



Centre Tecnològic de Transferència de Calor
UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA DE CATALUNYA



Proper SGS heat flux models for LES

F.Xavier Trias¹, Daniel Santos¹, Firas Dabbagh²,
Andrey Gorobets³, Assensi Oliva¹

¹Heat and Mass Transfer Technological Center, Technical University of Catalonia

²Christian-Doppler Laboratory for Multi-scale Modelling of Multiphase Processes,
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- 2 On the modeling of SGS heat flux
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Motivation

Research question #1:

- Can we find a nonlinear SGS heat flux model with **good physical and numerical properties**, such that we can obtain satisfactory predictions for a turbulent Rayleigh-Bénard convection?

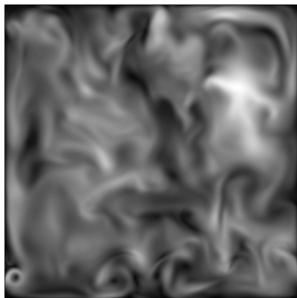
DNS of an air-filled Rayleigh-Bénard convection at $Ra = 10^{10}$

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Motivation

Air-filled RB: $Pr = 0.7$

$$Ra = 10^8$$



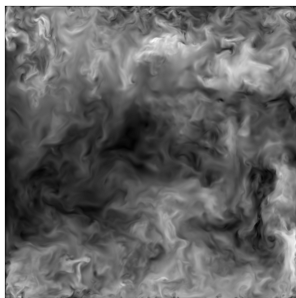
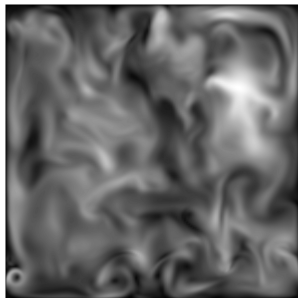
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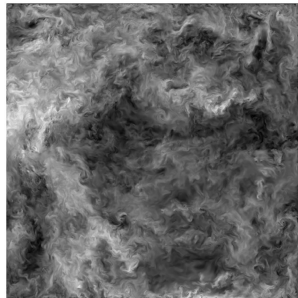
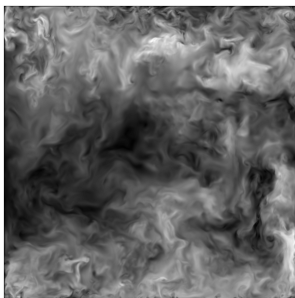
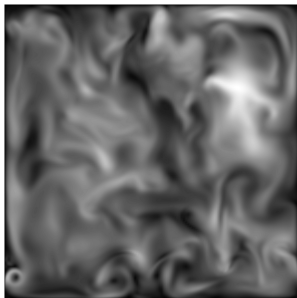
Motivation

Air-filled RB: $Pr = 0.7$

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$$Ra = 10^{11}$$



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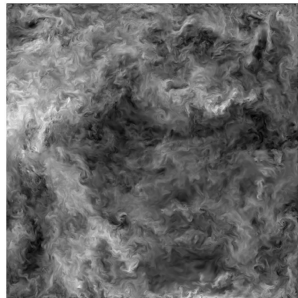
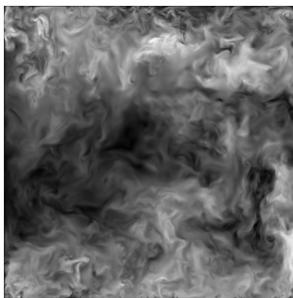
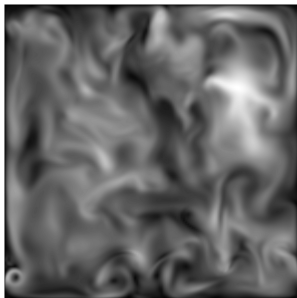
Motivation

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$208 \times 208 \times 400$
17.5M

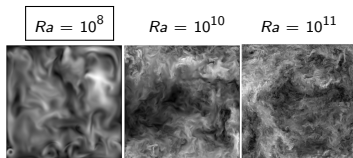
$768 \times 768 \times 1024$
607M

$1662 \times 1662 \times 2048$
5600M

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Motivation

DNS: $208 \times 208 \times 400$



Motivation

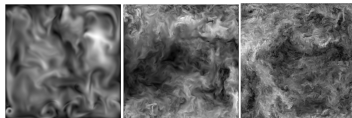
DNS: $208 \times 208 \times 400$

LES: $80 \times 80 \times 120$

$Ra = 10^8$

$Ra = 10^{10}$

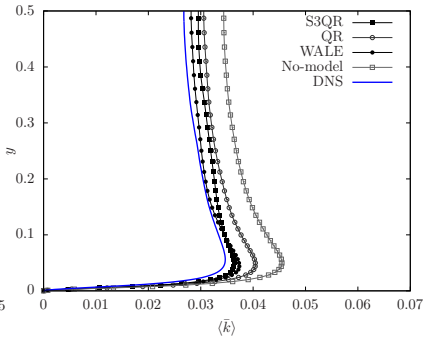
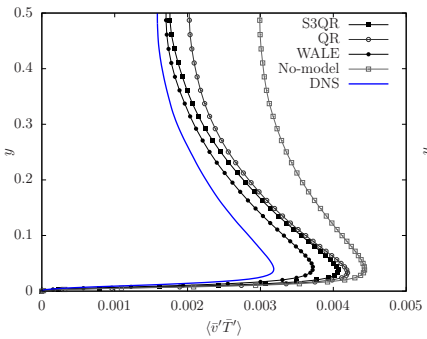
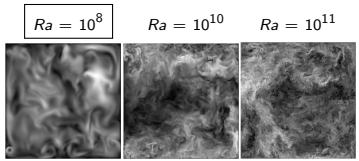
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Motivation

