## EFC Topic 4.2

## Simulation-to-Simulation Benchmarking (LES, RANS)

Presented by Cecile PERA (IFPEN)

## **Objectives of the 4.2**

Summarize: some guidelines for engine simulations





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#### Introduction







**Topic 4.2:** Engine Simulation

#### **Contributions**

#### 1. Meshing strategy

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#### 2. Boundary conditions and methodology

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#### 3. Modeling issues

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# 1. Meshing strategy

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#### **Meshing Issues: Body Conformal**





- Mesh deformation due to valve
  & piston motion
- To restrict grid deformation
  while maintaining enough spatial resolution, interpolation is used
- An engine cycle is divided into multiple phases





### **Automatic Mesh Generation**



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- CFD solver: compressible, pressure based, RANS
- Automatic mesh generation (based on snappyHexMesh) + automatic mesh motion









#### **Automatic Mesh Generation**







**Body Conformed moving grid (OpenFOAM)** 

- Mesh points move to comply with piston and valve motion
- Quality of the mesh reduces during grid movement
- Local mesh-refinement reduces amount of cells



Mesh of Darmstadt Engine, intake valve plane. 0.5 mm, (P. Janas)



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### Immersed Boundary (PsiPhi, In-house)



- Cell with particle = solid
- No meshing required!
- The motion of the moving objects is governed by the background mesh
- No local grid refinement possible
  - Simplicity and efficiency for unstructured codes with less cells



Fluid cells of the Darmstadt engine (0.3 mm) and intake valve (big voxels are shown for the valve!), (T. Nguyen)



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## Automated meshing

- No meshing time
- Adaptive Mesh Refinement (AMR)
  - No more guessing
- Orthogonal cells
- Easy to perform grid convergence studies





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# 2. Boundary Conditions and Methodology

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#### **Multi-cycles LES**



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Energies nouvelles

#### **Multi-cycles LES**





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#### LES / 1D coupling





- LES in the chamber and a part of intake and exhaust ducts
- Boundary condition definitions
  - P and T variations during engine cycle
- Initial states



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#### Navier-Stokes Characteristic Boundary Conditions (NSCBC)

- A time-varying pressure imposed from measurements
  - Intake and exhaust ports
- Pressure from 1D acoustic simulations of manifolds
- Entire manifold system modeled (3D)
  - Simplify the boundary treatment
  - Increases computational time



In-cylinder pressure during the intake and the exhaust stroke, OpenFOAm, cold flow, 800 rpm, (P. Janas)



<sup>o</sup>ressure [bar]

Pressure [bar]



#### **Boundary conditions (RANS TCC setup)**





Mesh structure in the valve region

# Unsteady boundary conditions at inlet and outlet boundaries





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#### **Boundary Conditions**





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#### LES / 1D coupling: acoustic





# 3. Modeling issues

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- Case 2, which has less numerical diffusion than Case 1, results in an unsteady solution
  - Does not give an ensemble averaged flowfield, even when using a RANS turbulence model
  - A case was also run with very high resolution and 1st order upwinding, which resulted in vortex shedding, similar to Case 2
- The turbulence viscosity acts to destroy the smaller scales, but it also allows larger scales to exist, even if they are time-varying

Richards et al., ASME 2014



#### **LES vs RANS**



- High eddy viscosity in RANS-based models dampens non-linear velocity interactions (Rutland, IJER, 2011)
- LES models give better predictions of velocity fluctuations than RANS-based models (Liu and Haworth, Flow Turbulence Combust., 2011)
- LES predicted flow structure looks more like experimentally observed flow structure (Hu et al., SAE 2007-01-0163)





#### Simulations of Imperial College Engine (200 RPM)



#### **Plots of Mean Velocity**



- There is hardly any different between the non-eddy viscosity DST (Pomranning &Rutland) model and eddy-viscosity Vreman model (PoF, 2004)
- Predictions are almost same when no SGS model is used indicating that SGS model does not significantly contribute to the predictions



#### Simulations of Imperial College Engine (200 RPM)



### Plots of Root-Mean-Square (RMS) Velocity



 LES models do not provide significantly different predictions of RMS velocity fluctuations either



#### **Coupling between Numerical Errors and SGS Model**

Compute derivative of 
$$f(x) = e^{\iota kx}$$
  
Exact:  $f'(x) = \iota k e^{\iota kx} = \iota k f(x)$   
Numerical:  $f'(x) = \iota \frac{\sin(2\pi n/N)}{\Delta_q} f(x) = \iota k' f(x)$ 

