

Solving large scale flow acoustics time-harmonic problems in a HPC framework using domain decomposition

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1. Introduction

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2. Iterative domain decomposition approach

Non-overlapping Schwarz method

Building transmission conditions in the presence of flow

Domain decomposition in a straight waveguide

Variational formulation

Towards advanced test cases

3. Software implementation in a HPC framework

Implementation framework

Scalability assessment

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4. Limitations and extensions

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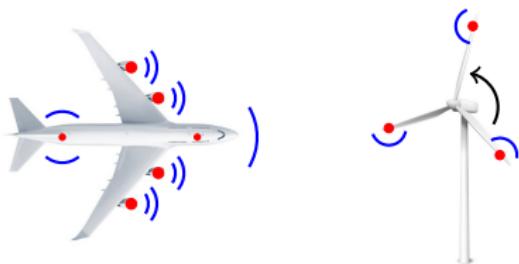
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Industrial context

Long term perspective

Provide a cheap flow acoustics solver: noise from bodies in motion

Computational workflow



Objective

Provide a “*ready-to-use*” sound propagation simulation tool

- suitable to modern computer architectures
- applicable to large, complex industrial problems

1. compute mean flow (e.g. RANS)
2. extract acoustic **sources**
3. compute **sound propagation**
4. find solutions (new material)

→ to be used in optimization

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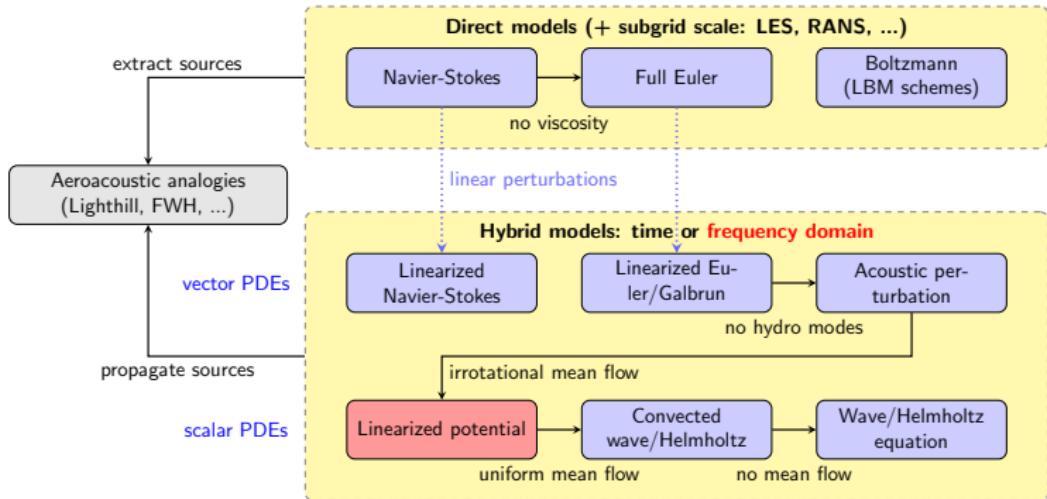
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Physical models for flow acoustics

We focus on the time-harmonic regime (rotating machines)



Hybrid model - solve mean flow and acoustic perturbations separately

- Linearized Euler Equations provide a precise physical model, but are costly and exhibit hydrodynamic instabilities
- We rather focus on a self-adjoint, scalar operator :
Linearized Potential/Pierce Operator [Spieser, Baily 2020]

A self-adjoint flow acoustic operator

PDE for the acoustic velocity potential $\mathbf{v} = \nabla u$ and compact source f

Linearized Potential Equation (LPE)

$$\rho_0(\mathbf{x}) \frac{D_0}{Dt} \left(\frac{1}{c_0(\mathbf{x})^2} \frac{D_0 u}{Dt} \right) - \nabla \cdot (\rho_0(\mathbf{x}) \nabla u) = f, \quad \frac{D_0}{Dt} = i\omega + \mathbf{v}_0(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \nabla$$

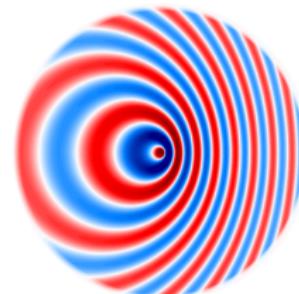
Helmholtz-type problem with **convection** and **heterogeneities**

Mathematical difficulties

- oscillatory, non-local solution
- complex valued, strongly indefinite with ω
- unbounded domain
- local convection effects

Does not converge with classical iterative methods [Ernst, Gander 2012]
→ **direct solver**

Point source in a uniform flow



$$M = \|\mathbf{v}_0\| / c_0 = 0.6 \\ M < 1 \text{ (Subsonic flow)}$$

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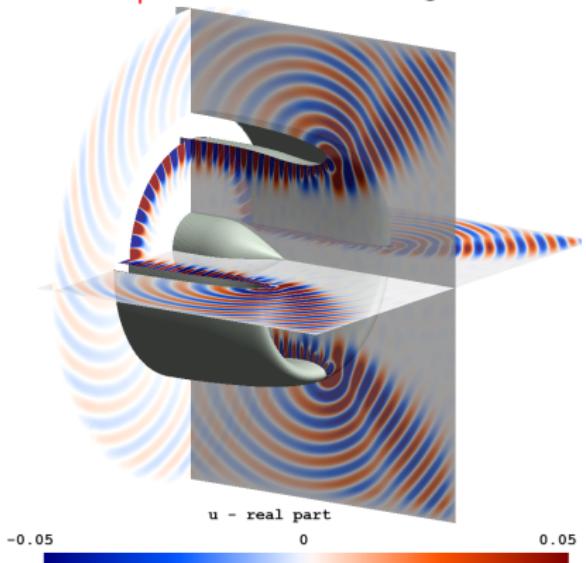
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3D example: acoustic radiation of a turbofan engine

