

# Unsteady Mesh Adaptation

Nicolas Barral, Adrien Loseille and Frédéric Alauzet

INRIA - Gamma3 Project - Rocquencourt, France

Kick-off ANR MAIDESC

- 1 Unsteady solutions: metric-based anisotropic mesh adaptation for unsteady flows
- 2 Moving geometries: moving mesh algorithm
- 3 Perspectives

1 Unsteady Mesh Adaptation

2 Moving Mesh Algorithm

3 Perspectives

# Motivations



# Reminder: Metric-based Mesh Adaptation

To address these problems :  $L^P$  metric-based adaptation

- Error estimate  $\longrightarrow$  metric field  $\longrightarrow$  unit mesh

[Vallet, 1992], [Casto-Diaz et Al., 1997], [Hecht et Mohammadi, 1997]

[Peraire et Al., 1987] [Zienkiewicz et Wu, 1994]

$\implies$  based on continuous mesh model

- Unit mesh obtained with a local remesher

$\implies$  cavity-based primitive [Loseille, IMR, 2012]

Other mesh adaptation methods:

[Bottasso, Tango, Poly. Milano], [Coupez, Forge3D, CEMEF], [Dobrinisky et al., MMG3D, UMB], [George et al., INRIA]  
[Lipnikov et al. Los Alamos], [Loseille, Feflo.a, INRIA], [Park, Nasa Langley], [Piggot, MadLib, Imp. College]  
[Oubay et al., Swansea U.], [Remacle et al., Louvain U.], [Shepard et al., MeshAdapt, SCOREC]

## Discrete

Element  $K$

Volume  $|K|$

Mesh  $\mathcal{H}$  of  $\Omega_h$

Number of vertices  $N_v$

Linear interpolate  $\Pi_h u$

Interpolation error  $\|u - \Pi_h u\|$

## Continuous

Metric tensor  $\mathcal{M}$

Volume  $\alpha (\det \mathcal{M})^{-\frac{1}{2}}$

Riemannian metric space  $\mathbf{M} = (\mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}))_{\mathbf{x} \in \Omega}$

Complexity  $\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{M}) = \int_{\Omega} \sqrt{\det(\mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}))} d\mathbf{x}$

Continuous linear interpolate  $\pi_{\mathcal{M}} u$

Trace  $(\mathcal{M}^{-\frac{1}{2}} |H_u| \mathcal{M}^{-\frac{1}{2}})$

# Problem

- **Discrete space-time** mesh adaptation :

Find  $\mathcal{H}_{opt}$  having  $N_{st}$  space-time vertices such that

$$\mathcal{H}_{opt}(u) = \text{Arg min}_{\mathcal{H}} \|u - \Pi_h u\|_{\mathcal{H}, \mathbf{L}^p(\Omega \times [0, T])}$$

- **Continuous space-time** mesh adaptation:

Find  $\mathbf{M}_{L^p} = (\mathcal{M}_{L^p}(\mathbf{x}, t))_{(\mathbf{x}, t) \in \mathcal{Q}}$  of space-time complexity  $N_{st}$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} E_{L^p}(\mathbf{M}_{L^p}) &= \min_{\mathbf{M}} \left( \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} |u(\mathbf{x}, t) - \pi_{\mathcal{M}} u(\mathbf{x}, t)|^p \, d\mathbf{x} dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \\ &= \min_{\mathbf{M}} \left( \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \text{Trace} \left( \mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}, t)^{-\frac{1}{2}} |H_u(\mathbf{x}, t)| \mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}, t)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right)^p \, d\mathbf{x} dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \end{aligned}$$

under constraint  $C_{st}(\mathbf{M}) = N_{st} = \int_0^T \tau(t)^{-1} \left( \int_{\Omega} d_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathbf{x}, t) d\mathbf{x} \right) dt$

# Fixed-Point Mesh Adaptation Algorithm [Alauzet et al., JCP 2007]

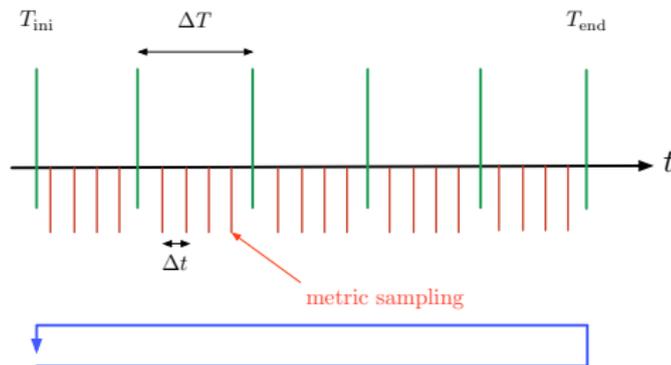
- A global fixed-point algorithm
  - ⇒ to compute the space-time metric complexity
  - ⇒ to converge the non-linear mesh adaptation problem
  - ⇒ to predict the solution evolution

- Split the simulation into several time sub-intervals and set an adapted mesh for each sub-interval

⇒ to limit the number of meshes

$$[0, T] = [0 = t_0, t_1] \cup \dots \cup [t_i, t_{i+1}] \cup \dots \cup [t_{n_{adap}-1}, t_{n_{adap}}].$$

⇒ use of a *mean* hessian on each sub-interval



Fixed-point loop

# Problem

- **Continuous space-time** mesh adaptation :

$$E_{L^p}(\mathbf{M}_{L^p}) = \min_{\mathbf{M}} \left( \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \text{Trace} \left( \mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}, t)^{-\frac{1}{2}} |H_u(\mathbf{x}, t)| \mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}, t)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right)^p dx dt \right)$$

- **Semi-discrete space-time** mesh adaptation with **sub-intervals**

Find  $\mathbf{M}_{L^p}^i = (\mathcal{M}_{L^p}^i(\mathbf{x}))_{(\mathbf{x}) \in \Omega}$  of space-time complexity  $N^i$  such that

$$E_{L^p}^i(\mathbf{M}_{L^p}^i) = \min_{\mathbf{M}^i} \int_{\Omega} \text{trace} \left( (\mathcal{M}^i)^{-\frac{1}{2}}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{H}_u^i(\mathbf{x}) (\mathcal{M}^i)^{-\frac{1}{2}}(\mathbf{x}) \right)^p dx$$

under constraint  $\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{M}^i) = N^i$  with  $\mathbf{H}_u^i$  defined by:

$$\mathbf{H}_{L^1}^i(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_i} |H_u(\mathbf{x}, t)| dt \quad \text{or} \quad \mathbf{H}_{L^\infty}^i(\mathbf{x}) = \Delta t_i \max_{t \in [t_{i-1}, t_i]} |H_u(\mathbf{x}, t)|,$$

# Minimizing the Interpolation Error in $L^p$ -norm

Optimization problem for **time sub-intervals**, two steps resolution:

