

#### Adjoint-Based Mesh Adaptation and Shape Optimization for Simulations with Propulsion

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Ground pressure signature from a low drag business jet concept, M=1.5 (Wintzer et. al., NASA)

Propulsion effects are secondary when loud sonic-booms are acceptable

#### Motivation







#### Low Sonic-Boom Design





· Shaped pressure signature below aircraft: many shocks, but weaker and of similar strength Significant influence of inlet and nozzle exhaust: aft layout critical Mass flow rate, stagnation pressure recovery and flow distortion important parameters







## Objectives



#### Reliable evaluation of mass flow rates through permeable boundaries

- Estimate and control discretization error
- Consider both computational domain outflow and inflow
- Applicable to simulating propulsion-system effects, as well as secondary flow paths
- Explore feasibility of handling more general outputs at domain boundaries

#### Design optimization subject to mass-flow-rate constraints

- Improve aerodynamic performance and reduce noise due to sonic boom
- Control discretization error in design space to improve confidence in final designs





 $\mathbf{\hat{F}} \cdot \hat{n} = [0, p \, \hat{n}, 0]^{\mathrm{T}}$ 

#### FLOW SIMULATION

- Steady Euler equations, perfect gas
- Cartesian mesh with cut cells
- Second-order, finite-volume discretization
  - van Leer flux vector splitting
- RK4 with local time stepping, multigrid, and parallel computing

WALL BOUNDARY CONDITIONS

- Weakly enforced: form flux across boundary from boundary state
  - Slip wall:  $U_{\rm n}=0$
  - Permeable wall:  $U_n \neq 0$



 $R_H(\mathbf{Q}_H) = 0$ 





### Approach & Background



www.nas.nasa.gov/publications/software/docs/cart3d







#### Method of Adjoint Weighted Residuals

Goal is to compute relative error

```
e = |J_h - J_H|
```

 Then use asymptotic analysis to estimate total discretization error



**Refinement** Ratio

Key step is to reliably estimate

 $J_h(\mathbf{Q}_h)$ 

without solving on the fine mesh





## Method of Adjoint Weighted Residuals





Linearize discrete flow residual and functional to obtain:

$$J_{h}(\mathbf{Q}_{h}) \approx J_{h}(\mathbf{Q}_{h}^{H}) - (\boldsymbol{\psi}_{h}^{H})^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{R}_{h}(\mathbf{Q}_{h}^{H}) - (\boldsymbol{\psi}_{h} - \boldsymbol{\psi}_{h}^{H})^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{R}_{h}(\mathbf{Q}_{h}^{H})$$
  
ition:  
$$\left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{H}(\mathbf{Q}_{H})}{\partial \mathbf{Q}_{H}}\right]^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{\psi}_{H} = \frac{\partial J_{H}(\mathbf{Q}_{H})}{\partial \mathbf{Q}_{H}}^{\mathrm{T}}$$

Large linear system

- Defined by the discrete flow residual and functional
  - Includes all boundary conditions
- Converges to continuous adjoint equation in the fine mesh limit
- Adjoint inconsistent formulations can generate spurious oscillations near the wall



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## Adjoints of Permeable Boundary Conditions



#### **Subsonic Outflow**

- Suitable for engine inlets, ECS intakes, secondary flow paths • Suitable for nozzle plenums, turbines, ECS vents
- Specify exit pressure, all other quantities come from interior

$$Q_b = \begin{bmatrix} \rho_b \\ U_{n,b} \\ U_{t,b} \\ p_{set} \end{bmatrix}$$

• Formulation assumes subsonic flow at boundary and uses one-dimensional Riemann invariants

#### **Subsonic Inflow**

Specify stagnation temperature and stagnation pressure

$$Q_b = \begin{bmatrix} \rho_b \\ U_{n,b} \\ 0 \\ p_b \end{bmatrix}$$





## Adjoints of Permeable Boundary Conditions

**Subsonic Outflow** 



- Rank deficient matrix (rank three in 2D)
- - preliminary analysis indicates that the adjoint system is well-posed
  - matrix is rank one
  - Perform numerical study to examine near wall adjoint solution

**Subsonic Inflow** 

• Restricts choice of functionals on RHS to obtain a nonsingular system

Mass flow rate output involves 3 free parameters that match matrix rank,

Similar to slip-wall, where output must be a function of pressure because





## Numerical Study: Near-Wall Adjoint Solutions

- Subsonic, two-dimensional nacelle test case
- Specify exit pressure at the outflow of the inlet
- Specify stagnation temperature and pressure at the inflow of the nozzle
- Slip-wall boundary conditions everywhere else on the wetted surface
- Farfield is ~10 chords away

#### **Test Cases**

- 1. Measure mass flow rate at the outflow of the inlet
- 2. Measure mass flow rate at the inflow of the nozzle





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$$\begin{split} \min_{X} & J\left(X,\mathbf{Q}\right)\\ & \textit{subject to}\\ & R\left(X,\mathbf{Q}\right) = 0 \qquad \forall X \in \Omega \end{split}$$

Gradient-based approach

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}J}{\mathrm{d}X} = \frac{\partial J}{\partial X} - \psi^{\mathrm{T}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial X}$$

 Mesh sensitivities confined to cutcells, triangulation connectivity and topology allowed to change



## Aerodynamic Shape Optimization

#### Adjoint Optimization Framework









$$\begin{split} \min_{X} & J\left(X,\mathbf{Q}\right)\\ & \textit{subject to}\\ & R\left(X,\mathbf{Q}\right) = 0 \qquad \forall X \in \Omega \end{split}$$