A typical problem: Compute the **tonal** radiation of an engine intake
Current solver: direct solver (MUMPS) + p -FEM approximation

$\omega_{\text{bpf}} \leftrightarrow \approx 25$ wavelengths



ω_{bpf} , $N_{\text{dofs}} = 10M$, $\text{nnz} = 730M$
Direct solver $\rightarrow 740$ Gb of RAM

\Downarrow increase ω ?

$2 \times \omega_{\text{bpf}}$, $N_{\text{dofs}} = 73M$, $\text{nnz} = 5B$
Direct solver ≈ 6 Tb of RAM ...

$O(\omega^3)$ scaling in memory & time ...

Goal: compute tones up to 5 bpf !

Turbofan exhaust radiation

Turbofan exhaust: fan noise through dual-stream jet flow
Mean flow obtained through RANS computation ($\rho_0, c_0, \mathbf{v}_0$)

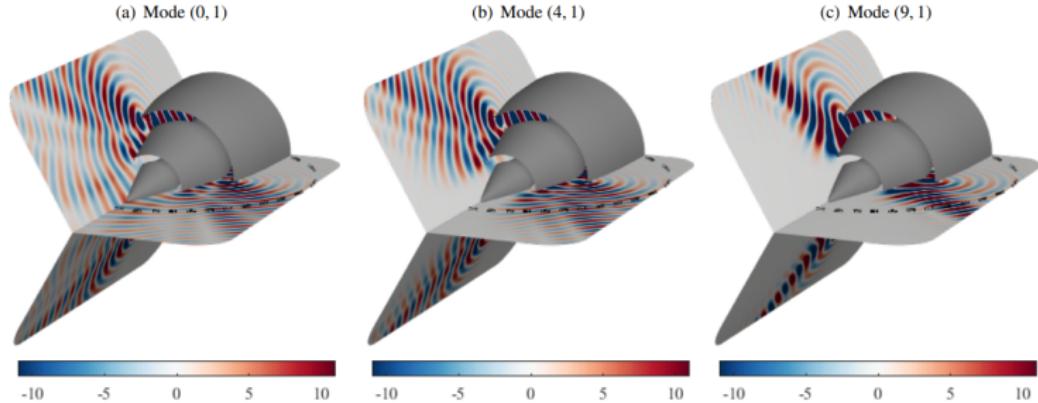


Figure: Real part of the acoustic pressure at 7497 Hz for various incident modes, from [Hamiche et al. 2019]

Memory limitation from $\approx 20\text{-}25$ wavelengths in 3D

Objective

Industrial objective

Provide a (scalable) parallel solver to increase the upper frequency limit

Available tools at Siemens

Discretization

- high-order finite elements
→ reduce discretization error
(interpolation & dispersion)
- *a-priori* error indicator -
adaptive order [Bériot et al. 2016]
- efficient frequency sweep

Parallelization

- algebraic parallelization is hard
for Helmholtz problems
- instead, “divide and conquer”
at the continuous (PDE) level
→ domain decomposition
- lots of approaches, but common
framework [Gander, Zhang 2019]

Selected solution

Extend the non-overlapping Schwarz domain decomposition framework
[Boubendir et al. 2012]

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Non-overlapping Schwarz method

Partition $\Omega = \bigcup_{i=1}^{N_{\text{dom}}} \Omega_i$ into subdomains, and solve the BVPs

Non-overlapping optimal Schwarz formulation

$$\begin{cases} \rho_0 \frac{D_0}{Dt} \left(\frac{1}{c_0^2} \frac{D_0 u_i}{Dt} \right) - \nabla \cdot (\rho_0 \nabla u_i) = 0 \text{ in } \Omega_i \text{ (volume PDE)} \\ \rho_0 (1 - M_{\mathbf{n}}^2) (\partial_{\mathbf{n}_i} u_i + \imath \tilde{\Lambda}^+ u_i) = 0, \text{ on } \Gamma_i^\infty \text{ (radiation condition)} \\ \rho_0 (1 - M_{\mathbf{n}}^2) (\partial_{\mathbf{n}_i} u_i + \imath \mathcal{S}_i u_i) = g_{ij}, \text{ on } \Sigma_{ij} \text{ (interface condition)} \end{cases}$$

Introduce the interface coupling on Σ_{ij}

$$\begin{aligned} g_{ij} &= \rho_0 (1 - M_{\mathbf{n}}^2) (-\partial_{\mathbf{n}_j} u_j + \imath \mathcal{S}_i u_j) \\ &= -g_{ji} + \imath \rho_0 (1 - M_{\mathbf{n}}^2) (\mathcal{S}_i + \mathcal{S}_j) u_j := \mathcal{T}_{ji} g_{ji} + b_{ji} \end{aligned}$$