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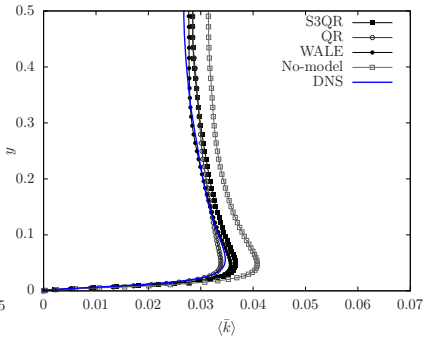
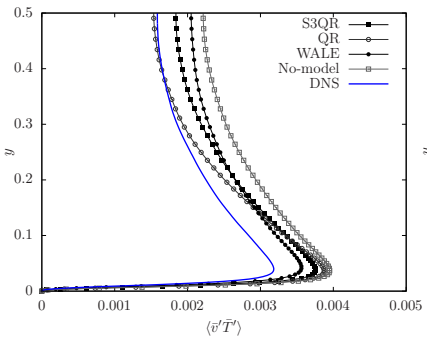
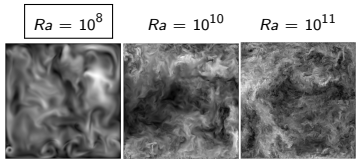
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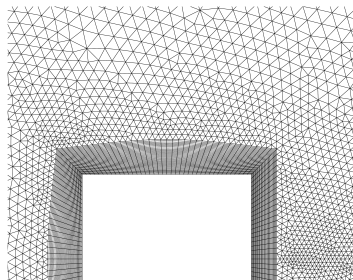
LES: $110 \times 110 \times 168$



Motivation

Research question #2:

- Can we construct numerical discretizations of the Navier-Stokes equations suitable for **complex geometries**, such that the **symmetry properties** are exactly preserved?

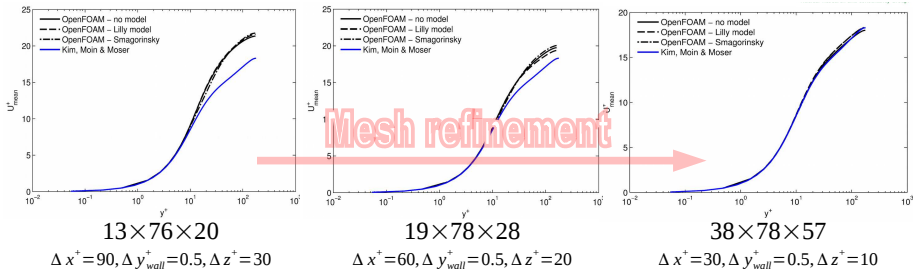


DNS³ of the turbulent flow around a square cylinder at $Re = 22000$

³F.X.Trias, A.Gorobets, A.Oliva. *Turbulent flow around a square cylinder at Reynolds number 22000: a DNS study*, **Computers&Fluids**, 123:87-98, 2015.

Motivation

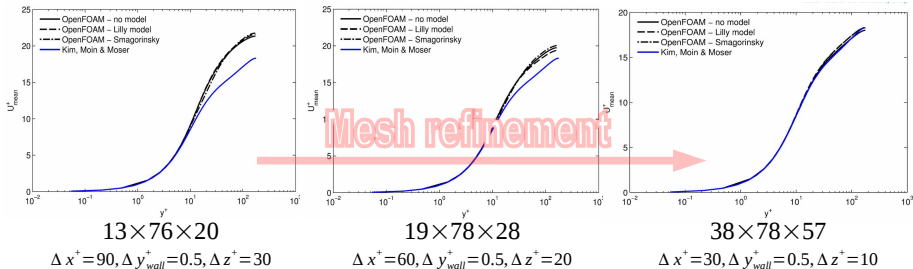
OpenFOAM® LES⁴ results of a turbulent channel for at $Re_\tau = 180$



⁴E.M.J.Komen, L.H.Camilo, A.Shams, B.J.Geurts, B.Koren. *A quantification method for numerical dissipation in quasi-DNS and under-resolved DNS, and effects of numerical dissipation in quasi-DNS and under-resolved DNS of turbulent channel flows*, **Journal of Computational Physics**, 345, 565-595, 2017.

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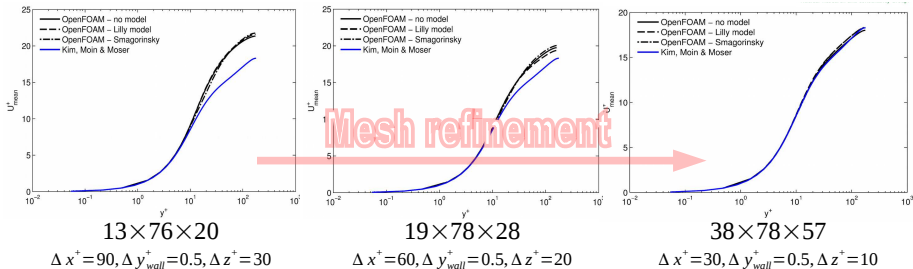


- Are LES results a merit of the SGS model?

