

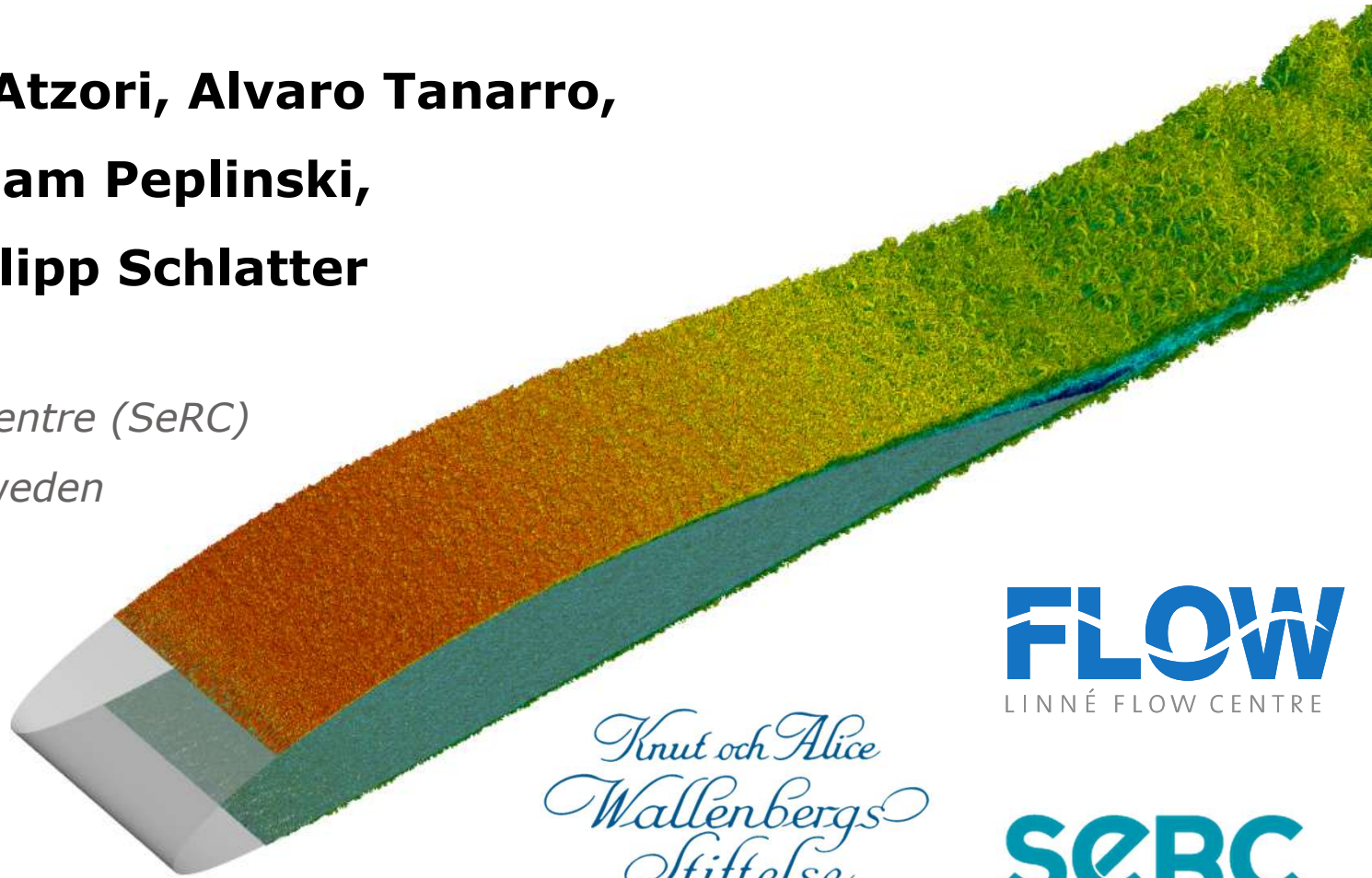
# Turbulence control on a NACA 4412 wing section assessed through high-fidelity simulations

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*Swedish e-Science Research Centre (SeRC)*