Rewrite the coupling as a linear system for $\mathbf{g} = (g_{ij}, g_{ji})^T$ over all Σ_{ij}

$$\underbrace{(\mathcal{I} - \mathcal{A})}_{\text{iteration matrix interface unknowns}} \underbrace{\mathbf{g}}_{\text{physical sources}} = \underbrace{\mathbf{b}}_{\text{physical sources}}, \quad \mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathcal{T}_{ji} \\ \mathcal{T}_{ij} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

\mathcal{T}_{ij} and \mathcal{T}_{ji} are **iteration operators** on Σ_{ij}

High-level algorithmic procedure

Surface iteration operators

$$\mathcal{T}_{ji} = \frac{\mathcal{S}_i - \tilde{\Lambda}^+}{\mathcal{S}_j + \tilde{\Lambda}^+}, \quad \mathcal{T}_{ij} = \frac{\mathcal{S}_j + \tilde{\Lambda}^-}{\mathcal{S}_i - \tilde{\Lambda}^-}$$

Iteration matrix eigenvalues: $\lambda_{(\mathcal{I}-\mathcal{A})} = 1 \pm \sqrt{\mathcal{T}_{ji}\mathcal{T}_{ij}}$

If we choose $\mathcal{S}_i = \tilde{\Lambda}^+$ and $\mathcal{S}_j = -\tilde{\Lambda}^-$, we have a direct method

Parallel iterative algorithm for the process i

Do in Ω_i at iteration $(n+1)$, $\forall j \in D_i$

1. given $g_{ij}^{(n)}$, solve $u_i^{(n+1)}$ in Ω_i ,
2. update the $(n+1)$ neighbourhood data through
$$g_{ji}^{(n+1)} = -g_{ij}^{(n)} + \nu\rho_0 (1 - M_n^2) (\mathcal{S}_i + \mathcal{S}_j) u_i^{(n+1)}$$
 on Σ_{ij} ,

High-level algorithmic procedure

Surface iteration operators

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 on Σ_{ij} ,

Problem: $(\tilde{\Lambda}^+, -\tilde{\Lambda}^-)$ are **non-local DtN maps** for the PDE

Idea: design **sparse approximations** $\mathcal{S}_i \approx \tilde{\Lambda}^+$ and $\mathcal{S}_j \approx -\tilde{\Lambda}^-$

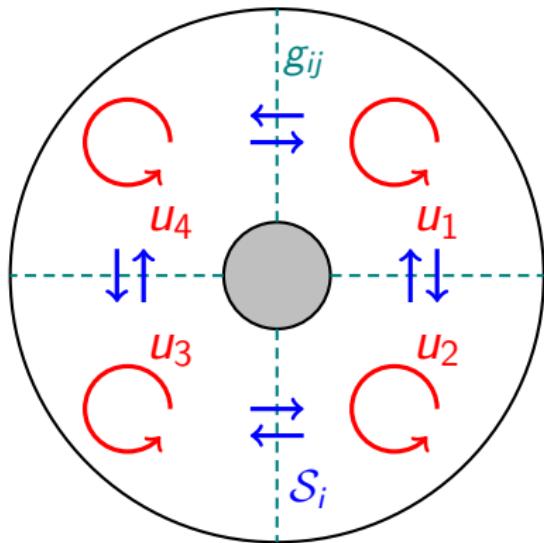
\Leftrightarrow approximate **Schur complements** at the algebraic level

Illustration of the algorithm

Iterative solver for the interface problem $(\mathcal{I} - \mathcal{A})\mathbf{g} = \mathbf{b}$

Iterate until convergence

1. Solve the **volume subproblems** u_i with boundary conditions
2. update the **interfaces unknowns** $\mathbf{g} = (g_{ij}, g_{ji})$ through **transmission conditions** $(\mathcal{S}_i, \mathcal{S}_j)$



- Convergence ? [Després 1991]
- How to choose the operators $(\mathcal{S}_i, \mathcal{S}_j)$? → [Gander et al. 2002], numerous works...

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Approximation of the DtN map

We follow the idea to find local approximations of the DtN maps $(\tilde{\Lambda}^+, -\tilde{\Lambda}^-)$ for outgoing waves and use them as transmission conditions

There are several ways to do so:

- Absorbing boundary condition (ABC),
- Infinite element (IE),
- Perfectly Matched Layer (PML),
- etc.

In this talk we focus on **absorbing boundary condition**.

1. it's a boundary treatment: easy set up of the surfacic problem in a non-overlapping context
2. we need to account for the entire frequency spectrum (Fourier analysis)

Remark: the extension of ABC, PML and IE techniques for flow acoustics is not straightforward !