1. Spatial minimization on a sub-interval
2. Temporal minimization on a sub-interval

## Spatial minimization on a sub-interval

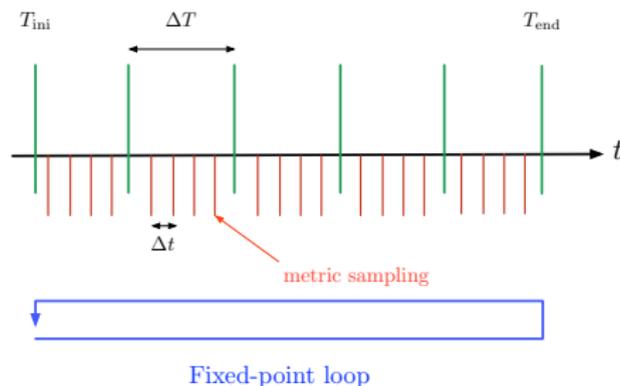
$$\mathcal{M}_{L^p}^i(\mathbf{x}) = (N^i)^{\frac{2}{3}} (\mathcal{K}^i)^{-\frac{2}{3}} (\det \mathbf{H}_u^i(\mathbf{x}))^{-\frac{1}{2p+3}} \mathbf{H}_u^i(\mathbf{x})$$

## Temporal minimization on a sub-interval for $\tau$ [Belme et al., JCP 2012]

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{L^p}^i(\mathbf{x}) &= N_{st}^{\frac{2}{3}} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n_{adap}} (\mathcal{K}^j)^{\frac{3}{2p+3}} \left( \int_{t_{j-1}}^{t_j} \tau(t)^{-1} dt \right)^{\frac{2p}{2p+3}} \right)^{-\frac{2}{3}} \\ &\quad \left( \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_i} \tau(t)^{-1} dt \right)^{-\frac{2}{2p+3}} (\det \mathbf{H}_u^i(\mathbf{x}))^{-\frac{1}{2p+3}} \mathbf{H}_u^i(\mathbf{x}) \end{aligned}$$

with  $\mathcal{K}^i = \left( \int_{\Omega} (\det \mathbf{H}_u^i(\bar{\mathbf{x}}))^{\frac{p}{2p+3}} d\bar{\mathbf{x}} \right)$

# Fixed-Point Mesh Adaptation Algorithm [Alauzet et al., JCP 2007]



```
For j=1,nptfx
```

```
  For i=1,nadap
```

- $S_{0,i}^j = \text{InterpolateSolution}(\mathcal{H}_{i-1}^j, S_{i-1}^j, \mathcal{H}_i^j)$
- $S_i^j = \text{SolveState}(S_{0,i}^j, \mathcal{H}_i^j)$
- $|H_{\max}|_i^j = \text{ComputeHessianMetric}(\mathcal{H}_i^j, \{S_i^j(k)\}_{k=1,nk})$

```
End for
```

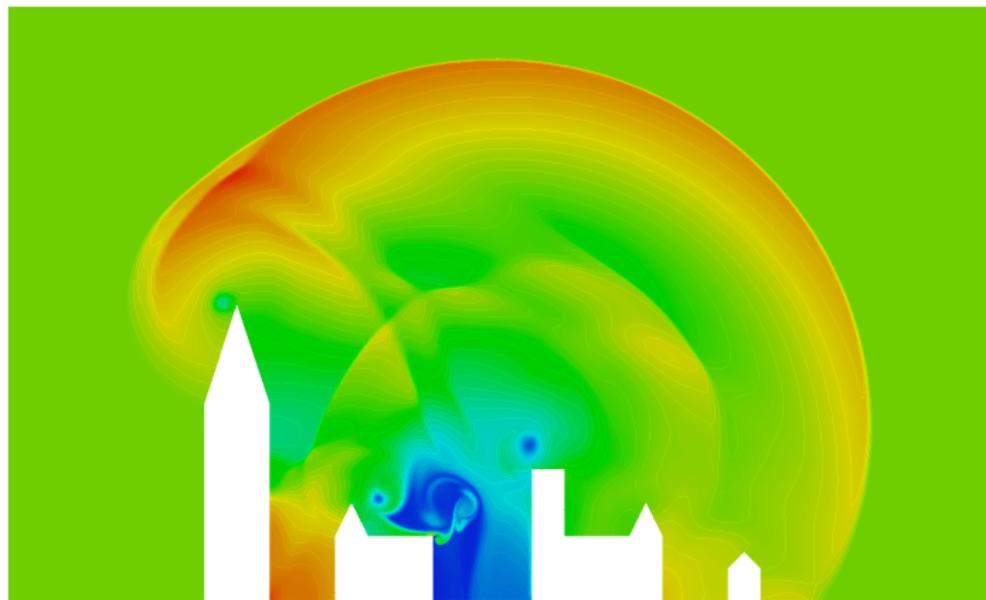
```
 $C^j = \text{ComputeSpaceTimeComplexity}(\{|H_{\max}|_i^j\}_{i=1,nadap})$ 
```

```
 $\mathcal{M}_i^{j-1} = \text{ComputeUnsteadyLpMetrics}(C^{j-1}, |H_{\max}|_i^{j-1})$ 
```

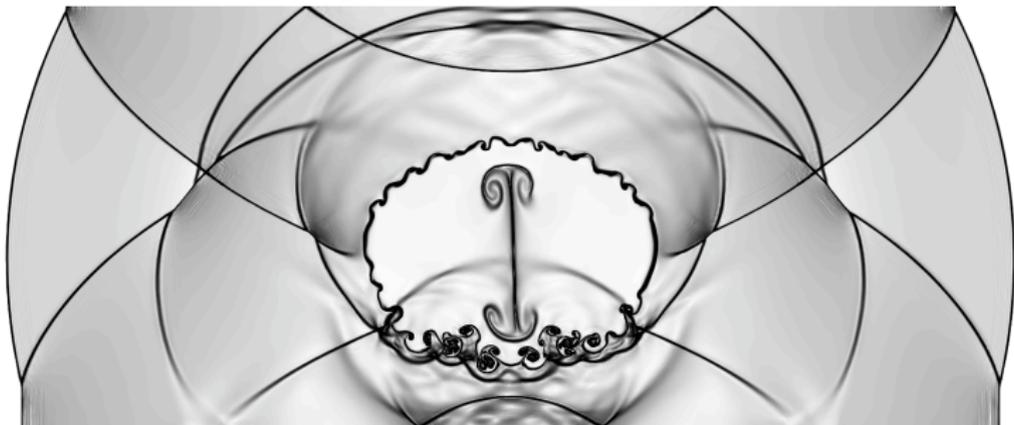
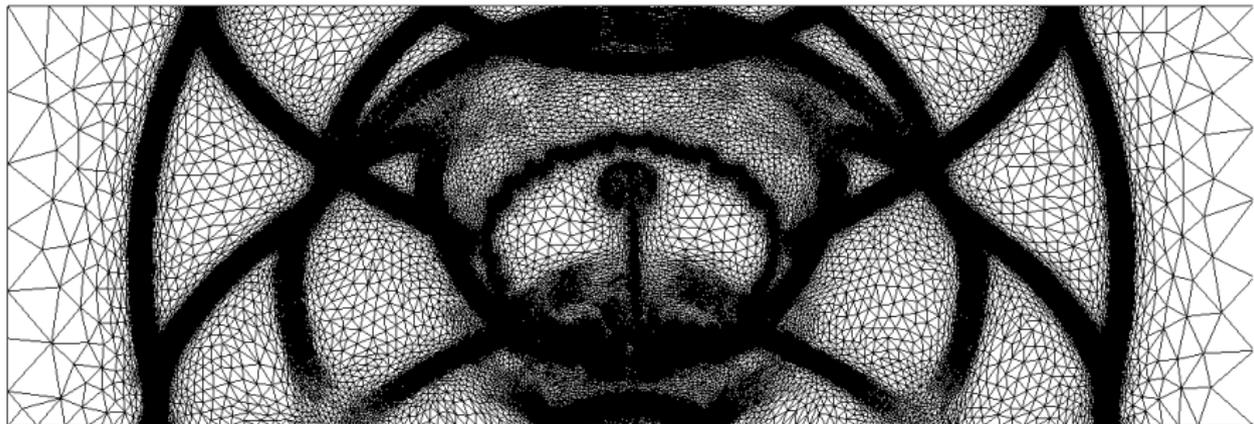
```
 $\mathcal{H}_i^j = \text{GenerateAdaptedMeshes}(\mathcal{H}_i^{j-1}, \mathcal{M}_i^{j-1})$ 
```

```
End for
```