*KTH Mechanics, Stockholm, Sweden*



*Knut och Alice  
Wallenbergs  
Stiftelse*

**FLOW**  
LINNÉ FLOW CENTRE

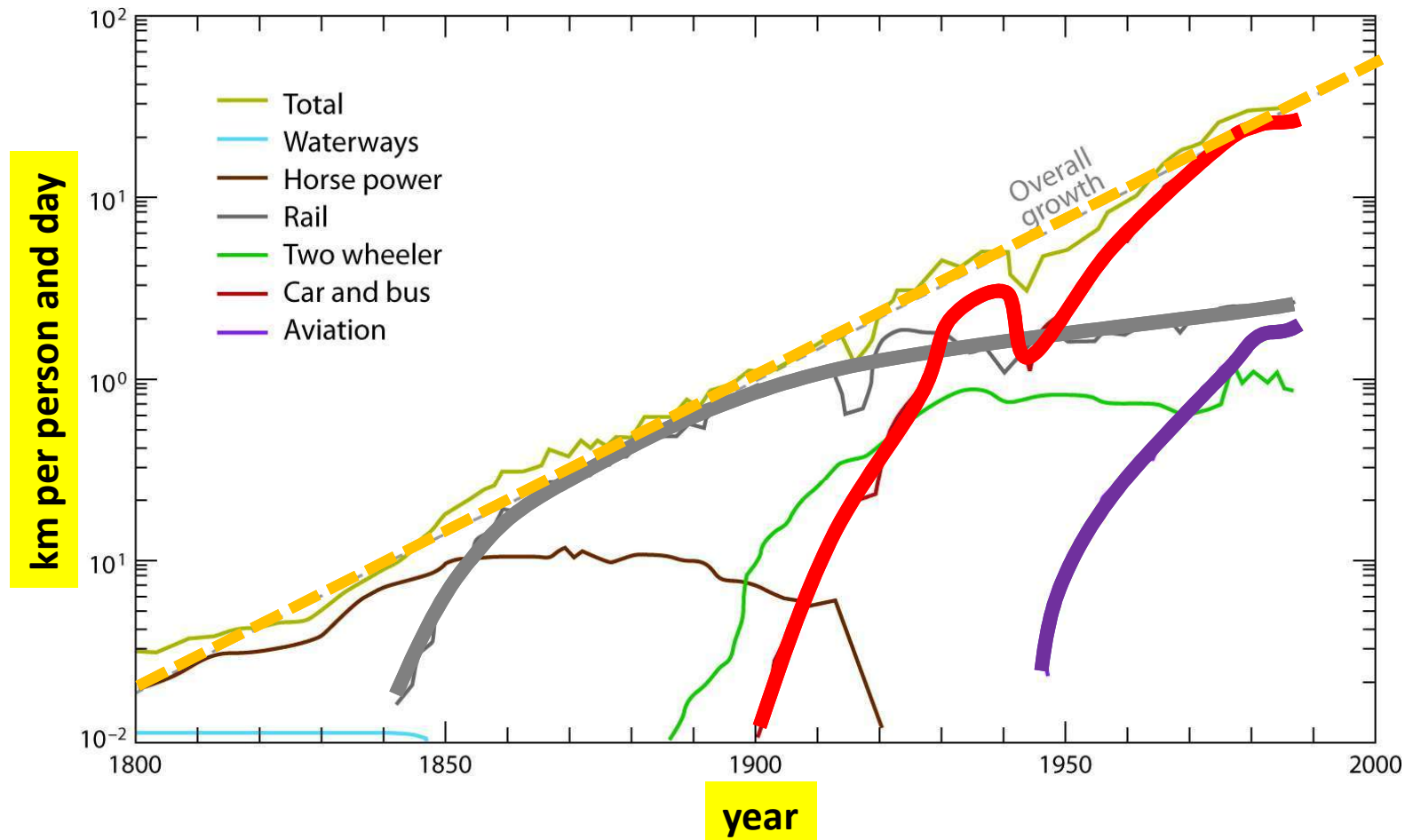
**SeRC**  
Swedish e-Science Research Centre



# Outline

- Introduction
- Flow control on a NACA 4412 wing
  - Effects on the flow
  - Aerodynamic effects
- Enabling high Re well-resolved simulations
  - LES RT-filter
  - Adaptive Mesh Refinement
- Experimental campaign
- Conclusions

# Why CFD?



Banister D, et al. 2011.