Gradient-based approach

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 Mesh sensitivities confined to cut cells, triangulation connectivity and topology allowed to change



## Aerodynamic Shape Optimization

#### **Adjoint Optimization Framework**









#### Results





- Slip-wall on wetted surface except for inlet outflow





## Flow and Adjoint Solutions

#### Mach Contours



Density Adjoint





**Exact Error** 

$$E = |\mathcal{J} - J_H|$$

#### **Error Estimate**

$$E \approx \left| J_c - J_H \right|$$

$$J_c = J_h(\mathbf{Q}_{\mathrm{L}}) - \boldsymbol{\psi}_{\mathrm{TQ}}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{R}_h(\mathbf{Q}_{\mathrm{L}})$$

**Error Indicator** 

$$\boldsymbol{\eta}_{H} = \left| \left( \boldsymbol{\psi}_{\mathrm{TQ}} - \boldsymbol{\psi}_{\mathrm{TL}} \right)^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{R}_{h}(\mathbf{Q}_{L}) \right|$$



## Uniform Refinement



Initial Mesh





































![](_page_20_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Adaptation Convergence History

#### **Error Bars**

$$E \approx |J_{c} - J_{H}|$$

$$J_{c} = J_{h}(\mathbf{Q}_{L}) - \psi_{TQ}^{T} \mathbf{R}_{h}(\mathbf{Q}_{L})$$

$$= 0.38$$

$$\int \mathbf{F} = 0.39$$

$$= 0.41$$

$$= 0.41$$

$$= 0.42$$

$$= 0.42$$

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![](_page_24_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_7.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_8.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Picture_0.jpeg)

## X-59 / LBFD Prototype Test Case

- Typical analysis case: M=1.4 and  $\alpha = 2.05^{\circ}$
- Assess accuracy of simulations with and without mass-flow-rate outputs
- 3 inlets and 4 exhausts
- Specified exit pressure outflow and stagnation conditions for inflow

![](_page_25_Picture_6.jpeg)

rates

![](_page_25_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Picture_9.jpeg)

# 

### Adapted Mesh for Multiple Sensor Locations

![](_page_26_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Output Convergence

#### Pressure Signature at h/L=3

![](_page_27_Figure_3.jpeg)

**Engine-Inlet Mass Flow Rate** 

![](_page_27_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Picture_6.jpeg)

## Comparison of Flow Solution and Mesh

![](_page_28_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Picture_0.jpeg)

## Supersonic Nozzle Shape Optimization

#### **Dual-Stream Supersonic Spike Nozzle**

![](_page_29_Figure_3.jpeg)

• M=1.4

- 2 inflow boundaries: hot core stream and cooler bypass stream
- subject to fixed mass flow rates

Goal is to maximize thrust and minimize nearfield shock disturbances

![](_page_29_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_30_Picture_0.jpeg)

## Design Variables

![](_page_30_Figure_2.jpeg)

• Design Variables: 7

• Fixed length and minimum radii bounds

![](_page_30_Picture_7.jpeg)

## Initial Mesh and Computational Domain

![](_page_31_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Figure_2.jpeg)

farfield

farfield

![](_page_31_Picture_5.jpeg)

## Final Mesh for Baseline Design

![](_page_32_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Picture_2.jpeg)

- Each design iteration
   uses 8 mesh adaptations
- Final mesh ~ 20M cells
- Adaptation functional is sum of thrust, mass flow rates, and line sensor

![](_page_32_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Picture_7.jpeg)

#### NASA \*\*\*

### **Optimization Convergence History**

#### **Baseline optimization: Maximize Thrust**

![](_page_33_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Picture_4.jpeg)

#### Maximize Thrust

![](_page_34_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### Several strong shocks in nearfield from cowl, shroud and spike tip

![](_page_34_Picture_5.jpeg)

### Maximize Thrust and Eliminate Aft Shock

![](_page_35_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Picture_2.jpeg)

Shock-free at spike tip, but thrust reduced by 2.7%

![](_page_35_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Maximize Thrust and Attenuate All Shocks

![](_page_36_Picture_2.jpeg)

Weak boat-tail and spike-tip shocks, and thrust within 1.7% of baseline

![](_page_36_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Comparison of Pressure Signatures

![](_page_37_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Picture_3.jpeg)

### Conclusions

![](_page_38_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### Reliable evaluation of mass flow rates at permeable boundaries

- Adjoint consistent implementation of permeable boundary conditions
- Numerical studies show no spurious oscillations in the near-wall adjoint
- Verification test problem demonstrates convergence to the exact solution at the expected rate
- Specifying mass-flow-rate outputs in practical, low-boom simulations significantly improves prediction of these outputs without compromising pressure-signature accuracy

New capability to handle design optimization problems subject to mass-flowrate constraints

Efficient reuse of adjoint solutions and error control in low-boom shape optimization

recovery and flow distortion

Next step: Investigate adjoint consistency of more general outputs, e.g. total pressure

![](_page_38_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_39_Picture_0.jpeg)

## Acknowledgements

- NASA's ARMD Commercial Supersonic Technology and LBFD/X-59 Projects
- NASA Ames Research Center contract NNA16BD60C
- NASA High-End Computing Program for computing resources

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![](_page_39_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_40_Picture_0.jpeg)

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#### Questions?

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