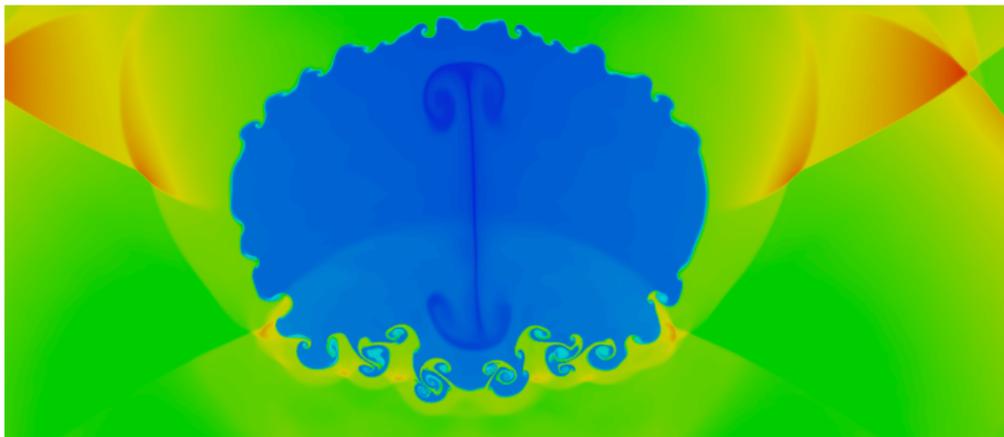
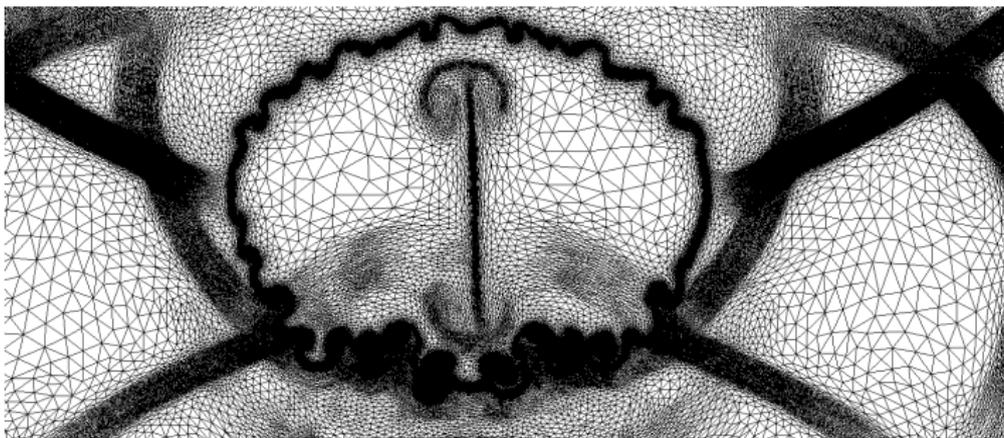
# Examples: First a Movie to Illustrate the Approach



# A 2D Blast (Leveque)

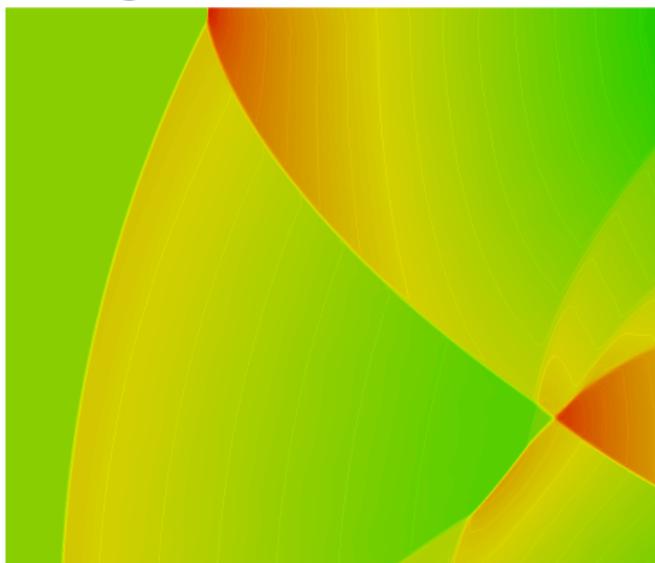
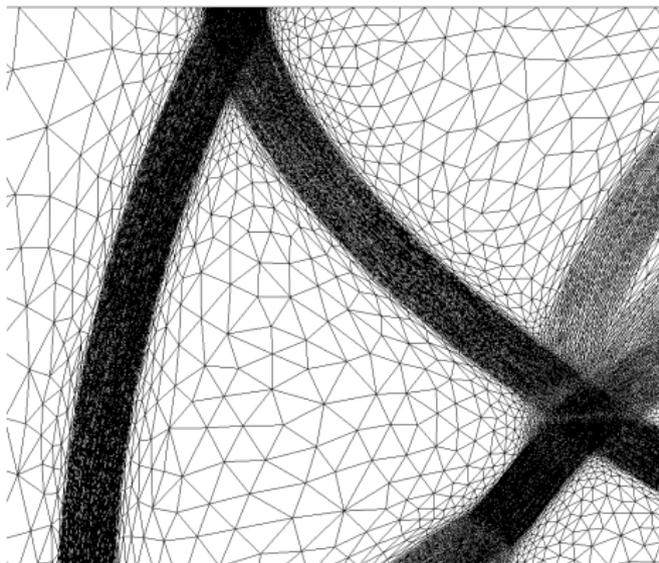