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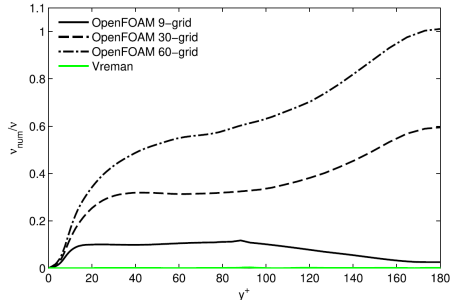
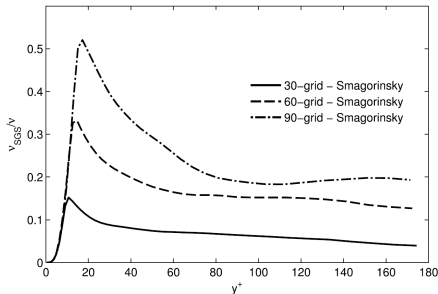


- Are LES results a merit of the SGS model? Apparently **NOT!!!** ✗

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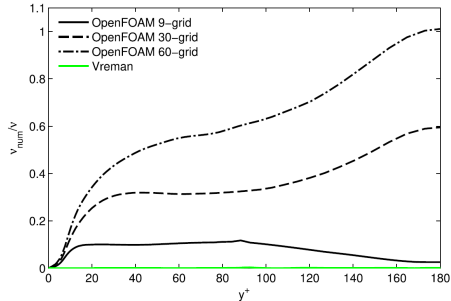
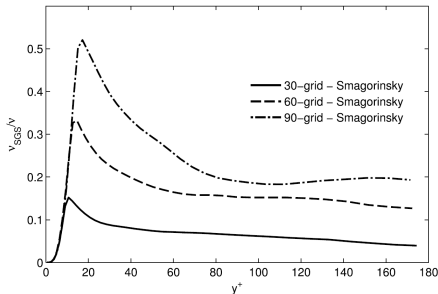


$$\nu_{num} \neq 0$$

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$$\nu_{SGS} < \nu_{num} \neq 0$$

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How to model the subgrid heat flux in LES?

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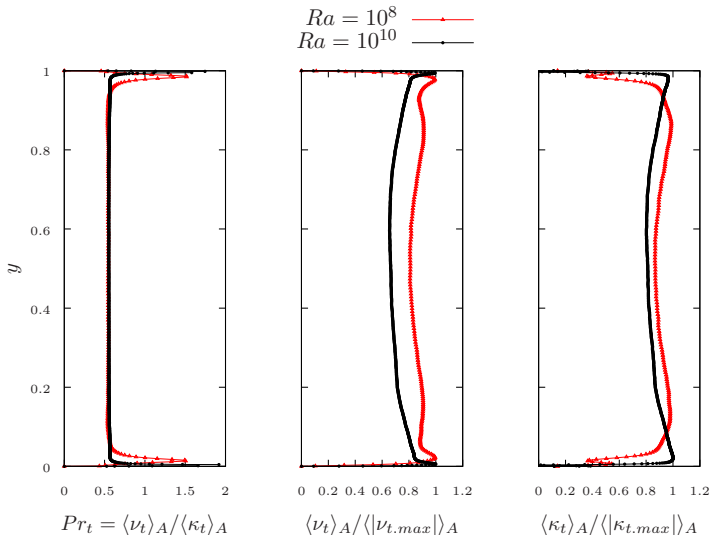
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$Pr_t?$

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$$G \equiv \nabla \bar{\mathbf{u}} \quad \mathbf{q} = -\frac{\delta^2}{12} G \nabla \bar{T} + \mathcal{O}(\delta^4)$$

A priori alignment trends⁶

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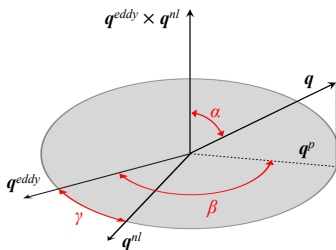
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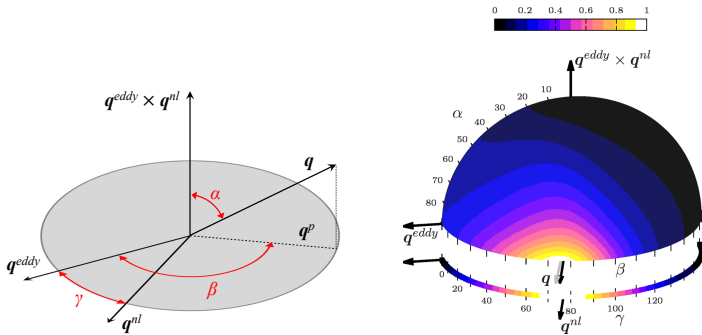


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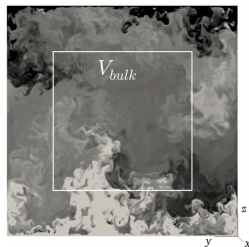
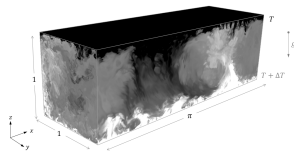
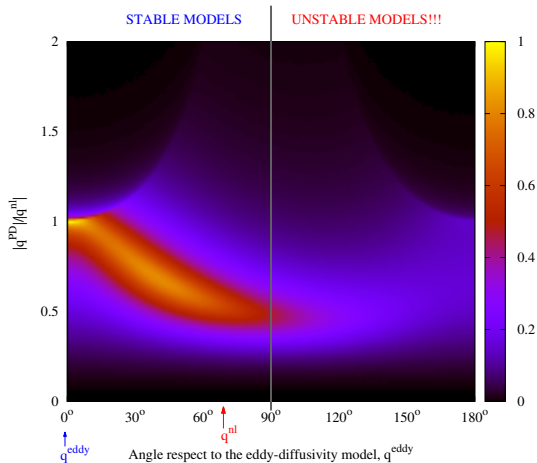
$$\text{Peng\&Davidson}^7 \longrightarrow \mathbf{q} \approx -\frac{\delta^2}{12} S \nabla \bar{T} \quad (\equiv \mathbf{q}^{\text{PD}})$$