Since  $k' \neq k$ , we have discretization error

#### Coupling of Ig and k in LES

- As I'g is reduced errors shift to higher k
- Numerical errors can become larger than LES model contribution
- Not easy to separate and quantify errors
- Choice of Numerical Scheme is Important
  - Most state-of-the-art codes are second-order
  - May not be suitable for LES if numerical dissipation is used for stabilization

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#### **Explicit Filtering to Decouple Errors from SGS Model**

Apply an explicit filter width (Pf) which is larger than the grid spacing (Pg)



- Discretization errors are reduced as grid is refined (2g 2), but the effective LES resolution is kept the same (constant 2, )
  - Possible to obtain a grid-independent LES solution
  - Better tool for evaluating SGS models





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#### **Application of Explicit Filter LES (Channel Flow)**



- Grid-independent LES solutions are obtained for mean streamwise velocity and RMS velocity fluctuations for all filter-to-grid ratios (FGR)
- 4th-order scheme implemented on Cartesian Grid with discrete filter functions. Difficult to use in engine applications



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#### **Application of Explicit Filter LES (Channel Flow)**



- Differential filter of Germano, Physics of Fluids, 1986
  - Implemented in second order finite volume code (Singh and You, JCP, 2011)
  - Allows filtering on arbitrary grids
  - Filter width is controlled by change coefficient (q)

$$\bar{\phi} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( q \frac{\partial \bar{\phi}}{\partial x_j} \right) = \phi$$

- SGS model of Singh et al., Physics of Fluids, 2012
  - Formulated to enforce Galilean invariance for explicit-filter LES equations
  - Closure using eddy-viscosity model of Vreman, Physics of Fluids, 2004

$$\tau_{ij} - \frac{1}{3}\delta_{ij}\tau_{kk} = (\bar{u}_i\bar{u}_j - \bar{\bar{u}}_i\bar{\bar{u}}_j) - 2\nu_t S_{ij}$$

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### **Application of Explicit Filter LES (Channel Flow)**



- Streamwise mean velocity (left) and velocity fluctuations (right) are nearly grid independent for the two finer grids
- Differential filter can be applied in ICE simulations

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#### **Spatial resolution**

- Grid sensitivity studies with PsiPhi on a 0.3mm, 0.5mm, 1 mm grid
  - Good agreement among the simulations and experiment
- Multi-cycle simulations with OpenFOAM, (0.125 mm in the valve gap, 1 mm inside the cylinder, 2 mm inside the manifolds)



High-Resolution LES of the Darmstadt engine (0.3 mm) with PsiPhi , (T. Nguyen)

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#### **Spatial resolution**









- From 1 to 10 M cells
- 0.1 mm: typical size around the valve seat
- 0.5 mm: typical mesh size in the cylinder
  - 0.2 mm: around the spark plug



Mesh size: 0.125 mm (valve region) to 2 mm (intake and exhaust ports).





#### Modeling of the crevice volume



- Large crevice volume between the piston-skirt and cylinder liner
  - Up to 15% of the top dead center volume (excluding piston expansion)
- Fresh air/fuel mixture trapped in crevice volume
  - 50% trapped at TDC is possible
  - Not available for combustion
- Crevice volume in simulation
  - Reduces the peak pressure by 10 bar



Engine grid with crevice volume, Darmstadt engine, (Janas/Nguyen)



#### **Combustion: grid-convergent methodology**





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**Turbulent Combustion Model: CFM-LES** 



## FSD (Flame Surface Density) transport equation

Adaptation from RANS to LES [Richard et al., Proc. Combust. Inst. 2007]

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#### **Turbulent Combustion Model: ignition with ISSIM-LES**<sup>[1]</sup>

- ISSIM (Imposed Stretch Spark Ignition Model)
- Description of the electrical circuit
- Use of the FSD transport equation from spark timing to quenching

**ISSIM-LES** 

temperature

546

temperature

432

546

660

660

774

774

318

318

432

- Account for local convection and wrinkling
- Simulate multiple-ignitions

Time = 2.50e-04s

30m/

Time =6.00e-04s

plug

[3] O. Colin and K. Truffin. Proc. Combust. Inst. 33(2) (2011)



Time =4.50e-04s

30m/

30m/s

**AKTIMEuler** Time = 4.50e-4s

plug

temperature

546

sigma (1/m)

500

250

750

660

774

1000

318

432





# Conclusion

- Today, many engine codes exist with different approaches
- Work and development within ECN?
  - Comparison and Validation: Topic 4.3
  - Comparison between codes on reference ECN database?



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## Please, come to the LES4ICE meeting

## **LES for Internal Combustion Engine Flows**



Where: Rueil-Malmaison, France When: 4-5 December 2014

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## The AVBP code



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