# A 2D Blast (Leveque)



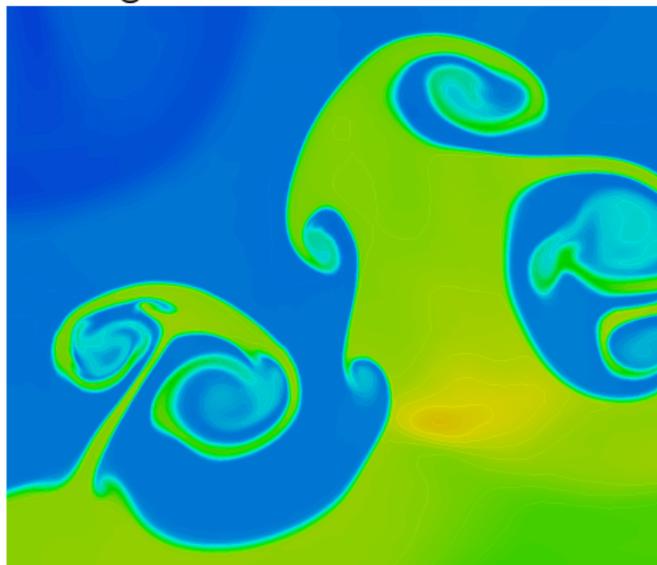
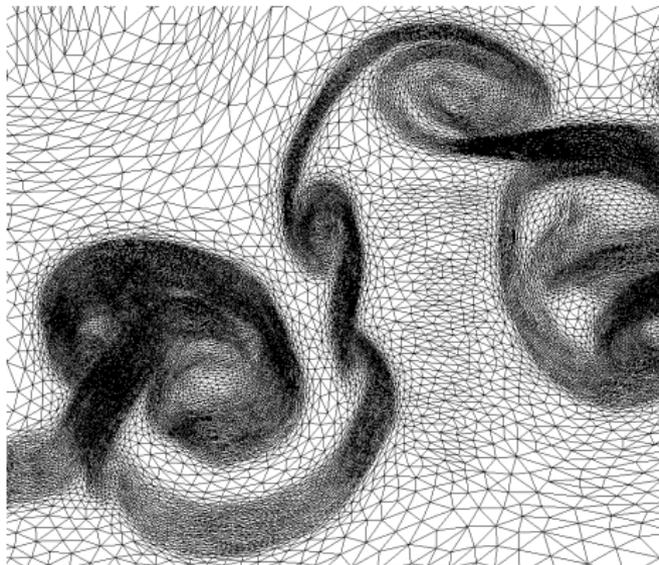
# A 2D Blast (Leveque)

Mesh size: 182 500 vertices and 364 000 triangles



# A 2D Blast (Leveque)

Mesh size: 182 500 vertices and 364 000 triangles



## ● Problem:

- Bast initialization:  
high-density (10, 0, 0, 0, 25) and air (1, 0, 0, 0, 2.5)
- 3D town geometry ( $85 \times 70 \times 70 m^3$ )  
⇒ 3D *a priori* unpredictable physical phenomena

## ● Simulation :

- 8-processors 64-bits MacPro with an IntelCore2 chipsets with a clockspeed of 2.8GHz with 32Gb of RAM
- 40 mesh adaptations, 5 fixed point iterations, 21 metric intersection in time
- Simulation CPU time 4h32m  
(Computation: first 9m and last 40m)

	Solver / Metric / Interpolation	Gradation / Mesh	Global
Total CPU time	2h52m	1h40m	4h32m
Percentage	63.23%	36.77%	100%

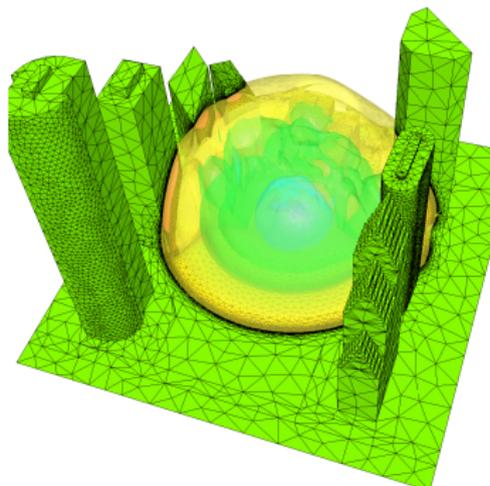
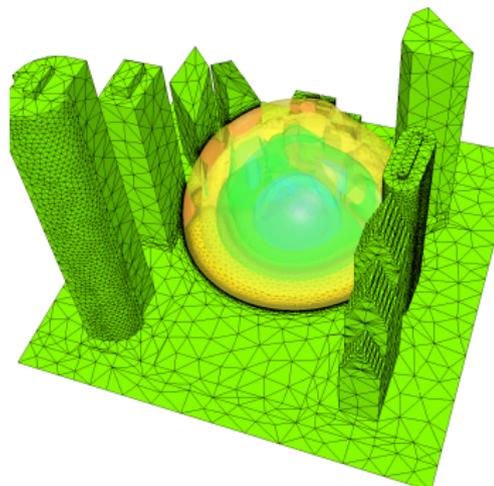
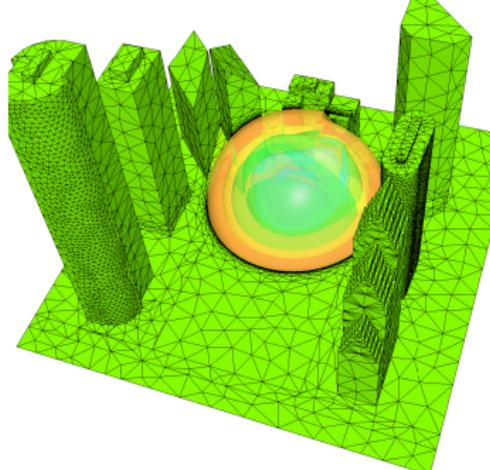
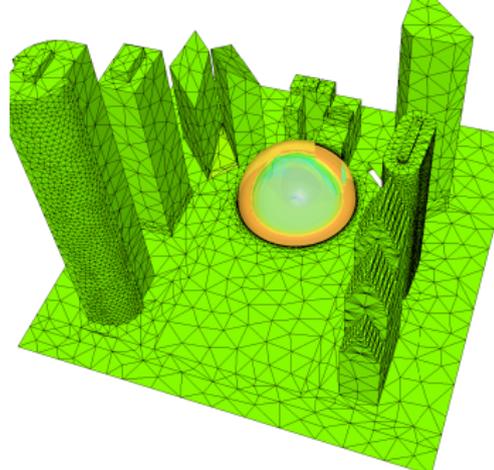
- **Problem:**