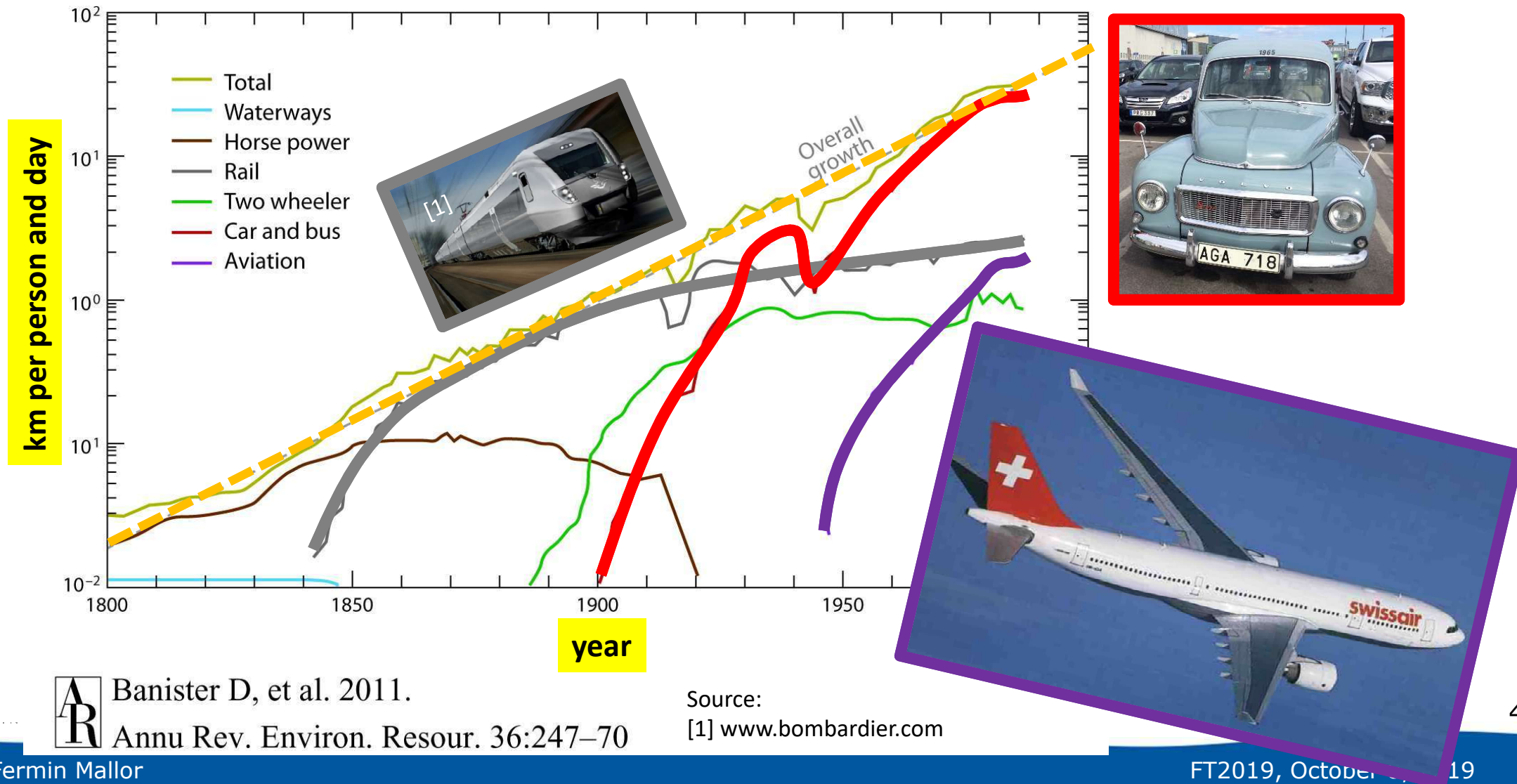
Annu Rev. Environ. Resour. 36:247–70

Source:

