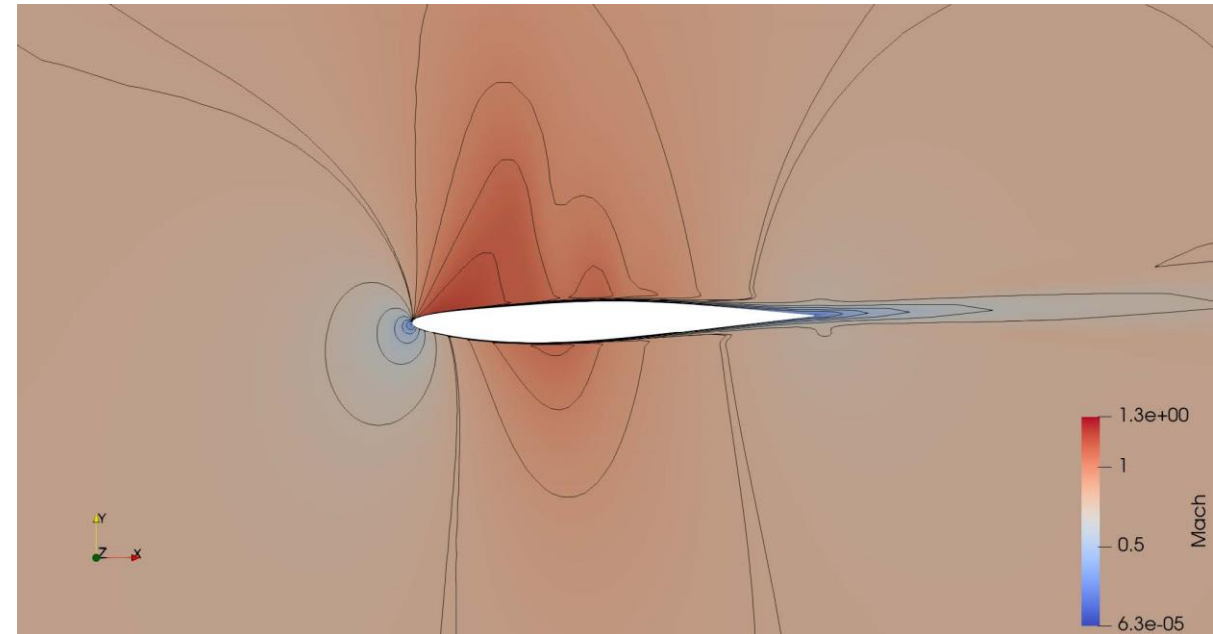
**Fig.3 Optimization history**



**Fig.4 Optimized shape**

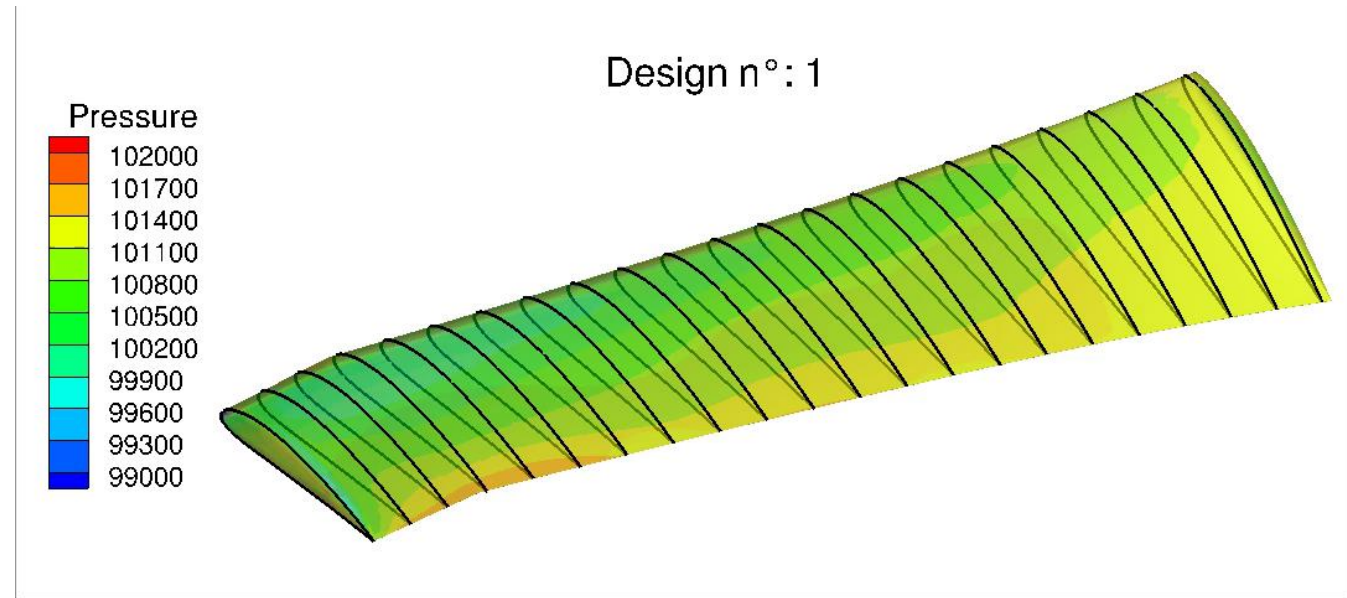


**Fig.8 Original Mach field**



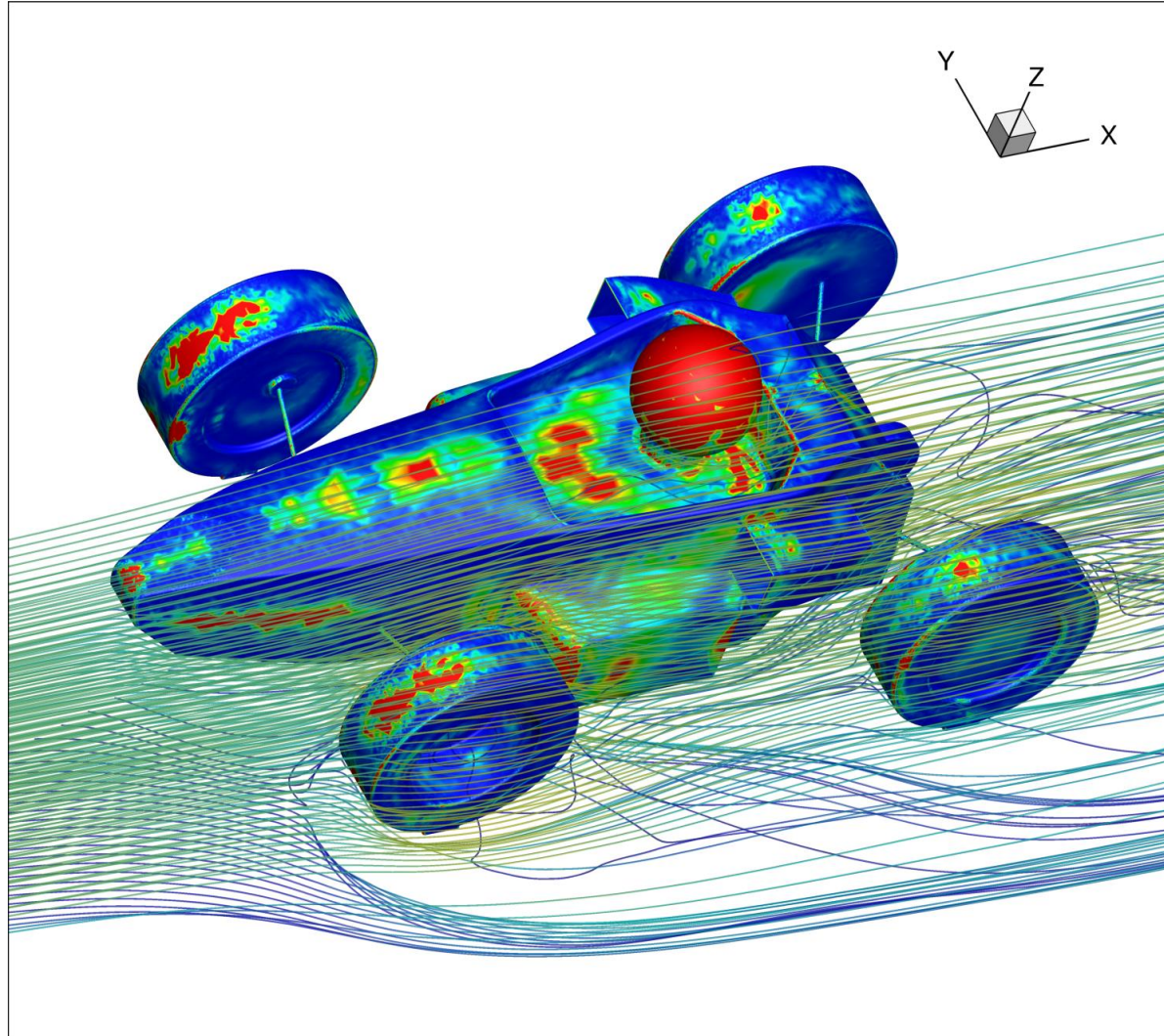
**Fig.9 Optimized Mach field**

# NOISE