→ we focus on ABC construction for a uniform axial mean flow

DtN map for flow acoustics

Idea: Find an exact form of the DtN map for a half-space problem

DtN operator on Σ

$$\widetilde{\Lambda^+} : \begin{cases} H^{1/2}(\Sigma) \rightarrow H^{-1/2}(\Sigma) \\ u|_{\Sigma} \mapsto \partial_n u|_{\Sigma} = -i \widetilde{\Lambda^+} u|_{\Sigma} \end{cases}$$

General case: use pseudo-differential calculus

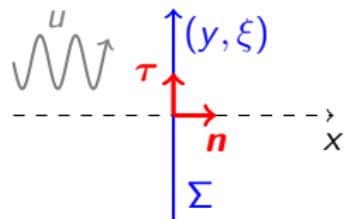
[Engquist and Majda 1977, 1979] [Antoine et al. 1999]

Example: 2D convected Helmholtz operator ($|M_x| < 1$, $M_y = 0$)

$$\mathcal{L} = (1 - M_x^2) \partial_x^2 + \partial_y^2 - 2i\omega M_x \partial_x + \omega^2$$

Question: can we factorize the operator \mathcal{L} on Σ ?

$$\mathcal{L} \stackrel{?}{=} \left(\partial_x + i \widetilde{\Lambda^-} \right) \left(\partial_x + i \widetilde{\Lambda^+} \right) \quad \text{on } \Sigma$$



Waveguide case

For the half-space problem with uniform flow $|M_x| < 1$, we have an exact solution:

$$\tilde{\Lambda}^{\pm} = \omega \frac{-M_x \pm \sqrt{1 + Z}}{1 - M_x^2}, \quad Z = (1 - M_x^2) \frac{\Delta_{\Sigma}}{\omega^2},$$

Localization of $\tilde{\Lambda}^+$: high-frequency approx. for $\sqrt{1 + Z}$, ($\omega \rightarrow +\infty$).

However we want an approximation for all the Fourier modes of Δ_{Σ}
→ rotate branch-cut and use complex valued approximations of

$$f_{\alpha}(Z) = e^{i\alpha/2} \sqrt{1 + \hat{Z}}, \quad \hat{Z} = [e^{-i\alpha}(1 + Z) - 1],$$

Taylor approximation (N, α)

$$f_{\alpha}(Z) \approx e^{i\alpha/2} \sum_{\ell=0}^N \binom{1/2}{\ell} (e^{-i\alpha}(1 + Z) - 1)^{\ell}$$

Padé approximation (N, α)

$$f_{\alpha}(Z) \approx K_0(\alpha) + \sum_{\ell=1}^N A_{\ell}(\alpha) Z (1 + B_{\ell}(\alpha) Z)^{-1}$$

Square-root function approximation

Let us plot f_α and some approximations along the real line $\Im(Z) = 0$

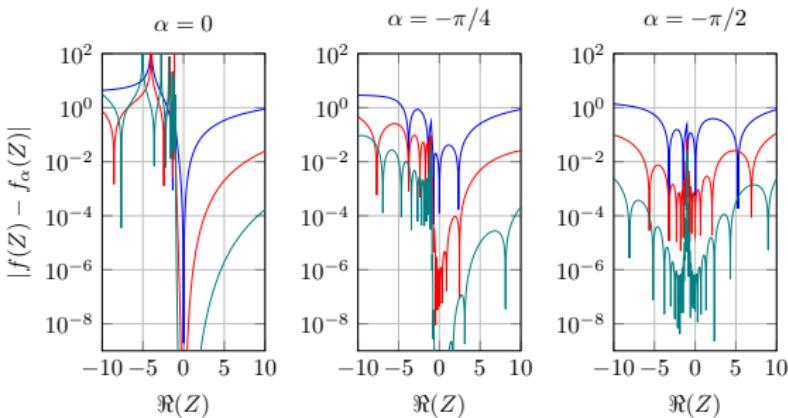
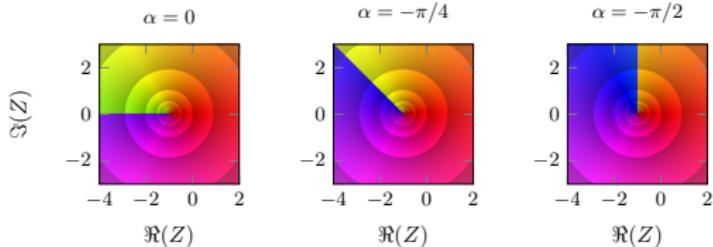


Figure: Absolute error along the real line with Padé approximants: $N = 1$, $N = 2$, $N = 8$

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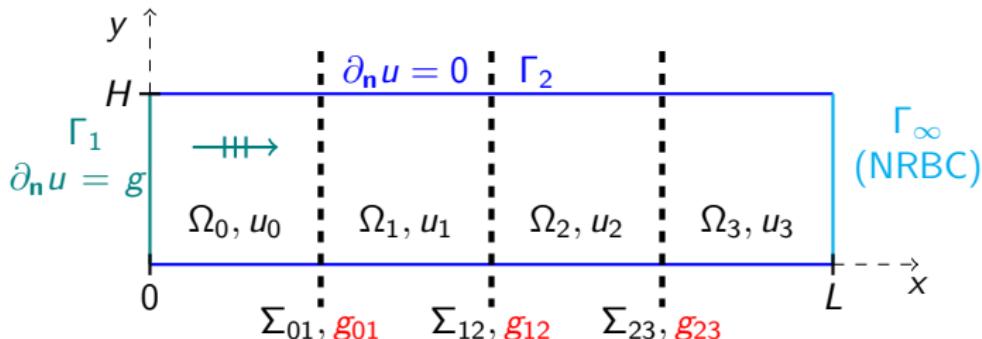
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Domain decomposition in a straight waveguide