[1] [www.bombardier.com](http://www.bombardier.com)

# Why CFD?

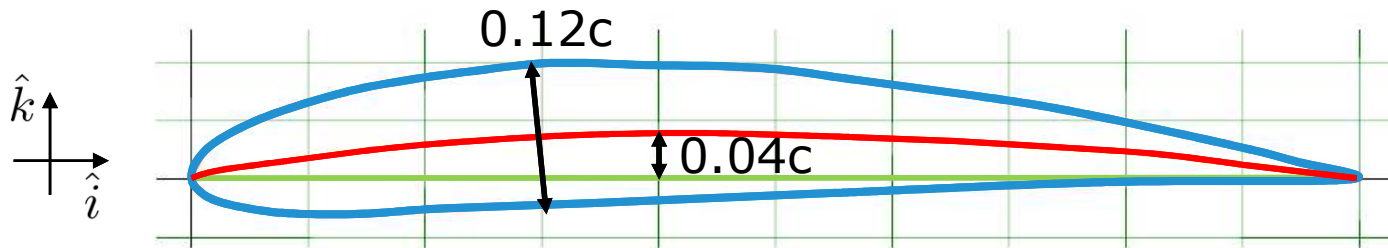
Skin friction/drag reduction is the key for economically and ecologically more efficient transport



# Study case: NACA 4412, $Re_c = 200,000$

## NACA 4412:

Maximum camber of **4%** at **40%** chord with a maximum thickness of **12%**



$$C_L = \frac{F_L}{qA} = \frac{F_L}{(\frac{1}{2}\rho U_\infty^2)A} = \frac{2}{\rho U_\infty^2 A} \int_A \tau_w (\hat{t} \cdot \hat{k}) dA + \frac{2}{\rho U_\infty^2 A} \int_A (p - p_0) (\hat{n} \cdot \hat{k}) dA$$

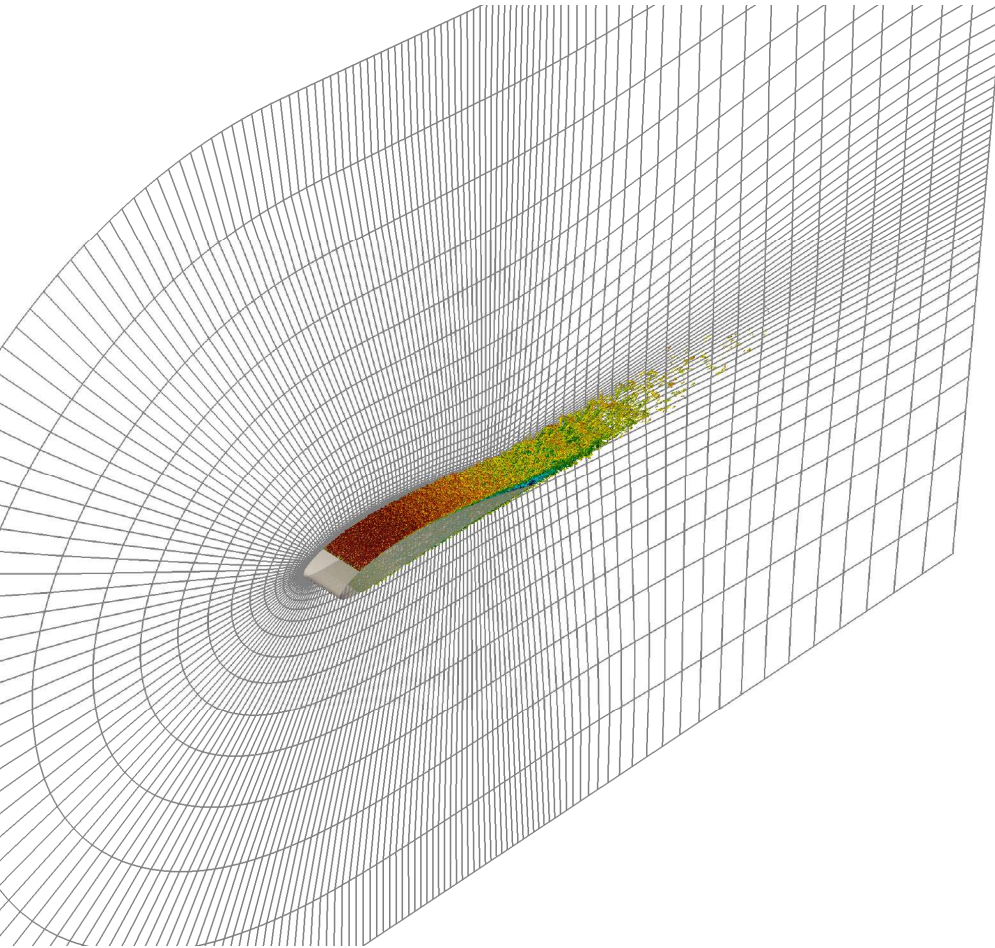
$$C_D = \frac{F_D}{qA} = \frac{F_D}{(\frac{1}{2}\rho U_\infty^2)A} = \underbrace{\frac{2}{\rho U_\infty^2 A} \int_A \tau_w (\hat{t} \cdot \hat{i}) dA}_{c_f} + \underbrace{\frac{2}{\rho U_\infty^2 A} \int_A (p - p_0) (\hat{n} \cdot \hat{i}) dA}_{c_p}$$