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$$\partial_t \bar{\mathbf{u}} + (\bar{\mathbf{u}} \cdot \nabla) \bar{\mathbf{u}} = \nu \nabla^2 \bar{\mathbf{u}} - \nabla \bar{p} + \bar{\mathbf{f}} - \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}(\bar{\mathbf{u}}) ; \quad \nabla \cdot \bar{\mathbf{u}} = 0$$

eddy-viscosity $\longrightarrow \boldsymbol{\tau}(\bar{\mathbf{u}}) = -2\nu_t \mathbf{S}(\bar{\mathbf{u}})$

$$\nu_t \approx (C_m \delta)^2 D_m(\bar{\mathbf{u}})$$

$$\partial_t \bar{T} + (\bar{\mathbf{u}} \cdot \nabla) \bar{T} = \alpha \nabla^2 \bar{T} - \nabla \cdot \mathbf{q} \quad \text{where} \quad \mathbf{q} = \overline{\mathbf{u}T} - \bar{\mathbf{u}}\bar{T}$$

eddy-diffusivity	\longrightarrow	$\mathbf{q} \approx -\alpha_t \nabla \bar{T}$	$(\equiv \mathbf{q}^{\text{eddy}})$
gradient model	\longrightarrow	$\mathbf{q} \approx -\frac{\delta^2}{12} G \nabla \bar{T}$	$(\equiv \mathbf{q}^{nl})$
Peng&Davidson	\longrightarrow	$\mathbf{q} \approx -\frac{\delta^2}{12} S \nabla \bar{T}$	$(\equiv \mathbf{q}^{PD})$

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$$\text{mixed model} \longrightarrow \mathbf{q} \approx \mathbf{q}^{nl} + \sigma \mathbf{q}^{\text{eddy}} \quad (\equiv \mathbf{q}^{\text{mix}})$$

⁸B.J.Daly and F.H.Harlow. **Physics of Fluids**, 13:2634, 1970.

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$$\text{Daly\&Harlow}^8 \longrightarrow \mathbf{q} \approx -T_{SGS} \frac{\delta^2}{12} \mathbf{G}\mathbf{G}^T \nabla \bar{T} \quad (\equiv \mathbf{q}^{DH})$$

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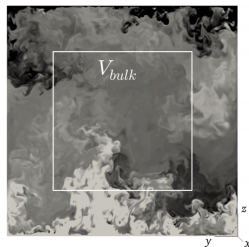
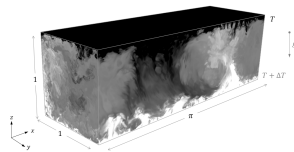
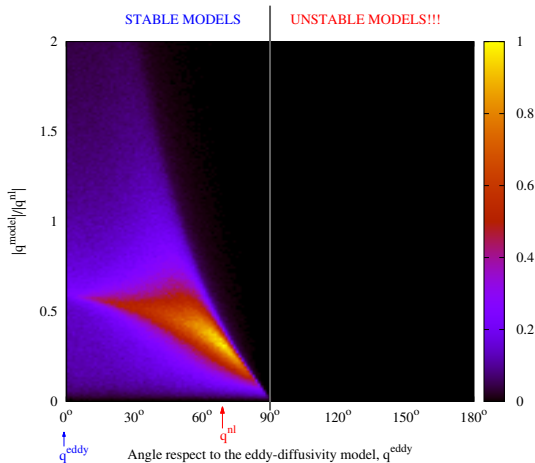
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A priori alignment trends

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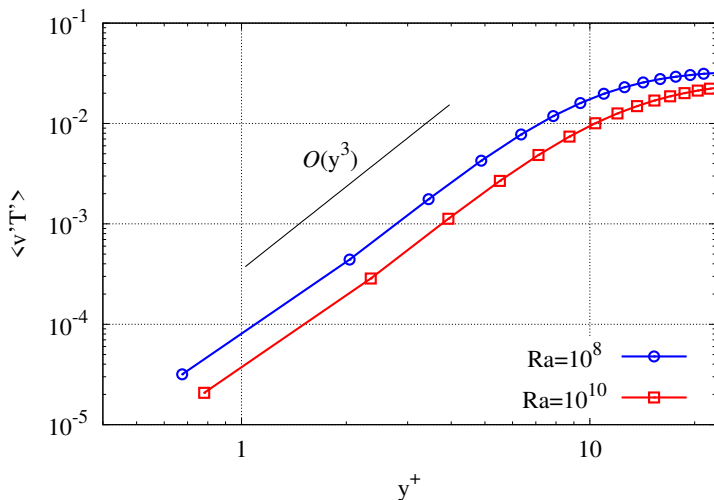
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What about near-wall scaling?

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⇒ Answer: it should be $\mathcal{O}(y^3)$



Near-wall scaling for DH model?

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Near-wall scaling for DH model?

⇒ Answer: it is $\mathcal{O}(y^1)$ instead of $\mathcal{O}(y^3)$

$$\mathbf{q}^{DH} \equiv -\mathcal{T}_{SGS} \frac{\delta^2}{12} \mathbf{G}\mathbf{G}^T \nabla \bar{T}; \quad \mathcal{T}_{SGS} = 1/|S|$$

$$u = ay + \mathcal{O}(y^2); \quad v = by^2 + \mathcal{O}(y^3); \quad w = cy + \mathcal{O}(y^2); \quad T = dy + \mathcal{O}(y^2)$$

$$\mathbf{G} = \begin{pmatrix} y & 1 & y \\ y^2 & y & y^2 \\ y & 1 & y \end{pmatrix}; \quad \nabla \bar{T} = \begin{pmatrix} y \\ 1 \\ y \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \mathbf{G}\mathbf{G}^T \nabla \bar{T} = \begin{pmatrix} y \\ y^2 \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{O}(y^1)$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{SGS} = 1/|S| = \mathcal{O}(y^0)$$

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$$\mathcal{T}_{SGS} = 1/|S| = \mathcal{O}(y^0)$$

Idea: build a \mathcal{T}_{SGS} with the proper $\mathcal{O}(y^2)$ scaling!!!