MINIMIZATION





# SURFACE SENSITIVITY



**WHAT MEANS  
A POSITIVE VALUE?**

**Surface sens=  $dJ/dn$**

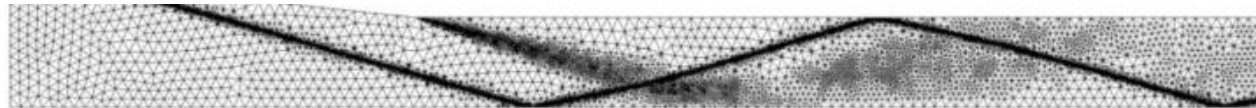


# CONCLUSIONS

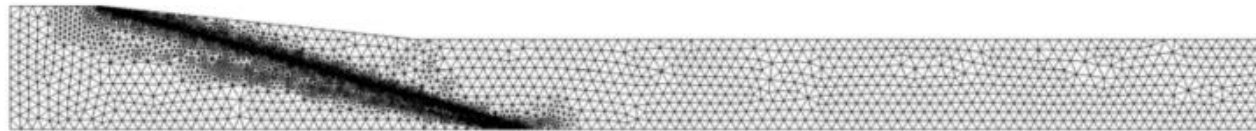
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- GRADIENT BASED
- LOCAL MINIMUM
- RESULTS DEPENDS ON THE STARTING POINT
- COST DOES NOT SCALE WITH NUMBER OF DV
- COMPUTATIONALLY EXPENSIVE
- HIGH QUALITY RESULTS FOR SEVERAL INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS
- SURFACE SENSITIVITY IS USEFULL