**Friction drag**                      **Pressure drag**

$\frac{L}{D}$

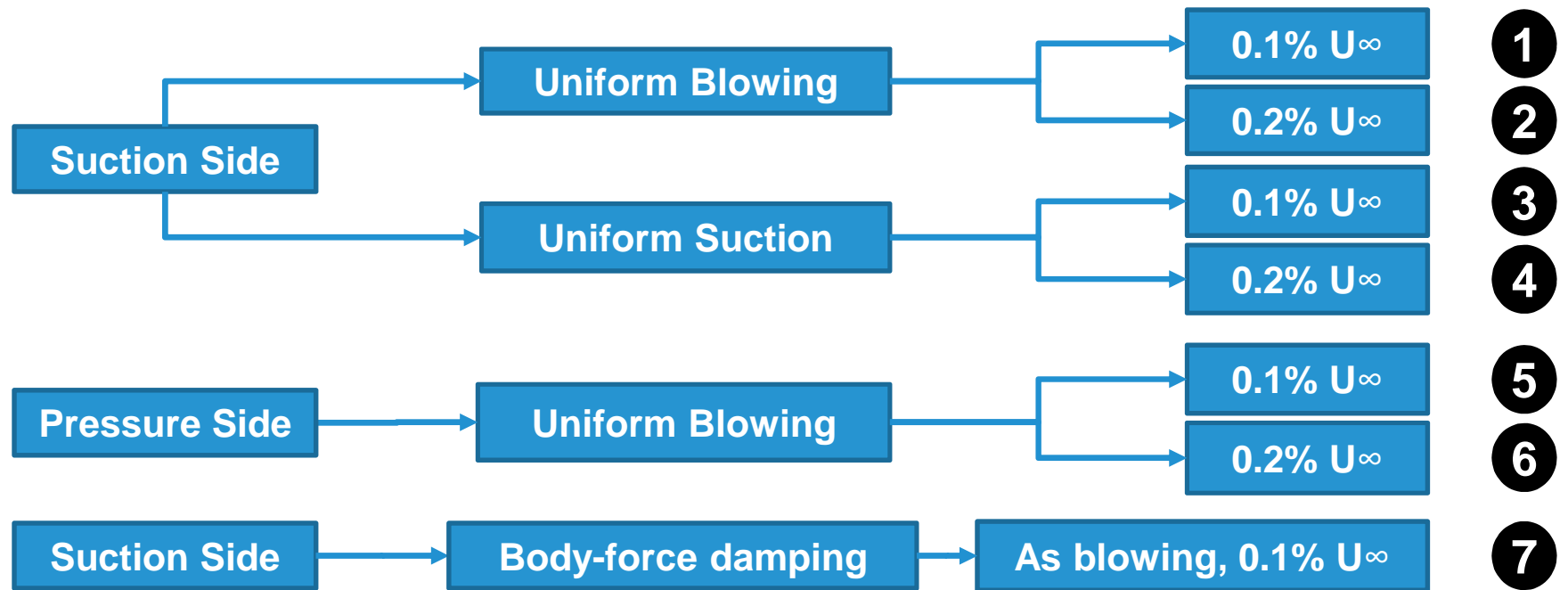
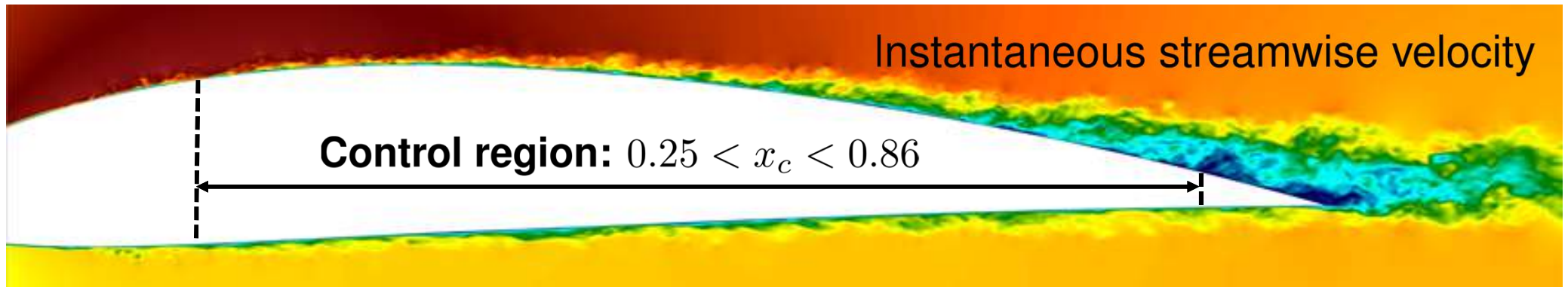


