

Goal-oriented mesh adaptation for Euler and (RANS) flows based on the total derivative of the goal w.r.t. volume mesh coordinates

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In aeronautical CFD, engineers require accurate predictions of the forces and moments but they are less concerned with flow-field accuracy. Hence, the so-called "goal oriented" mesh adaptation strategies have been introduced to get satisfactory values of functional outputs at an acceptable cost, using local node displacement and insertion of new points rather than mesh refinement guided by uniform accuracy [2, 3, 4, 5]. Most often, such methods involve the adjoint vector of the function of interest.

Our purpose is to present goal oriented criteria of mesh quality and local mesh adaptation strategies in the framework of finite-volume schemes and a discrete adjoint vector method [1]. They are based on the total derivative of the goal with respect to (w.r.t.) mesh nodes (that is nowadays a common output of the adjoint module of the large CFD solvers). The principle of the method can be understood from left plot in the figure below: a large sensitivity of the goal with respect to the node coordinates, in a coarse zone of the mesh, indicates a large possible change of the function value when displacing the nodes. This is precisely what we seek to avoid to avoid by node displacement and addition [6, 7]. The method is assessed in the case of 2D and 3D Euler flow computations, with structured and unstructured meshes.

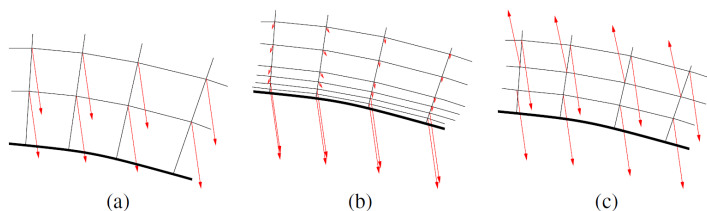


Figure 1: Possible aspects of goal sensitivity with respect to (w.r.t.) mesh node coordinates

Références

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