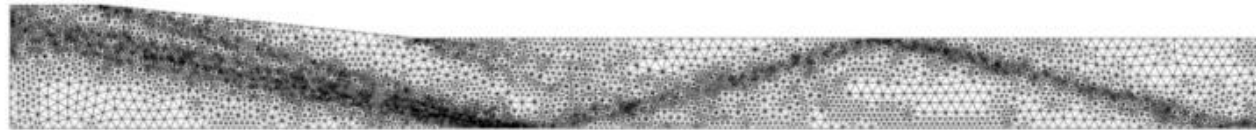
- GOAL ORIENTED MESH ADAPTATION



Gradient

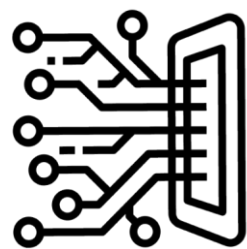


Adjoint-based



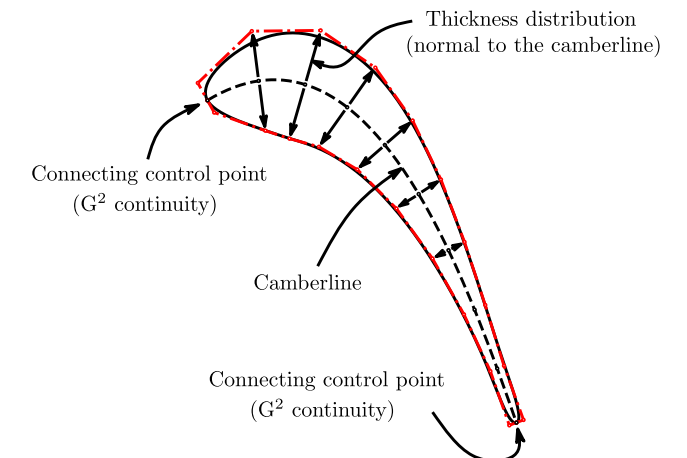
Robust

- GEOMETRIC PARAMETRIZATION



# ParaBlade

A python based blade parametrization tool



THANKS FOR THE ATTENTION



```
% ----- FREE-FORM DEFORMATION PARAMETERS ----- %
%
% Tolerance of the Free-Form Deformation point inversion
FFD_TOLERANCE= 1E-10
%
% Maximum number of iterations in the Free-Form Deformation point inversion
FFD_ITERATIONS= 100
%
% FFD box definition: 3D case (FFD_BoxTag, X1, Y1, Z1, X2, Y2, Z2, X3, Y3, Z3, X4, Y4, Z4,
%                           X5, Y5, Z5, X6, Y6, Z6, X7, Y7, Z7, X8, Y8, Z8)
%                           2D case (FFD_BoxTag, X1, Y1, 0.0, X2, Y2, 0.0, X3, Y3, 0.0, X4, Y4, 0.0,
%                           0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0)
FFD_DEFINITION= (airfoil_box, -0.01, -0.2, 0.0, 1.01, -0.2, 0.0, 1.01, 0.2, 0.0, -0.01, 0.2, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0)
%
% FFD box degree: 3D case (x_degree, y_degree, z_degree)
%                   2D case (x_degree, y_degree, 0)
FFD_DEGREE= (10, 1, 0)
%
% There is a symmetry plane (j=0) for all the FFD boxes (YES, NO)
FFD_SYMMETRY_PLANE= NO
%
% Surface grid continuity at the intersection with the faces of the FFD boxes.
% To keep a particular level of surface continuity, SU2 automatically freezes the right
% number of control point planes (NO_DERIVATIVE, 1ST_DERIVATIVE, 2ND_DERIVATIVE, USER_INPUT)
FFD_CONTINUITY= 1ST_DERIVATIVE
% ----- DESIGN VARIABLE PARAMETERS ----- %
%
% Kind of deformation (FFD_SETTING, HICKS_HENNE, HICKS_HENNE_NORMAL, PARABOLIC,
%                     HICKS_HENNE_SHOCK, NACA_4DIGITS, DISPLACEMENT, ROTATION,
%                     FFD_CONTROL_POINT, FFD_DIHEDRAL_ANGLE, FFD_TWIST_ANGLE,
%                     FFD_ROTATION)
DV_KIND= FFD_SETTING
%
% Marker of the surface in which we are going apply the shape deformation
DV_MARKER= (AIRFOIL)
%
% Parameters of the shape deformation
%   - HICKS_HENNE_FAMILY ( Lower(0)/Upper(1) side, x_Loc )
%   - NACA_4DIGITS ( 1st digit, 2nd digit, 3rd and 4th digit )
%   - PARABOLIC ( 1st digit, 2nd and 3rd digit )
%   - DISPLACEMENT ( x_Disp, y_Disp, z_Disp )
%   - ROTATION ( x_Orig, y_Orig, z_Orig, x_End, y_End, z_End )
DV_PARAM= ( airfoil_box , 1, 0, 0, 1.0, 1.0, 0.0)
%
% Mesh input file
MESH_FILENAME= mesh_original.su2
%
% Mesh input file format (SU2, CGNS, NETCDF_ASCII)
MESH_FORMAT= SU2
%
% Mesh output file
MESH_OUT_FILENAME= mesh_ffd.su2
~
```