Domain partition: $\Omega = \bigcup_{i=0}^{N_{\text{dom}}-1} \Omega_i$, $\Sigma_{ij} = \overline{\partial\Omega_i \cap \partial\Omega_j}$, $j \neq i$



Straight waveguide with uniform flow $|M_x| < 1$: the convergence radius has the explicit form:

$$\rho(\xi) = \left| \sqrt{\mathcal{T}_{ji} \mathcal{T}_{ij}} \right| = \left| \frac{(f - f_\alpha)(-2M_x + f - f_\alpha)}{(-2M_x + f + f_\alpha)(f + f_\alpha)} \right|$$

where $f = \sqrt{1 + (1 - M_x^2)(\xi/\omega)^2}$, f_α is the square-root approximation and ξ is the Fourier mode for Δ_Σ

Convergence radius

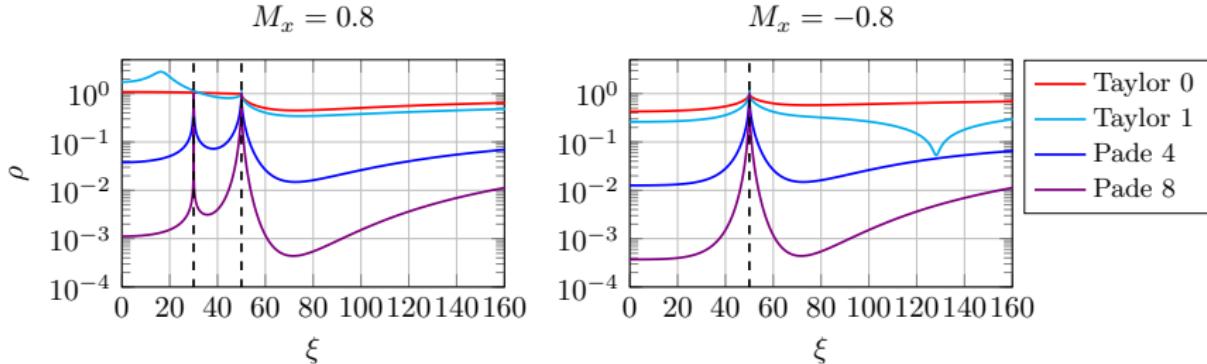


Figure: Convergence radius for various approximations, $\alpha = -\pi/2$, $\omega = 30$. For $M_x = 0.8$ and $\xi \in [30, 50]$, the wave has negative phase velocity.

Remarks:

- The Taylor approximations can not ensure $\rho < 1$ for all modes,
- In practice, only Padé approximations converge with a Jacobi solver,
- The Taylor 1 approximation results in a 2nd order surface operator, and is straightforward to integrate in an existing code

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High-order FEM implementation

Discretization on a conformal, high-order H^1 -basis for an arbitrary flow

Weak formulation for the linearized potential equation

$$\forall v \in V \subseteq H^1(\Omega), \quad \int_{\Omega} \left[\rho_0 \nabla u \cdot \overline{\nabla v} - \frac{\rho_0}{c_0^2} \frac{D_0 u}{Dt} \frac{\overline{D_0 v}}{Dt} \right] d\Omega + i \int_{\Sigma} \mathcal{G} u \bar{v} d\Sigma = \int_{\Omega} f \bar{v} d\Omega$$

The boundary operator \mathcal{G} takes the same form as in the Helmholtz case

$$\int_{\Sigma} \mathcal{G} u \bar{v} d\Sigma = \int_{\Sigma} e^{i\alpha/2} \rho_0 k_0 \sqrt{1 + \hat{\mathcal{Z}}} u \bar{v} d\Sigma$$

with

$$\hat{\mathcal{Z}} = e^{-i\alpha} \left(1 - 2iM_T \frac{\nabla_{\Sigma}}{k_0} + (1 - M^2) \frac{\Delta_{\Sigma}}{k_0^2} \right) - 1, \quad M = \sqrt{M_n^2 + M_T^2}, \quad k_0 = \omega/c_0$$

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with

$$\hat{\mathcal{Z}} = e^{-i\alpha} \left(1 - 2iM_{\tau} \frac{\nabla_{\Sigma}}{k_0} + (1 - M^2) \frac{\Delta_{\Sigma}}{k_0^2} \right) - 1, \quad M = \sqrt{M_n^2 + M_{\tau}^2}, \quad k_0 = \omega/c_0$$

Example : 2nd order Taylor approximation of the square-root:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Sigma} \mathcal{G} u \bar{v} d\Sigma &= \cos(\alpha/2) \int_{\Sigma} \rho_0 k_0 u \bar{v} d\Sigma \\ &\quad + e^{-i\alpha/2} \left(\int_{\Sigma} \rho_0 M_{\tau} \nabla_{\Sigma} u \bar{v} d\Sigma - \int_{\Sigma} \rho_0 \frac{(1 - M^2)}{2k_0} \nabla_{\Sigma} u \nabla_{\Sigma} \bar{v} d\Sigma \right) \end{aligned}$$

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Extending transmission conditions

Such DtN approximations can be extended to

- regular convex shaped boundaries
- non-uniform flows, density and speed of sound

The methodology is to expand the DtN operator into its **symbols**: the leading term encodes uniform flow and straight boundary.