# Numerical setup<sup>(1)</sup>



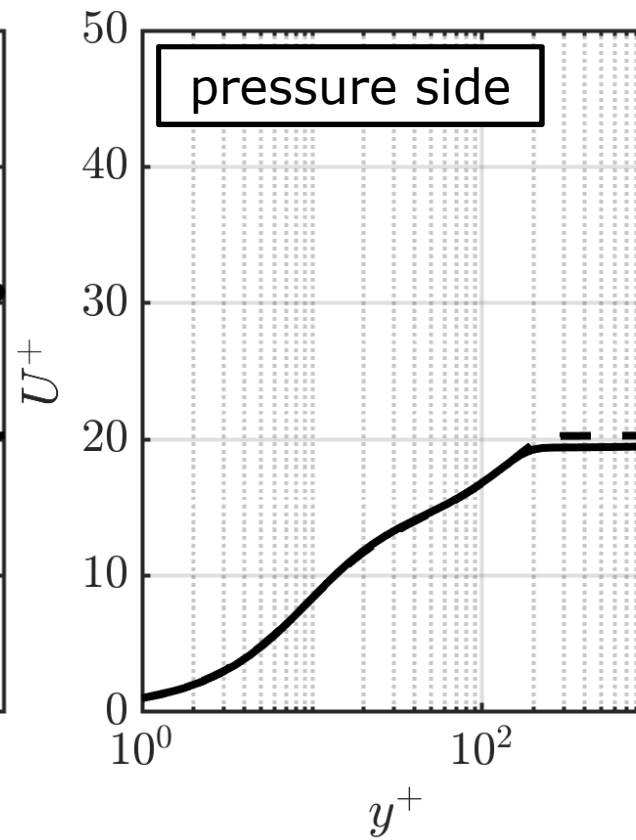
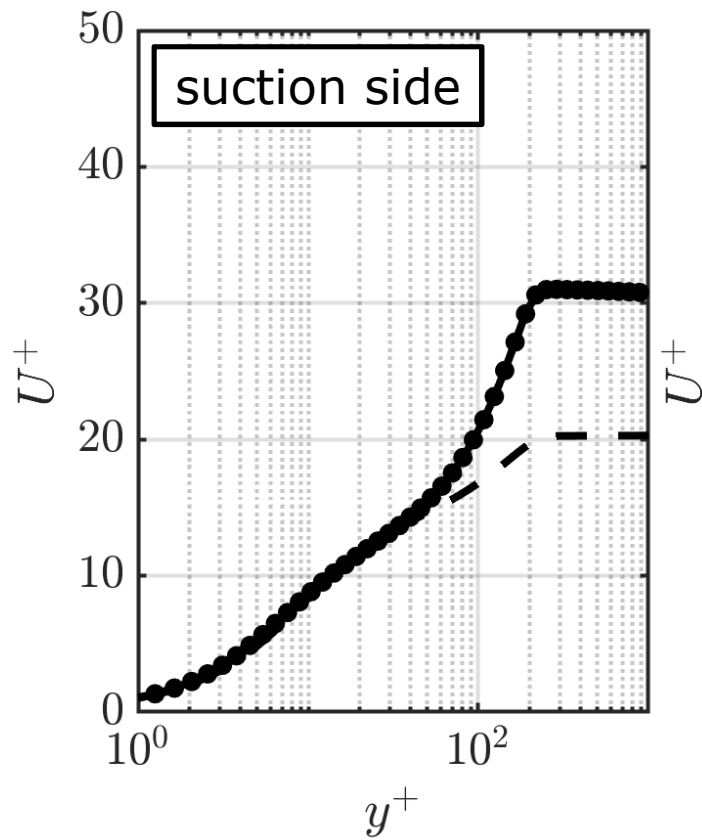
- Spectral-element code **Nek5000**<sup>(2)</sup>
- 216 million grid points ( $N=11$ )
- 10 million core-hours
- Domain:  $6c \times 4c \times 0.2c$
- Wall-resolved **LES**:  $\Delta x^+ = 18$ ,  
 $\Delta y^+ = (0.64, 11)$ ,  $\Delta z^+ = 9$
- **Time-resolved**
- LES using a relaxation-type filter model (Schlatter et al. 2005)
- **Tripping** at  $x/c = 0.1c$

