# p-anisotropic h-isotropic adaptive Discontinuous Galerkin methods for turbulent flows

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- Introduction to modal anisotropic DG
- Mesh refinement by subdivision
- Introduction of refinement indicators
- Description of adaptation strategies
- Numerical experiments
- Conclusion and outlook

 This work has been conducted in the CFD software by ONERA, DLR and Airbus (CODA)

## Isotropic adaptive modal Discontinuous Galerkin in CODA

 Orthonormal hierarchical modal basis in physical space

$$\left\langle \phi_{i},\phi_{j}\right\rangle _{\kappa}=\delta_{i,j}$$

- Full basis is constructed up to a certain maximum degree
- This maximum degree can be chosen individually for each element



Bassi, F., Botti, L., Colombo, A., Di Pietro, D. A., & Tesini, P. (2012). On the flexibility of agglomeration based physical space discontinuous Galerkin discretizations. *Journal of Computational Physics*, 231(1), 45–65. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcp.2011.08.018

## Anisotropic adaptive modal Discontinuous Galerkin in CODA

 Orthonormal hierarchical modal basis in physical space

$$\left\langle \phi_{i},\phi_{j}\right\rangle _{\kappa}=\delta_{i,j}$$

- Full basis is constructed up to a certain maximum degree
- Any subset of basis functions is allowed to be chosen in each element
  - The constant basis function is always included
  - The linear basis functions are also included as we start adapting from second order



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#### Adaptive mesh refinement using subdivision

- When compared to other techniques (remeshing, ...)
  - + Possible for every element type (→hybrid meshes) except for polyhedrons
  - + Fewer elements are affected
  - + Pre-existing expert knowledge for meshing is reused
  - Spatial orientation of elements is fixed
  - There are non-conforming element interfaces
  - Pyramids are problematic





#### **Residual-based error Indicator**



- Introduced by Hartmann, Houston and Leicht in [1, 2]
- Measure for the discretization error in each element

$$\eta_{\kappa} = h_{\kappa} \left\| \mathbf{R}_{\kappa}(\mathbf{u}_{h}) \right\|_{L^{2}} + h_{\kappa}^{\overline{2}} \left\| \mathbf{r}_{\partial\kappa}(\mathbf{u}_{h}) \right\|_{L^{2}}$$

•  $\mathbf{R}_{\kappa}(\mathbf{u}_{h})$  is the strong element residual

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- $\mathbf{r}_{\partial\kappa}(\mathbf{u}_h)$  is the difference between the numerical and exact fluxes
- Implementation details for the indicator with lifting operators can be found in [Wegener, Hartmann, JCP, submitted]
- Not oriented at a specific goal (e.g. force coefficient) but aims at resolving all flow features

[1] Hartmann, R., & Houston, P. (2006). Symmetric Interior Penalty DG Methods for the Compressible Navier–Stokes Equations II: Goal–Oriented A Posteriori Error Estimation. International Journal of Numerical Analysis & Modeling, 3(2), 141–162.

[2] Leicht, T., & Hartmann, R. (2010). Error Estimation and Anisotropic Mesh Refinement for 3d Laminar Aerodynamic Flow Simulations. J. Comput. Phys., 229(19), 7344–7360.
Malte Wegener, Institute of Aerodynamics and Flow Technology, 8.11.2023

#### Least-Squares reconstruction (LSQ)

- Find a higher order reconstructed solution, which is indistinguishable from the numerical solution on the nearest neighbor stencil S<sub>κ</sub> in a weak sense
- As the reconstruction is overconstrained, it is solved in a leastsquares sense
- $\langle \boldsymbol{u}_{\kappa} + \boldsymbol{u}_{R}, \boldsymbol{\phi}_{i} \rangle_{\kappa'} = \langle \boldsymbol{u}_{h}, \boldsymbol{\phi}_{i} \rangle_{\kappa'}$  $\forall \boldsymbol{\phi}_{i} \in \boldsymbol{U}_{\kappa'}^{p}, \kappa' \in S_{\kappa}$
- As the basis is orthonormal, the coefficients of *u<sub>R</sub>* are the energy contained in the candidate functions



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#### **Adaptation strategies**

#### p-isotropic h-isotropic

- Each element is either flagged for prefinement or h-refinement according to the exponential decay indicator
- Elements are sorted by their indicator value
- Elements are refined until the requested increase in DoF is reached





#### **Adaptation strategies**

#### p-anisotropic h-isotropic split

- Each element is either flagged for prefinement or h-refinement according to the exponential decay indicator
- p-refinement is chosen according to the LSQ indicator
- Elements are refined until the requested increase in DoF is reached







# NUMERICAL RESULTS

- Laminar flow at
  - Ma: 0.3
  - Re: 4000
  - α: 12.5°
- Structured hexahedral grid with degenerate hexahedrons subdivided into regular element types
- Has already been part of the European ADIGMA project, thus reliable reference results are available





- hp-adaptation outperforms pure h-adaptation
- In early stages p-anisotropic outperforms p-isotropic
- p-anisotropic adaptation stalls



#### **Adaptation strategies**

#### p-anisotropic h-isotropic combined

- Each element is either flagged for prefinement or h-refinement according to the exponential decay indicator
- Indicator is split between different candidate functions according to their energy
- Elements are refined until the requested increase in DoF is reached











- New refinement strategy keeps benefits from early stages
- Can keep the advantage and converges to the correct value



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#### Juskowski airfoil

- Part of HiFiCFD 2024
- RANS-SA negative model with the QCR2000 modification
  - Ma: 0.15
  - Re: 6,000,000
  - α: 0°
- Comparison to the reference drag from the SANS solver
- hp-adaptive simulations outperform h-adaptive simulations in terms of accuracy per DoF
- p-anisotropic adaptation outperforms p-isotropic adaptation





### **2D Multi-Element airfoil**



- HLPW4, Case 1
  - 3 element high-lift airfoil
- RANS-SA negative model
  - Ma: 0.2
  - Re: 5,000,000
  - α: 16°
- Initial mesh has 6645 elements
- Each iteration increases DoF by a factor of 1.2 each iteration



### **2D Multi-Element airfoil**



- hp-adaptive simulations outperform h-adaptive simulations in terms of accuracy per DoF
- p-anisotropic adaptation outperforms p-isotropic adaptation after the 3<sup>rd</sup> adaptation
- All methods converge to the reference solution



### **2D Multi-Element airfoil**



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#### **Conclusion and Outlook**



#### Conclusion

- The combined formulation for refinement is necessary to take advantage of p-anisotropic refinement
- The p-anisotropic refinement strategy outperforms the p-isotropic refinement

#### Outlook

- Application to a more complex 3D flow
- Compare the effectiveness of a LSQ driven anisotropic adaptation to an adjoint based anisotropic adaptation



- This work has been conducted and implemented in the CFD software by ONERA, DLR and Airbus (CODA). CODA is the computational fluid dynamics (CFD) software being developed as part of a collaboration between the French Aerospace Lab ONERA, the German Aerospace Center (DLR), Airbus, and their European research partners. CODA is jointly owned by ONERA, DLR and Airbus.
- Simulations were carried out on the CARA and CARO HPC clusters. The authors gratefully acknowledge the scientific support and HPC resources provided by the German Aerospace Center (DLR). The HPC system CARA is partially funded by ``Saxon State Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour and Transport" and ``Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action". The HPC system CARO is partially funded by ``Ministry of Science and Culture of Lower Saxony" and ``Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action".