Convergence difficulties are expected in the inverse upstream regime for the 2nd order Taylor based transmission condition
→ try instead a coercive 2nd order approximation ?

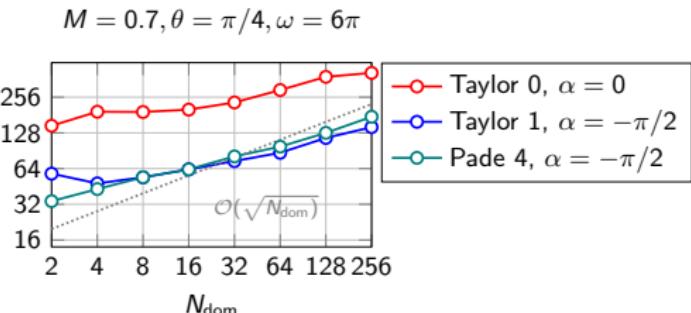
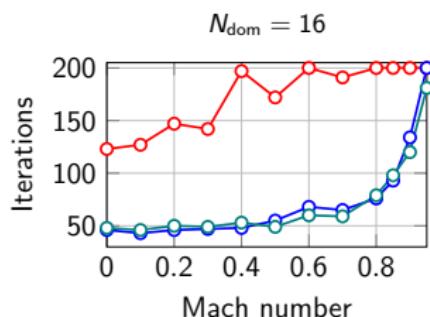
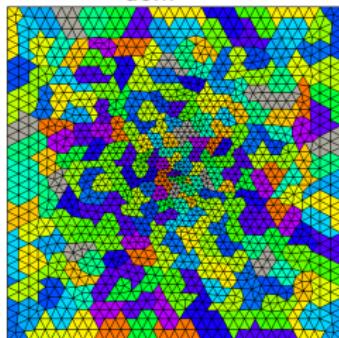
The extension to Pierce operator is direct: same variational formulation ($\rho_0^{-1}(x) \leftrightarrow \rho_0(x)$): encodes richer physics (more complex mean flows)

Towards realistic cases

Automatic partitioning

- Cross-points
→ harder to design ABCs
- Good load balancing between subproblems
- Shorter connectivity graph -
 $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{N_{\text{dom}}})$

$$N_{\text{dom}} = 256$$



We choose Taylor 1, $\alpha = -\pi/2$ for arbitrary decomposition

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Introduction

Goal: propose a proof of concept of a DDM solver with industrial constraints:

- minimize the implementation overhead from a given FEM code,
- parallelism must be hidden to the user,
- switch to a parallel solver when necessary (frequency criterion),
- can be tested/validated easily,

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Implementation framework

C++ distributed memory implementation

- Gmsh: mesh generation, partitioning (METIS)
- **GmshFEM**: Finite element library, subdomain solver (**MUMPS**)
- GmshDDM: Interface problem, **communication (MPI)**, **iterative solver**

First, create a mesh partition that minimizes the size of the interface problem.

Domain decomposition algorithm for the i -th process linked to the subdomain Ω_i

1. **Initialization:** read mesh, map mean flow, initialize interface problem
 2. **Assembly:** assemble the finite element matrix,
 3. **Factorization:** call the external MUMPS solver via PETSc and run a **sparse LU decomposition** for the volume subproblem,
 4. **Surface Assembly:** assemble the surface interface problem,
 5. **Iterative solver:** enter the iterative solver (PETSc GMRES) for the interface problem $(\mathcal{I} - \mathcal{A})g = f$. Do until convergence:
 - 5.1 receive g_{ij} and send the updated data g_{ji} to the connected subdomains,
 - 5.2 compute the **local matrix-vector product**,
 6. **Post-process:** save the solution.
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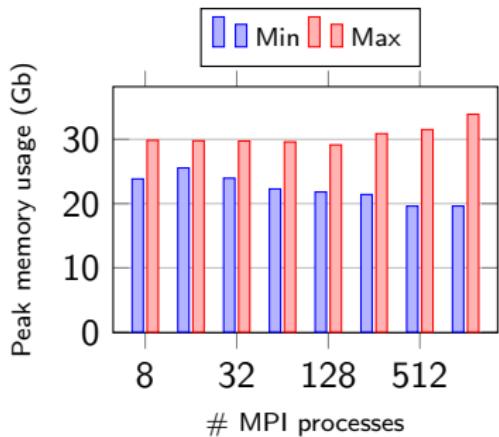
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Weak scalability assessment - Helmholtz case

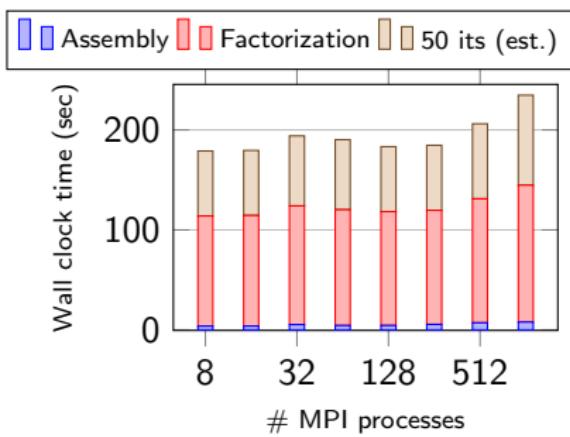
Evaluate time and memory usage: assembly, factorization, cost per iteration.