Building proper models for the subgrid heat flux⁹

Let us consider models that are based on the invariants of the tensor GG^T

$$\mathbf{q} \approx -C_M \left(P_{GG^T}^p Q_{GG^T}^q R_{GG^T}^r \right) \frac{\delta^2}{12} GG^T \nabla \bar{T} \quad (\equiv \mathbf{q}^{S2})$$

⁹F.X.Trias, F.Dabbagh, A.Gorobets, C.Oliet. *On a proper tensor-diffusivity model for LES of buoyancy-driven turbulence*, **Flow Turbul Combust**, 105:393-414, 2020.

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	P_{GG^T}	Q_{GG^T}	R_{GG^T}
Formula	$2(Q_\Omega - Q_S)$	$V^2 + Q_G^2$	R_G^2
Wall-behavior	$\mathcal{O}(y^0)$	$\mathcal{O}(y^2)$	$\mathcal{O}(y^6)$
Units	$[T^{-2}]$	$[T^{-4}]$	$[T^{-6}]$

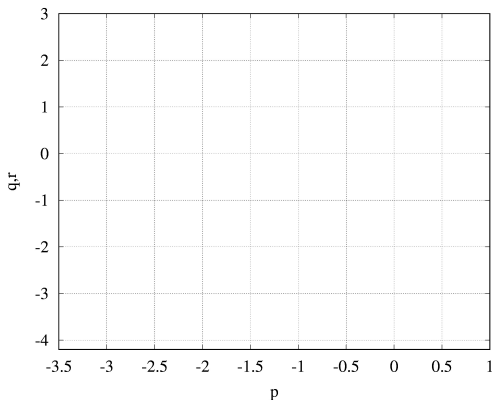
$$-6r - 4q - 2p = 1 [T]; \quad 6r + 2q = s,$$

where s is the slope for the asymptotic near-wall behavior, *i.e.* $\mathcal{O}(y^s)$.

⁹F.X.Trias, F.Dabbagh, A.Gorobets, C.Oliet. *On a proper tensor-diffusivity model for LES of buoyancy-driven turbulence*, **Flow Turbul Combust**, 105:393-414, 2020.

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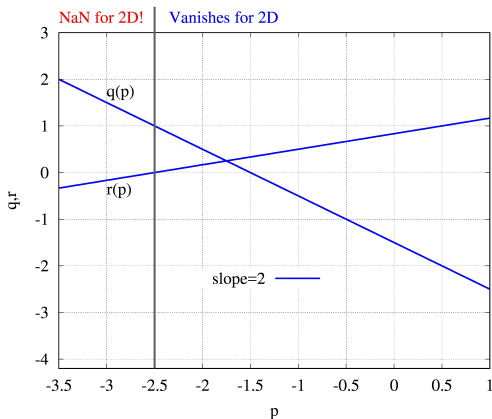
Solutions: $q(p, s) = -(1 + s)/2 - p$ and $r(p, s) = (2s + 1)/6 + p/3$



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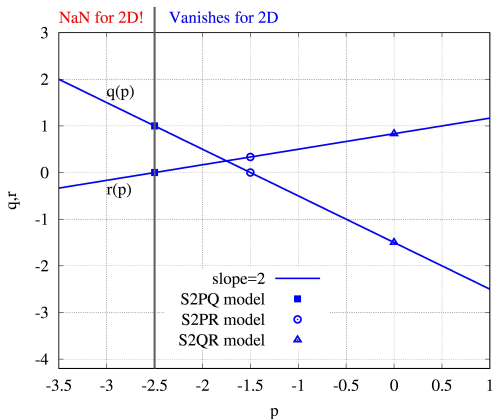
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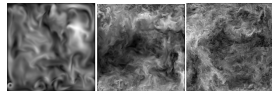
A priori analysis in the bulk

Estimation of the model constant, C_{s2pqr}

Playing with exponent $p...$

$$\mathbf{q}^{S2PQR} \approx -C_{s2pqr} \left(P_{GGT}^P Q_{GGT}^{-(p+3/2)} R_{GGT}^{(2p+5)/6} \right) \frac{\delta^2}{12} GG^T \nabla \bar{T}$$

$Ra = 10^8$ $Ra = 10^{10}$ $Ra = 10^{11}$



$$\frac{\langle |\mathbf{q}^{S2PQR}| \rangle_{bulk}}{\langle |\mathbf{q}| \rangle_{bulk}} = 1 \longrightarrow C_{s2pqr}$$



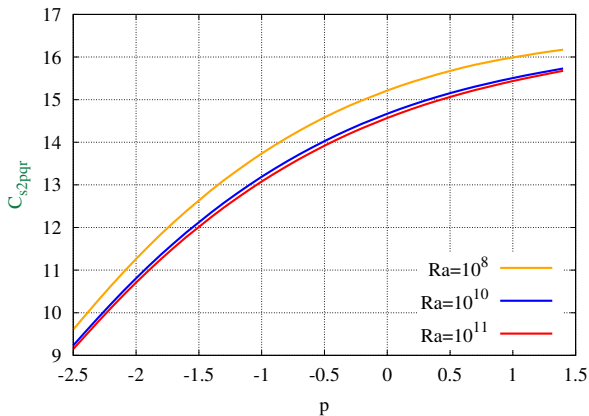
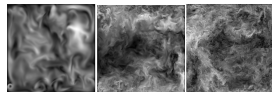
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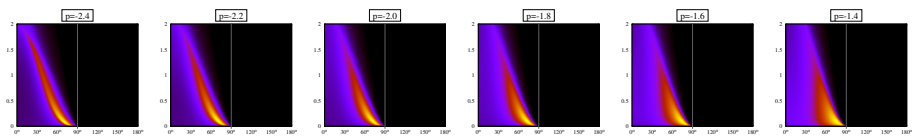
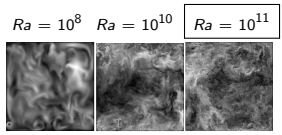


A priori analysis in the bulk

Alignment trends...