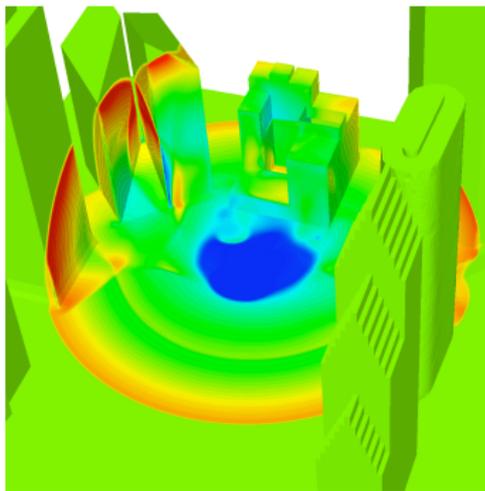
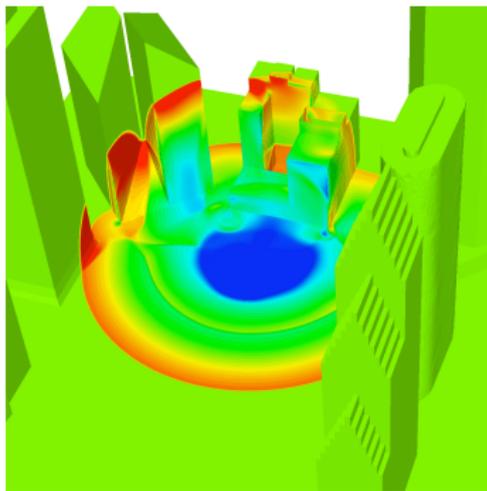
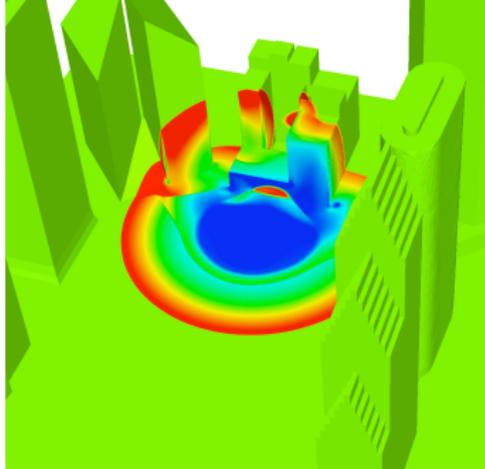
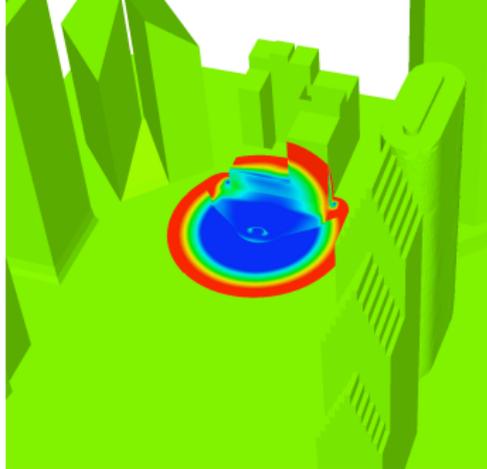
- Best initialization:  
high-density (10, 0, 0, 0, 25) and air (1, 0, 0, 0, 2.5)
- 3D town geometry ( $85 \times 70 \times 70 m^3$ )  
 $\implies$  3D *a priori* unpredictable physical phenomena

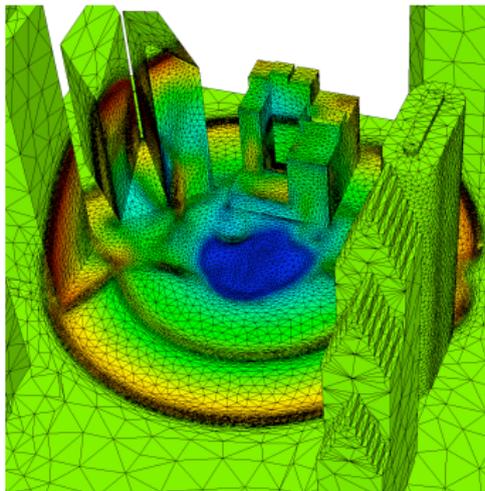
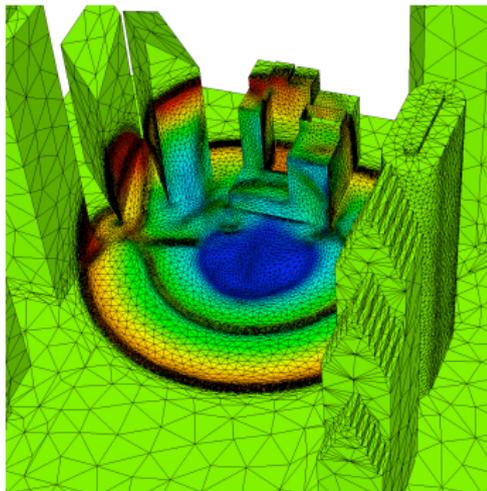
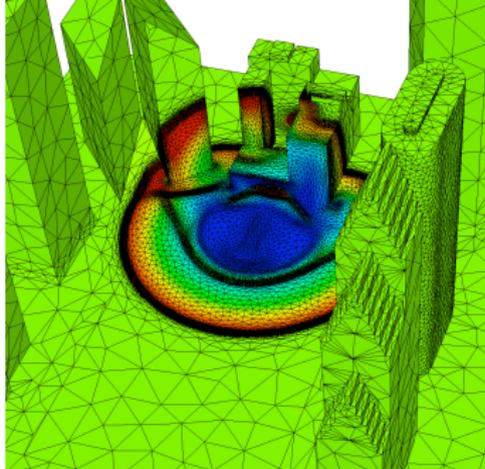
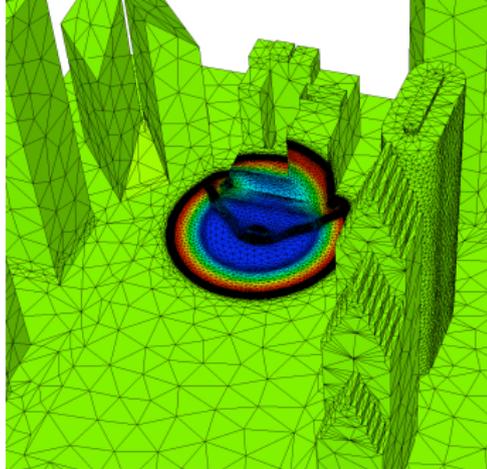
- **Adapted meshes characteristics:**