Weak scalability up to 700M dofs - 1024 MPI processes: $\approx 80\%$ efficiency

We assign 1 MPI process per subdomain



Min/max peak memory usage over all MPIs.



Cumulated wall time.

- $\approx 1M$ dofs per subdomain leads a reasonable factorization cost
- each process takes advantage of multi-threading
- load balancing is affected by the number of subdomains

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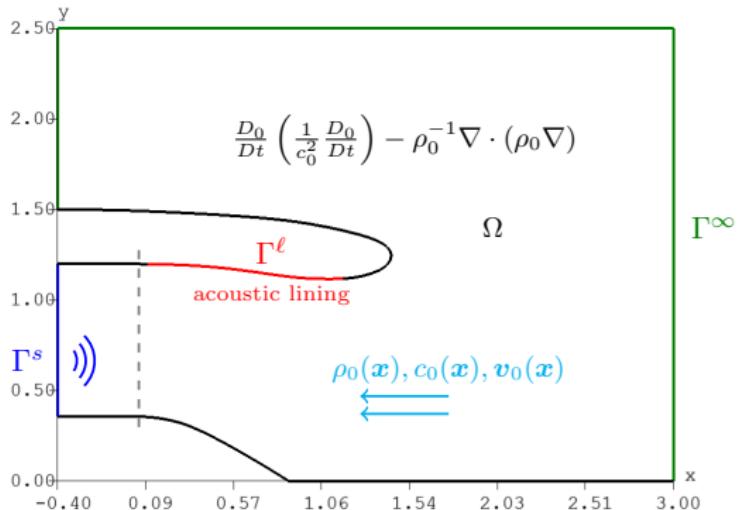
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The boundary value problem

Given a flight configuration (mean flow), predict the radiated noise from the fan, at multiples of the blade passing frequency $\omega_{\text{bpf}}/(2\pi) = 1300$ Hz



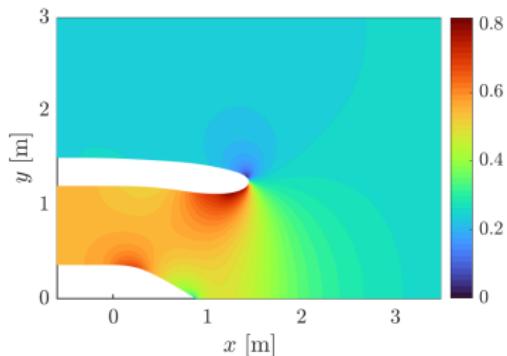
Boundary conditions

- Ingard-Myers on Γ_ℓ
- PML (active) on Γ^s
- Fixed annular Bessel mode on Γ^s
- PML (passive) on Γ^∞

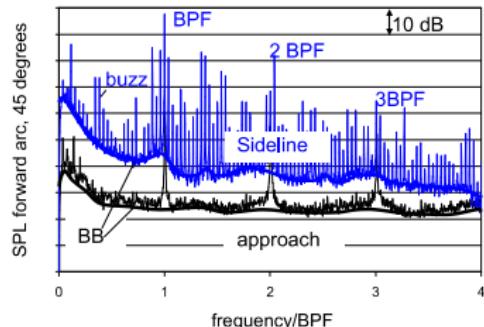
The mean flow is pre-computed (non-linear Poisson) and mapped on the acoustic mesh

Physical interpretation

The problem models the **blade passing frequency** (bpf) of the fan: links the annular mode numbers (m, n) with the input frequency ω_{bpf} .



Mach number $M = \|\mathbf{v}_0\| / c_0$ for a typical mean flow.



Sound pressure level for an engine intake from a static engine test.

Computational domain: 3D cylinder (radius 2.5m, length 3.4m).

- $n \times \text{bpf} \leftrightarrow n \times 25$ wavelengths in the domain
- mesh size and p -FEM order are fixed to have at least 5 dofs per λ

Acoustic lining boundary condition

The acoustic lining is defined by a complex-valued impedance $\mathcal{Z}(\omega)$, which can be modeled by a boundary operator on Γ_ℓ

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Gamma_\ell} -\rho_0 \frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{n}_\ell} \bar{v} d\Gamma_\ell \\ &= \int_{\Gamma_\ell} \frac{\rho_0}{\mathcal{Z}(\omega) c_0} \left(i\omega u \bar{v} + (\mathbf{v}_0 \cdot \nabla_\Gamma u) \bar{v} - u (\mathbf{v}_0 \cdot \nabla_\Gamma \bar{v}) - \frac{1}{i\omega} (\mathbf{v}_0 \cdot \nabla_\Gamma u) (\mathbf{v}_0 \cdot \nabla_\Gamma \bar{v}) \right) d\Gamma_\ell. \end{aligned}$$

It results in broader modal content of the numerical solution (evanescent modes, reflected waves, etc.).