**SU2\_DEF NacaOpt.cfg**

**After:**

**DV\_KIND: FFD\_CONTROL\_POINT**



```
% ----- GEOMETRY EVALUATION PARAMETERS -----%
%
% Marker(s) of the surface where geometrical based function will be evaluated
GEO_MARKER= ( AIRFOIL )
%
% Description of the geometry to be analyzed (AIRFOIL, WING, FUSELAGE)
GEO_DESCRIPTION= AIRFOIL
%
% Coordinate of the stations to be analyzed
GEO_LOCATION_STATIONS= (0.1 , 0.2 , 0.3 , 0.4 , 0.5)
%
% Geometrical bounds (Y coordinate) for the wing geometry analysis or
% fuselage evaluation (X coordinate)
GEO_BOUNDS= (0.08, 1.128)
%
% Plot loads and Cp distributions on each airfoil section
GEO_PLOT_STATIONS= NO
%
% Number of section cuts to make when calculating wing geometry
GEO_NUMBER_STATIONS= 25
%
% Geometrical evaluation mode (FUNCTION, GRADIENT)
GEO_MODE= GRADIENT
%
% ----- GRID DEFORMATION PARAMETERS -----%
%
%
% Linear solver or smoother for implicit formulations (FGMRES, RESTARTED_FGMRES, BCGSTAB)
DEFORM_LINEAR_SOLVER= FGMRES
%
% Number of smoothing iterations for FEA mesh deformation
DEFORM_LINEAR_SOLVER_ITER= 1000
%
% Number of nonlinear deformation iterations (surface deformation increments)
DEFORM_NONLINEAR_ITER= 1
%
% Print the residuals during mesh deformation to the console (YES, NO)
DEFORM_CONSOLE_OUTPUT= YES
%
% Minimum residual criteria for the linear solver convergence of grid deformation
DEFORM_LINEAR_SOLVER_ERROR= 1E-10
%
% Type of element stiffness imposed for FEA mesh deformation (INVERSE_VOLUME,
%                                     WALL_DISTANCE, CONSTANT_STIFFNESS)
DEFORM_STIFFNESS_TYPE= INVERSE_VOLUME
%
```



```
~
% Optimization objective function with scaling factor, separated by semicolons.
% To include quadratic penalty function: use OPT_CONSTRAINT option syntax within the OPT_OBJECTIVE list.
% ex= Objective * Scale
OPT_OBJECTIVE= DRAG
%
% Optimization constraint functions with pushing factors (affects its value, not the gradient
% in the python scripts), separated by semicolons
% ex= (Objective = value ) * Scale, use '>','<','='
OPT_CONSTRAINT= (LIFT > 0.2849) * 0.01; (MOMENT_Z=0.0)* 0.01; (AIRFOIL_AREA> 0.04)
%
% Factor to reduce the norm of the gradient (affects the objective function and gradient in the python scripts)
% In general, a norm of the gradient ~1E-6 is desired.
OPT_GRADIENT_FACTOR= 1E-4
%
% Factor to relax or accelerate the optimizer convergence (affects the line search in SU2_DEF)
% In general, surface deformations of 0.01'' or 0.0001m are desirable
OPT_RELAX_FACTOR= 1E2
%
% Maximum number of optimizer iterations
OPT_ITERATIONS=100
%
% Requested accuracy
OPT_ACCURACY= 1E-10
%
% Optimization design variables, separated by semicolons
DEFINITION_DV= ( 11, 1.0 | AIRFOIL | airfoil_box, 1, 0, 0, 1.0, 1.0, 0.0 );( 11, 1.0 | AIRFOIL | airfoil_box, 1, 1, 0, 1.0, 1.0, 0.0 )
foil_box, 9, 0, 0, 1.0, 1.0, 0.0 );( 11, 1.0 | AIRFOIL | airfoil_box, 9, 1, 0, 1.0, 1.0, 0.0 )
```

```

----- FFD technique (parametric -> cartesian) -----
Checking FFD box dimension.
Checking FFD box intersections with the solid surfaces.
SU2 is fixing the planes to maintain a continuous surface.
Update cartesian coord      | FFD box:| BLADE_BOX. Max Diff: 0.00210519.
Writing a Paraview file of the FFD boxes.
Writing a Tecplot file of the FFD boxes.

----- volumetric grid deformation (ZONE 0) -----
Performing the deformation of the volumetric grid.

```

```

Sequential Least Squares Programming (SLSQP) parameters:
Number of design variables: 18 ( 18 )
Objective function scaling factor: [1.0]
Maximum number of iterations: 100
Requested accuracy: 1e-15
Initial guess for the independent variable(s): [0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0,
Lower and upper bound for each independent variable: [(-10000000.0,

```

NIT	FC	OBJFUN	GNORM
1	1	3.096491E-06	4.788515E-06
2	2	3.050610E-06	4.631389E-06
3	3	2.814069E-06	3.922372E-06
4	4	2.175708E-06	2.857431E-06
5	5	1.999863E-06	3.095495E-06