# Control strategies<sup>(1)</sup>



(1) Atzori et al. DLES-12 2019

APG:  $\uparrow U^+$

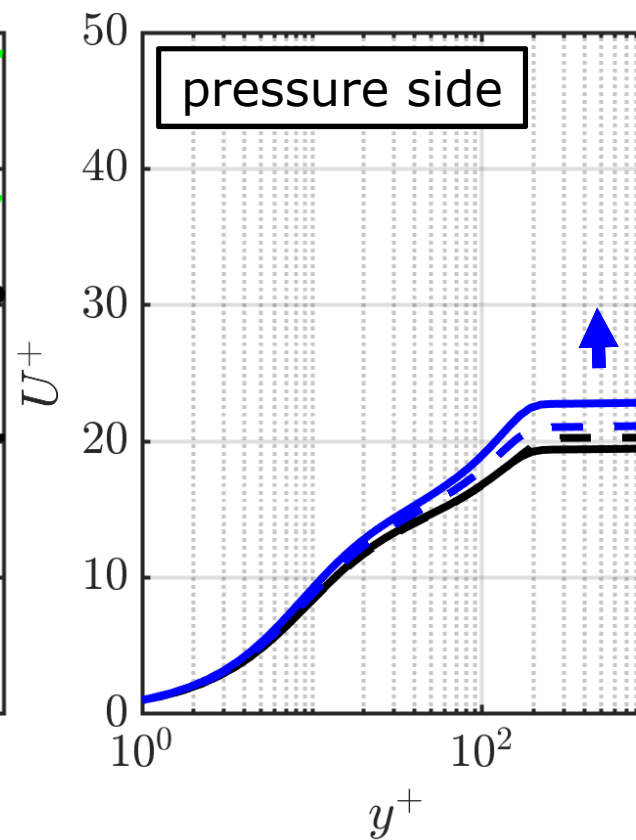
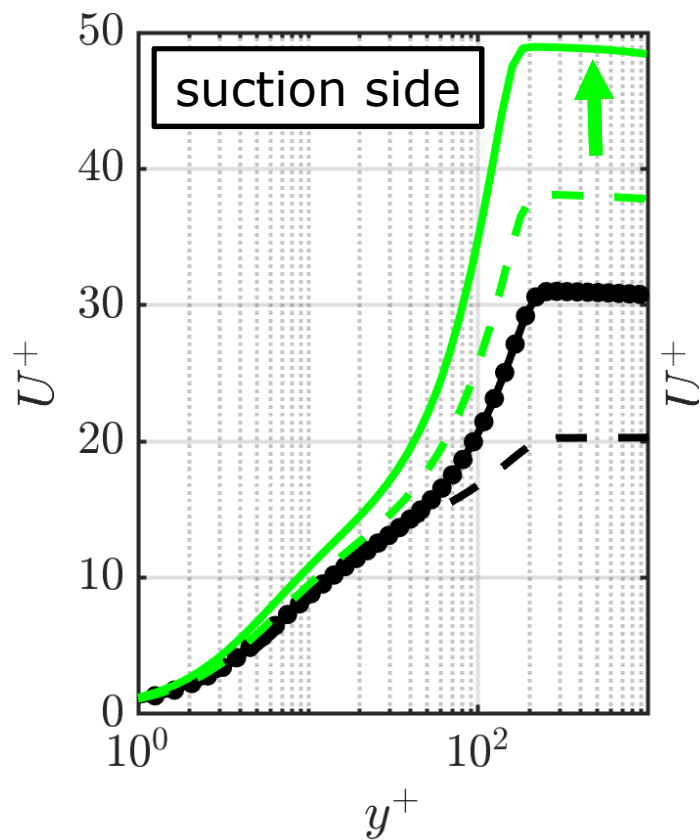


- -ref., ZPG at similar  $Re_\tau(1)$
- ref., pressure s.
- ref., suction s.
- suction s., blowing  $0.1\%U_\infty$
- suction s., blowing  $0.2\%U_\infty$