The implementation has been validated by a mode-matching method

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Reaching high frequency

1 bpf: $\approx 10M$ dofs $\rightarrow 740$ Gb RAM direct solver (25λ)

2 bpf: $\approx 70M$ dofs $\rightarrow 6$ Tb RAM direct solver (50λ)

Nic5 Uliège cluster - (AMD Epyc Rome 7542 CPUs 2.9 GHz)

Cores	Total dofs	nnz	peak memory	pre-pro	GMRES	Iterations
64×1	73 M	5 B	26 Gb	45min	4h30	535

Run at 2bpf with 64 subdomains (64 MPI) and acoustic lining. p -FEM= 4

IDRIS Jean-Zay CPU partition – 256 nodes (2×20 Intel Cascade Lake 6248 2,5Ghz)

Cores	Total dofs	nnz	peak memory	pre-pro	GMRES	Iterations
512×20	565M	85B	70Gb	24min	8h20	3000

Run at 4bpf with 512 subdomains (512 MPI) and acoustic lining. p -FEM= 6

GMRES stopped after 3000 Iterations at a residual $r_I = 2.7 \times 10^{-6}$

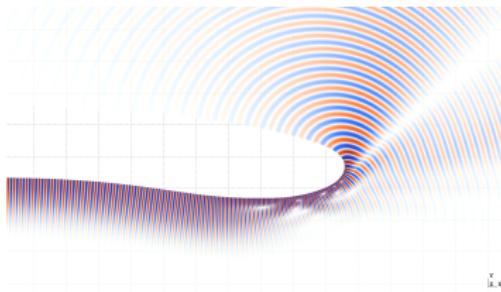
Reaching high frequency

IDRIS Jean-Zay CPU partition – 512 nodes (2 x 20 Intel Cascade Lake 6248 2,5Ghz)

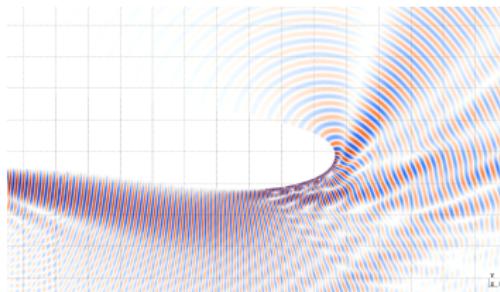
Cores	Total dofs	nnz	peak memory	pre-pro	GMRES	Iterations
1024x20	1.1B	167B	70Gb	24min	6h10	2253

Run at 5bpf with 1024 subdomains (1024 MPI) and acoustic lining. p -FEM= 6

125 wavelengths in the domain - validation with the axisymmetric case



Mode (48, 1) without liner



Mode (48, 1) with acoustic liner

Visualization at 5 bpf

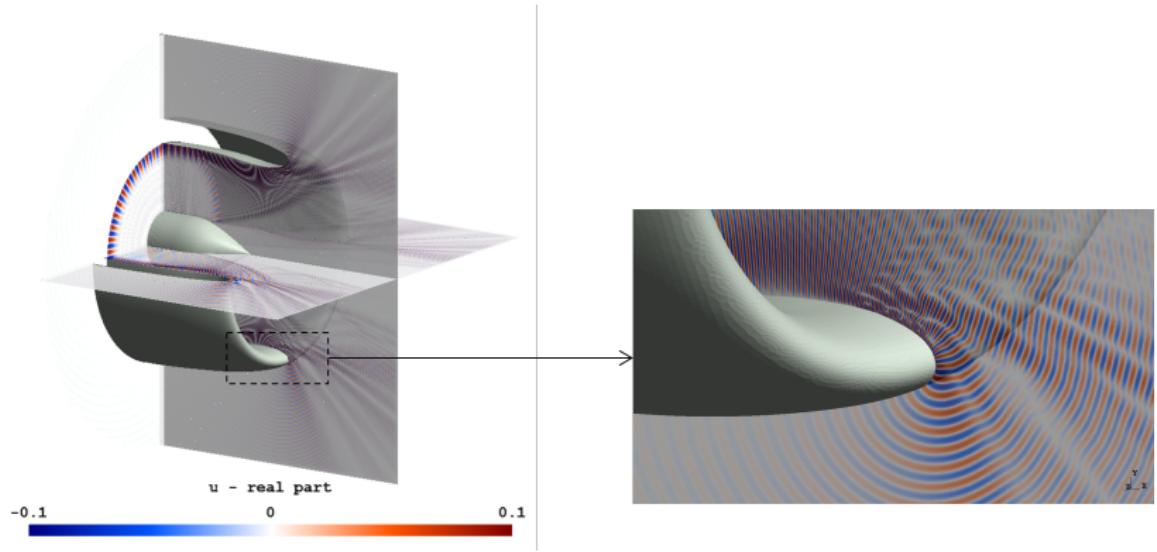


Figure: Real part of the acoustic velocity potential for the mode (48, 1) at 5 bpf.

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Limitations and extensions

We proposed a scalable high frequency distributed memory solver for realistic flow acoustics radiation problems.

- the number of iterations depends of the frequency, mesh size and N_{dom} : a coarse space would be highly beneficial
- transmission conditions are PDE based: hard to extend to Maxwell, elastic waves, etc.
- cross-point treatment is hard with mean flow anisotropy
- subdomain factorization cost could be reduced with MUMPS block low rank feature
- the next step is the extension to Pierce equation (turbofan exhaust)