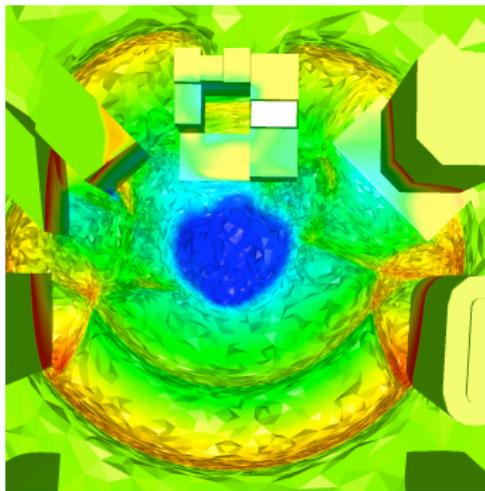
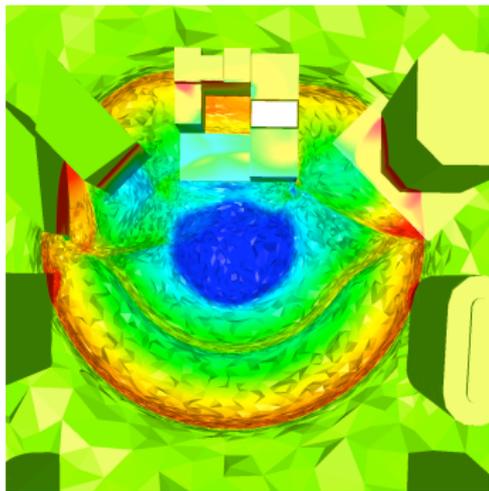
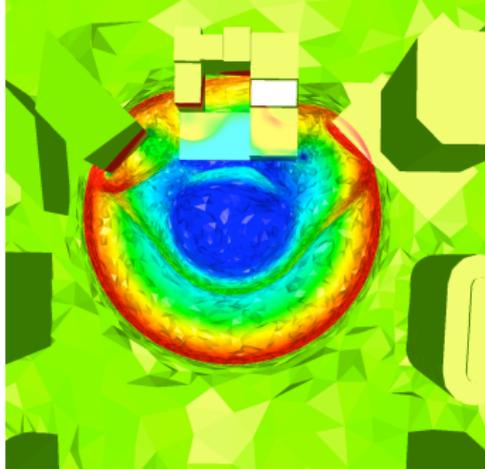
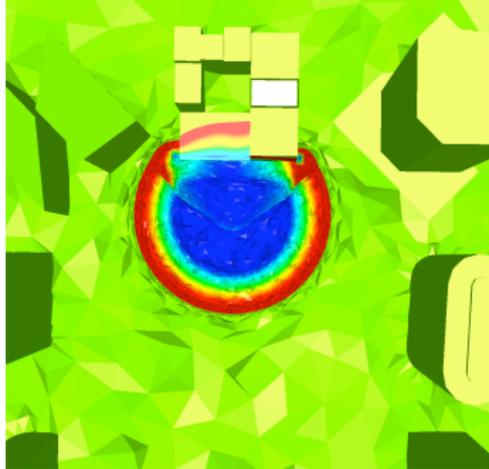
Iteration	$nv$	$nt$	$nf$	min $h$	ratio	quotient
Initial Unif.	99 255	549 128	35 420	35cm	2 (32)	4 (540)
10	305 027	1 746 040	42 486	4cm	15 (105)	164 (6804)
20	225 829	1 275 931	45 000	6cm	12 (72)	122 (3380)
30	189 858	1 057 022	48 594	9cm	9 (76)	77 (2890)
40	185 148	1 027 537	50 250	11cm	8 (71)	56 (2813)

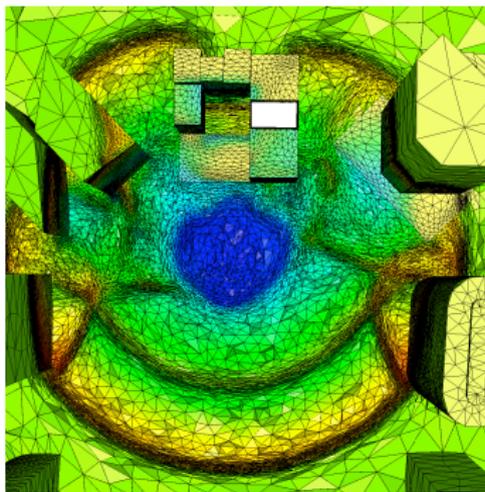
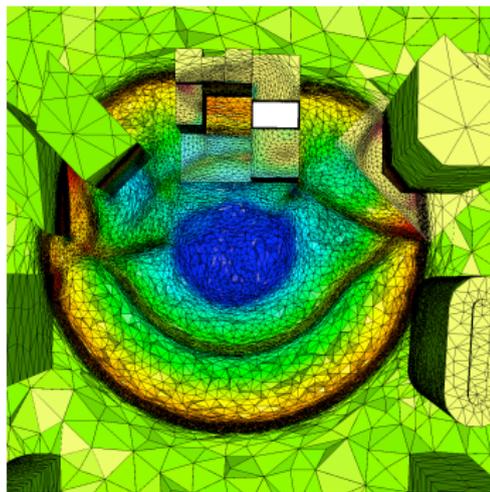
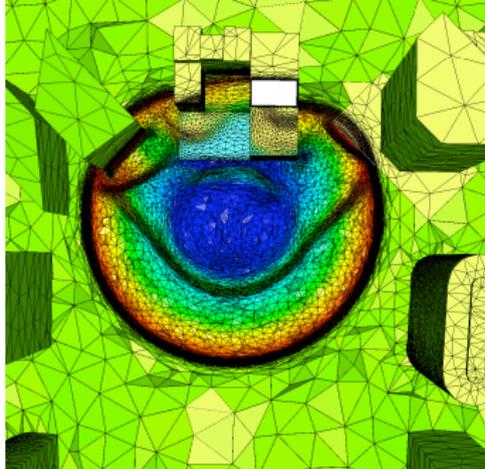
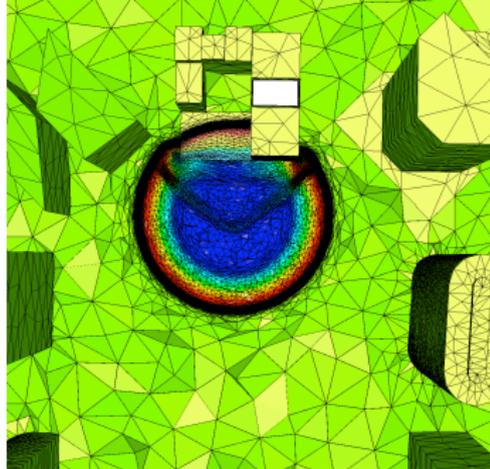
$$\text{ratio} = \sqrt{\frac{\min_i \lambda_i}{\max_i \lambda_i}} = \frac{\max_i h_i}{\min_i h_i} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{quo} = \frac{\max_i h_i^3}{h_1 h_2 h_3}$$