Playing with exponent $p...$

$$q^{S2PQR} \approx -C_s 2^{pqr} \left(P_{GGT}^p Q_{GGT}^{-(p+3/2)} R_{GGT}^{(2p+5)/6} \right) \frac{\delta^2}{12} GG^T \nabla \bar{T}$$

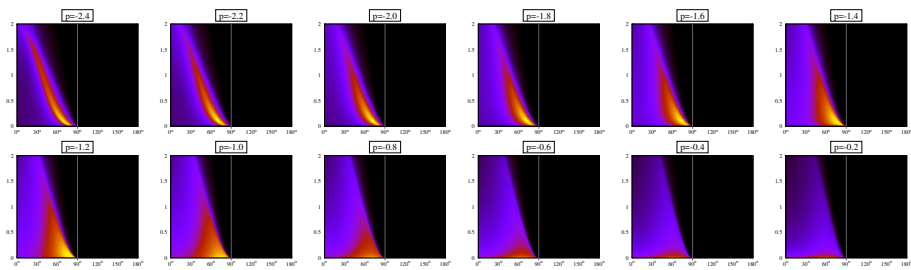
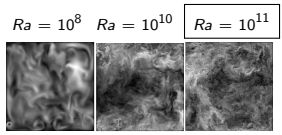


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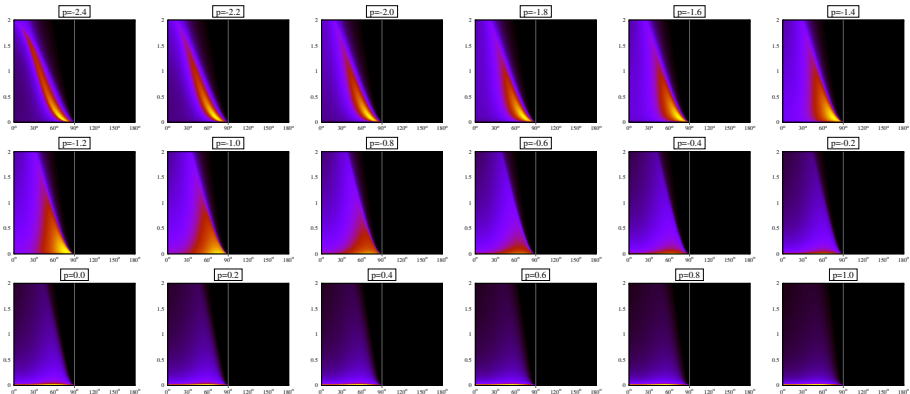
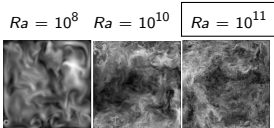


A priori analysis in the bulk

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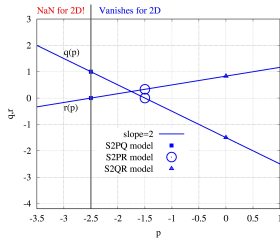
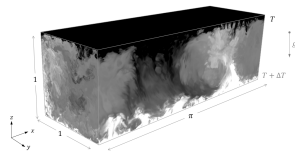
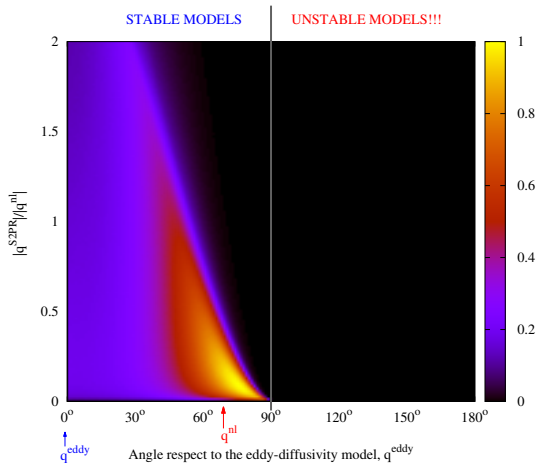
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A priori alignment trends of S2PR in the bulk

$$\mathbf{q}^{nl} \equiv -\frac{\delta^2}{12} G \nabla \bar{T}$$

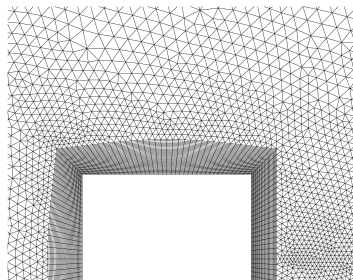
$$\mathbf{q}^{s2PR} \equiv -C_{s2pr} P_{GG^T}^{-3/2} R_{GG^T}^{1/3} \frac{\delta^2}{12} GG^T \nabla \bar{T}$$



Motivation

Research question #2:

- Can we construct numerical discretizations of the Navier-Stokes equations suitable for **complex geometries**, such that the **symmetry properties** are exactly preserved?



DNS³ of the turbulent flow around a square cylinder at $Re = 22000$

³F.X.Trias, A.Gorobets, A.Oliva. *Turbulent flow around a square cylinder at Reynolds number 22000: a DNS study*, **Computers&Fluids**, 123:87-98, 2015.