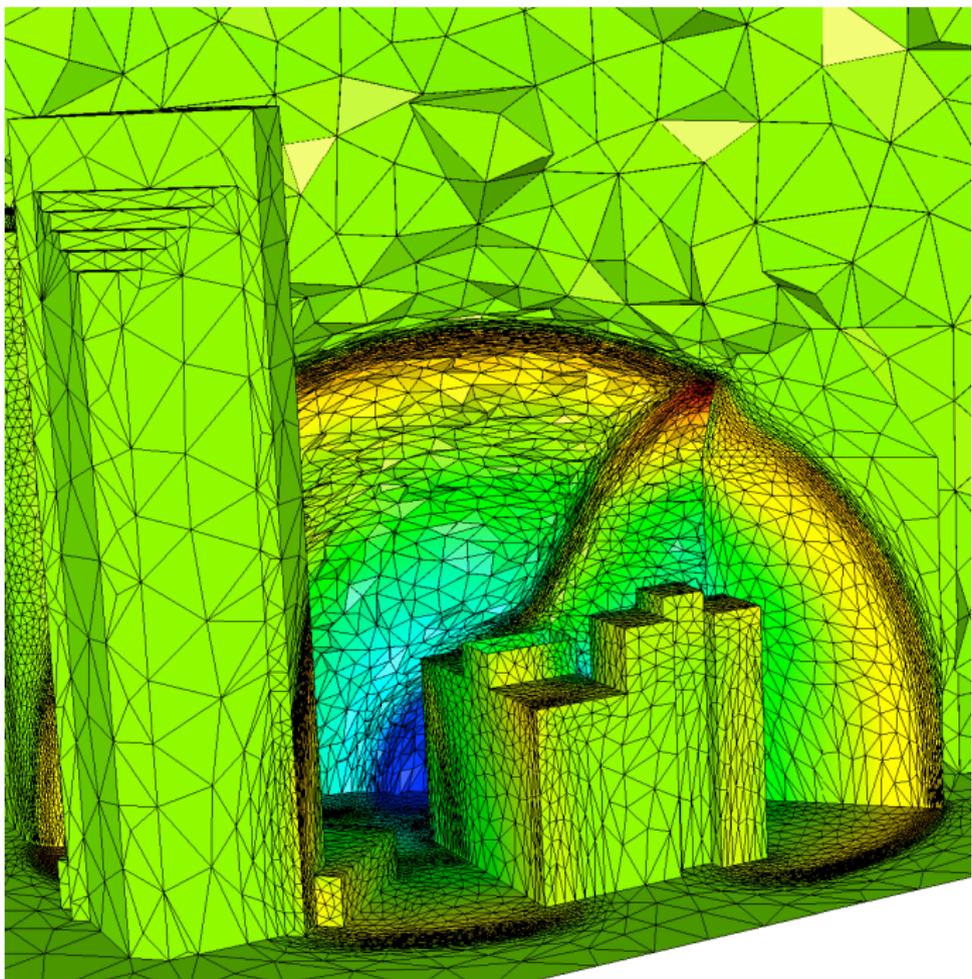












1 Unsteady Mesh Adaptation

2 Moving Mesh Algorithm

3 Perspectives

## Industrial problems

Most of the industrial problems are unsteady and involve moving geometries.

Examples of moving geometry computations:

- landing or take off of an aircraft: slat, flap, landing gear, ...
- turbo machinery, open rotor
- fluid structure interaction problems: off-shore, aeroelasticity, bioinformatics, contact problems...
- ...

**Main numerical difficulty:** how to handle the geometry displacement ?

Possible strategies to handle geometry displacement:

- **Embedded/immersed grid techniques**  
[Peskin, JCP 1972], [Löhner et al., IJNME 2004], ...
- **Body-fitted Chimera approach** (overlapping structured grids)  
[Benek et al., AIAA 1985], [Brezzi et al., CRAS 2001], ...
- ✓ **Body-fitted moving mesh techniques** (single mesh)
  - Move the mesh with a constant connectivity as far as possible and globally remesh the domain when the mesh is too distorted [Batina, AIAA 1990], [Baum and Löhner, AIAA 1997], [Hassan et al., CMAME 2000], [Degand and Farhat, C&S 2002], [Bottasso et al., CMAME 2005], [Hassan et al., IJNMF 2007]...
  - Move the mesh and optimize it with local mesh modification at each time step [Dobrzynski and Frey, IMR 2008], [Compère et al., IJNME 2010]

## Goal: Coupling ALE simulations with anisotropic mesh adaptation

- ⇒ remesh only when we want for adaptation
- ⇒ handle efficiently anisotropic adapted meshes
- ⇒ keep constant the number of dof

## Strategy:

- **relax the fixed topology constraint** imposed by the ALE framework  
ie use only the swap and smoothing operators to move the mesh without remeshing
  - ⇒ feasibility ?
  - ⇒ design an ALE formulation of the swap operator
- take into account the mesh movement in the adaptation

- Aim: assign a trajectory to inner vertices
- 2 methods tried: elasticity analogy and IDW

→ **Elasticity analogy**: displacement  $\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{x})$  obtained by solving an elasticity problem [Baker and Cavallo, AIAA 1999]

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \operatorname{div}(\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{E})) = 0, \quad \text{with } \mathcal{E} = \frac{\nabla \mathbf{d} + {}^t \nabla \mathbf{d}}{2}, \quad \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{E}) = \lambda \operatorname{trace}(\mathcal{E}) \mathcal{I}_n + 2 \mu \mathcal{E} \\ \mathbf{d}|_{\partial\Omega} \text{ prescribed by the movement of the bodies} \\ \lambda, \mu \approx \text{very soft material} \end{array} \right.$$

- Aim: assign a trajectory to inner vertices
- 2 methods tried: elasticity analogy and IDW

→ **Inverse Distance Weighted (IDW) interpolation** [Luke et al., JCP 2012] :

- variant of the Radial Basis Functions (RBF) method
- speed of inner vertices: mean of the boundary vertices speeds

$$\vec{s}(\vec{r}) = \frac{\sum w_i(\vec{r}) \vec{s}_i(\vec{r})}{\sum w_i(\vec{r})}$$

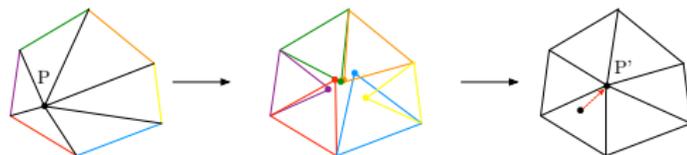
- boundary vertices speeds weighted by the inverse of the distance to inner vertices

$$w_i(\vec{r}) = A_i * \left[ \left( \frac{L_{def}}{\|\vec{r} - \vec{r}_i\|} \right)^a + \left( \frac{\alpha L_{def}}{\|\vec{r} - \vec{r}_i\|} \right)^b \right]$$

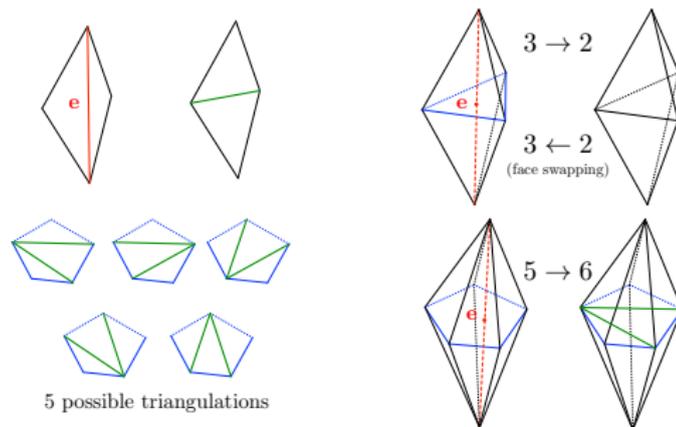
- Reduce number of elasticity resolution:
  - mesh optimisations
  - curved trajectories: each vertex is given a speed and an acceleration
- Stiffen small elements: stiffness alteration based on element Jacobian (volume)
- Rigidify regions: some inner regions are associated with a body
- Elasticity dedicated coarser mesh

# Local Mesh Optimisations

- Mesh quality criterium:  $Q(K) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{216} \left( \sum_{i=0}^5 \ell_{\mathcal{M}}^2(\mathbf{e}_i) \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} |K|_{\mathcal{M}}^{-1} \in [1, +\infty]$
- Mesh vertices smoothing:



- Generalized face/edge swapping:



## Moving mesh algorithm:

$(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{a}) = \text{SolveElasticities}(\mathbf{d}|_{\partial\Omega_h}, dt^{els})$

CheckMeshValidity

While  $(t < t^{els} + dt^{els})$

$dt^{mov} = \text{GetMovingMeshTimeStep}(\mathcal{H}^k, CFL^{geom})$

$\mathcal{H}^k = \text{PerformSwaps}(\mathcal{H}^k, Q_{target}^{swap})$

$\mathbf{v}_{opt} = \text{PerformLaplacianSmoothing}(\mathcal{H}^k, Q_{target}^{smoothing}, Q_{max})$

$\mathcal{H}^{k+1} = \text{MoveTheMesh}(\mathcal{H}^k, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v}_{opt}, \mathbf{a}, dt^{mov})$

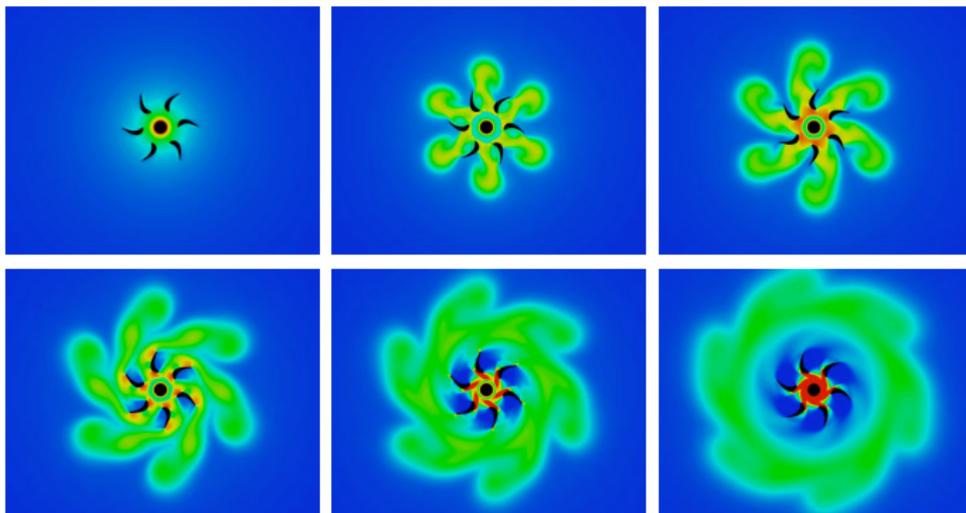
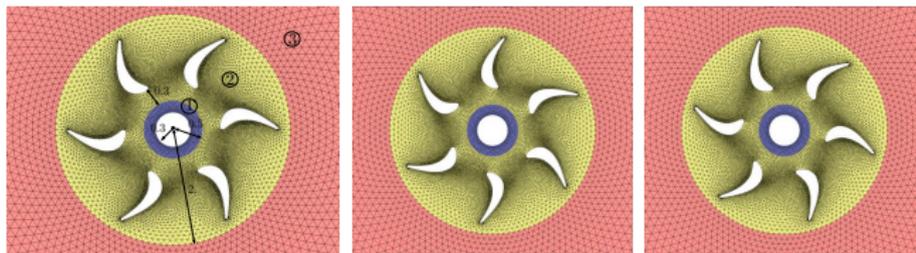
End while

Two crossing F117s

IFP engine

- **Arbitrary Lagrangian Eulerian (ALE)** framework : formulation of the fluid equations on a moving mesh
- Time discretization: speed of the edges chosen to be **DGCL** conservative
- Specific treatment for 2D topology changes: **ALE swap formulation**
- **Loose FSI coupling**

# Example: A Turbopump



1 Unsteady Mesh Adaptation

2 Moving Mesh Algorithm

3 Perspectives

- Mesh Adaptation for moving geometries
- Adaptive mesh deformation

## Optimal ALE metric [Alauzet and Olivier, AIAA 2011]

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{L}^p}^{n+1, ALE}[u](\mathbf{x}^n) = (\det |H_u^{n+1,*}(\mathbf{x}^n)|)^{\frac{-1}{2p+3}} |H_u^{n+1,*}(\mathbf{x}^n)|$$

with

$$H_u^{n+1,*}(\mathbf{x}^n) = (\det(\nabla^n[\phi](\mathbf{x}^n)))^{\frac{1}{p}} \nabla^n[\phi](\mathbf{x}^n) \cdot H_u^{n+1}(\phi(\mathbf{x}^n)) \cdot \nabla^n[\phi](\mathbf{x}^n)$$

and  $\phi = Id + \mathbf{d}$  is the mapping between  $t^n$  and  $t^{n+1}$

$\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{L}^p}^{n+1, ALE}[u](\mathbf{x}^n)$  used to generate  $\mathcal{H}^n$

It verifies the following properties:

- If  $\mathcal{H}^{n+1}$  is the image of  $\mathcal{H}^n$  by mapping  $\phi$ . Then,  $\mathcal{H}^{n+1}$  is **optimal** to control the interpolation error in  $\mathbf{L}^p$ -norm on sensor  $u^{n+1}$
- There is no reason for  $\mathcal{H}^n$  to be optimal to control the interpolation error in  $\mathbf{L}^p$ -norm on sensor  $u^n$

Pitching NACA0012

# Example: A 2D Adapted Blast Problem [Olivier and Alauzet, AIAA

2011]

Blasting a box

- Move the mesh following an **adapted metric field**

## Problem

Given two metric fields at times  $t$  and  $t + \Delta t$ :  $\mathcal{M}_t$  and  $\mathcal{M}_{t+\Delta t}$ , and a mesh at time  $t$  (adapted to  $\mathcal{M}_t$  or not):  $\mathcal{H}_t$

What is the displacement  $v(x, t)$  of the mesh vertices so that  $\mathcal{H}_{t+\Delta t}$  is adapted to  $\mathcal{M}_{t+\Delta t}$  ?

- Ongoing preliminary work
- In 1D, good analytical results on polynomial metrics for moving equation:

$$m \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial m}{\partial x} v = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial m}{\partial t}$$

Several bricks available:

- Moving mesh algorithm
- Unsteady mesh adaptation
- Goal-oriented mesh adaptation
- Mesh adaptation for level set application

We're trying to combine them for more complex problems:

- Mesh adaptation for moving bodies ALE simulation
- Unsteady adaptation using moving mesh equations