Symmetry-preserving discretization

Continuous

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}) = \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} - \nabla p$$
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

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$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}) = \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} - \nabla p$$
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Discrete

$$\Omega \frac{d\mathbf{u}_h}{dt} + \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{u}_h) \mathbf{u}_h = \mathbf{D} \mathbf{u}_h - \mathbf{G} \mathbf{p}_h$$
$$\mathbf{M} \mathbf{u}_h = \mathbf{0}_h$$

Symmetry-preserving discretization

Continuous

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}) = \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} - \nabla p$$
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Symmetry-preserving discretization

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$$\Omega \mathbf{G} = -\mathbf{M}^T$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{D}^T \quad \text{def -}$$

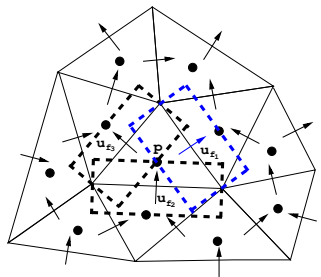
Why collocated arrangements are so popular?

- STAR-CCM+  
- ANSYS-FLUENT 
- Code-Saturne  
- OpenFOAM  

$$\Omega_s \frac{d\mathbf{u}_s}{dt} + \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{u}_s) \mathbf{u}_s = \mathbf{D} \mathbf{u}_s - \mathbf{G} p_c; \quad \mathbf{M} \mathbf{u}_s = \mathbf{0}_c$$

In staggered meshes

- $p-\mathbf{u}_s$ coupling is naturally solved ✓
- $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{u}_s)$ and \mathbf{D} difficult to discretize ✗



Why collocated arrangements are so popular?

- STAR-CCM+



SIEMENS



- ANSYS-FLUENT



- Code-Saturne



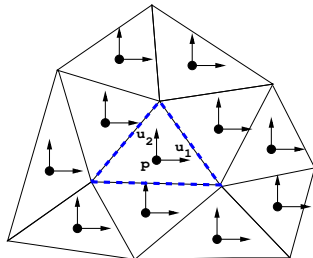
- OpenFOAM



$$\Omega_c \frac{d\mathbf{u}_c}{dt} + \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{u}_s) \mathbf{u}_c = \mathbf{D} \mathbf{u}_c - \mathbf{G}_c \mathbf{p}_c; \quad \mathbf{M}_c \mathbf{u}_c = \mathbf{0}_c$$

In collocated meshes

- $p-\mathbf{u}_c$ coupling is cumbersome **X**
- $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{u}_s)$ and \mathbf{D} easy to discretize **✓**
- Cheaper, less memory, ... **✓**



Why collocated arrangements are so popular?

Everything is easy except the pressure-velocity coupling...

- STAR-CCM+



- ANSYS-FLUENT



- Code-Saturne



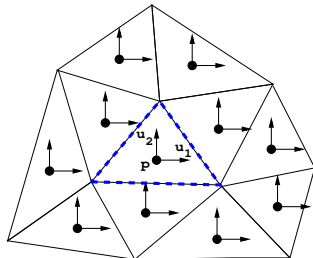
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- Cheaper, less memory, ... **✓**



Pressure-velocity coupling on collocated grids

A vicious circle that cannot be broken...

In summary¹⁰:

- Mass: $M\Gamma_{c \rightarrow s} \mathbf{u}_c = M\Gamma_{c \rightarrow s} \mathbf{u}_c - L_c L_c^{-1} M\Gamma_{c \rightarrow s} \mathbf{u}_c \approx \mathbf{0}_c \quad \mathbf{X}$
- Energy: $\mathbf{p}_c (L - L_c) \mathbf{p}_c \neq 0 \quad \mathbf{X}$

¹⁰F.X.Trias, O.Lehmkuhl, A.Oliva, C.D.Pérez-Segarra, R.W.C.P.Verstappen.
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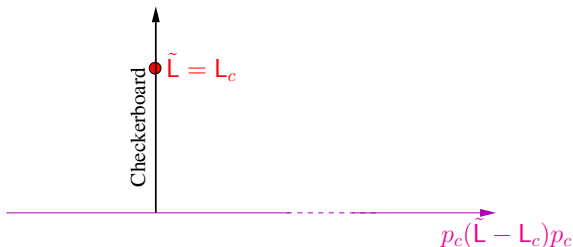
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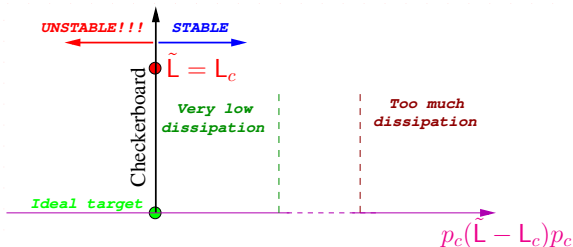
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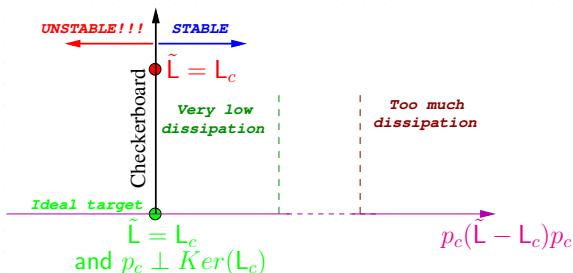
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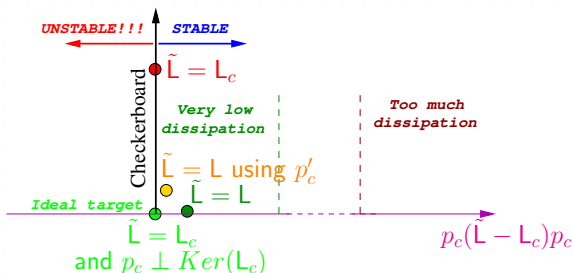
¹⁰Shashank, J.Larsson, G.laccarino. A co-located incompressible Navier-Stokes solver with exact mass, momentum and kinetic energy conservation in the inviscid limit, *Journal of Computational Physics*, 229: 4425-4430,2010.

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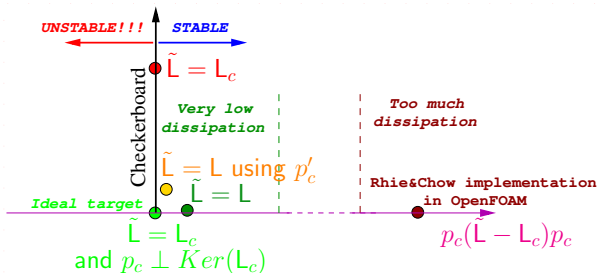
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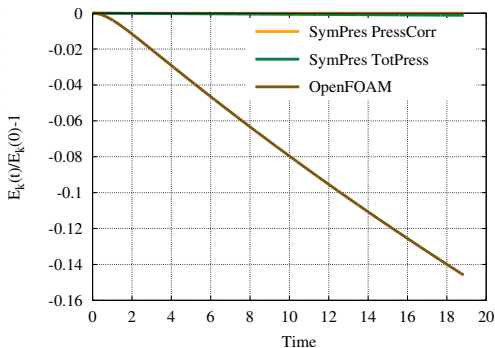
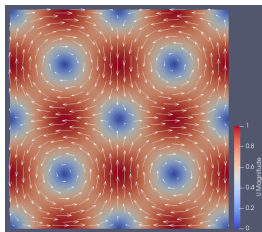
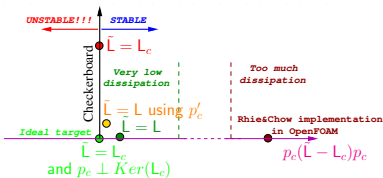
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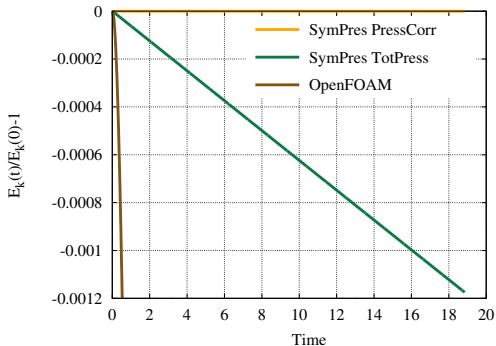
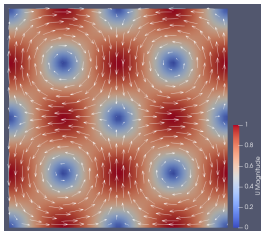
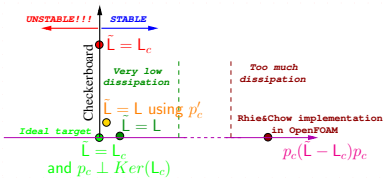


Results for an inviscid Taylor-Green vortex¹¹

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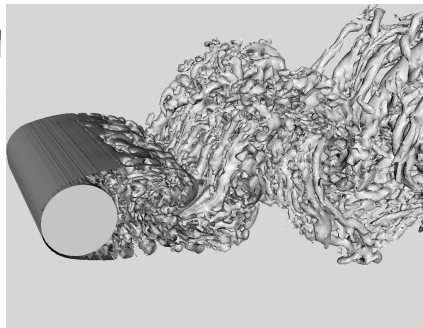
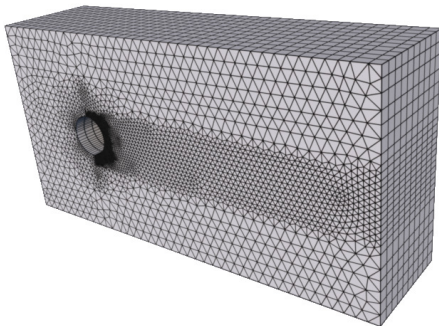
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Examples of simulations

Despite these inherent limitations, symmetry-preserving collocated formulation has been successfully used for DNS/LES simulations¹²:

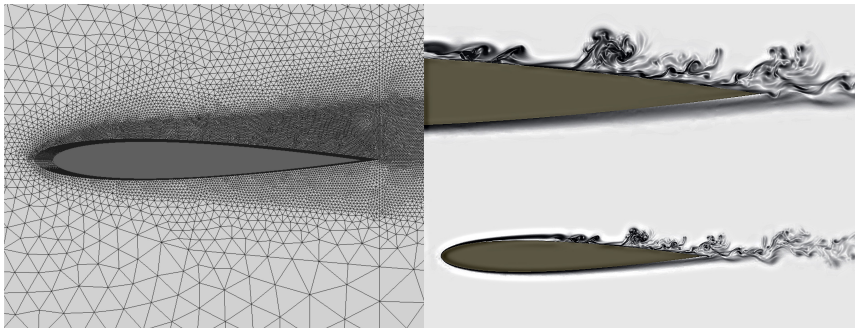


¹²R.Borrell, O.Lehmkuhl, F.X.Trias, A.Oliva. *Parallel Direct Poisson solver for discretizations with one Fourier diagonalizable direction*. **Journal of Computational Physics**, 230:4723-4741, 2011.

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Concluding remarks

- A new tensor-diffusivity model has been proposed

$$\mathbf{q}^{s2PR} \equiv -C_{s2pr} P_{GG^T}^{-3/2} R_{GG^T}^{1/3} \frac{\delta^2}{12} GG^T \nabla \bar{T}$$

- Locally defined, unconditionally stable and vanishes for 2D flows ✓
- Good *a priori* alignment trends and proper near-wall scaling ✓

¹³On Friday at **16:50 in Room B**: N.Valle, F.X.Trias, R.W.C.P.Verstappen.
Symmetry-preserving discretizations in unstructured staggered meshes

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Future research:

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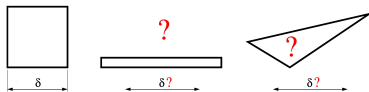
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Thank you for your
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Acknowledgements



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