- - suction s., suction  $0.1\%U_\infty$
- - suction s., suction  $0.2\%U_\infty$
- suction s., body force
- - pressure s., blowing  $0.1\%U_\infty$
- - pressure s., blowing  $0.2\%U_\infty$

**Profiles at:**  
 $x/c = 0.8$



APG, blowing:  $\uparrow U^+$

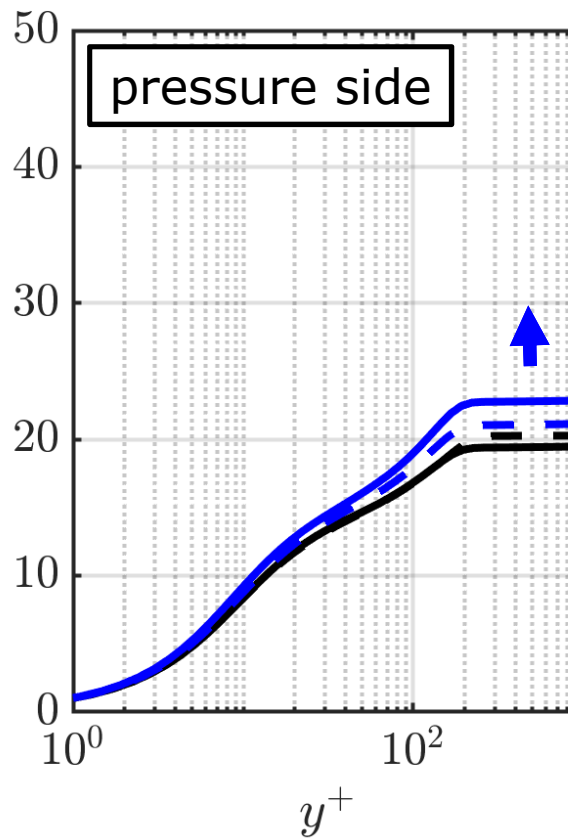
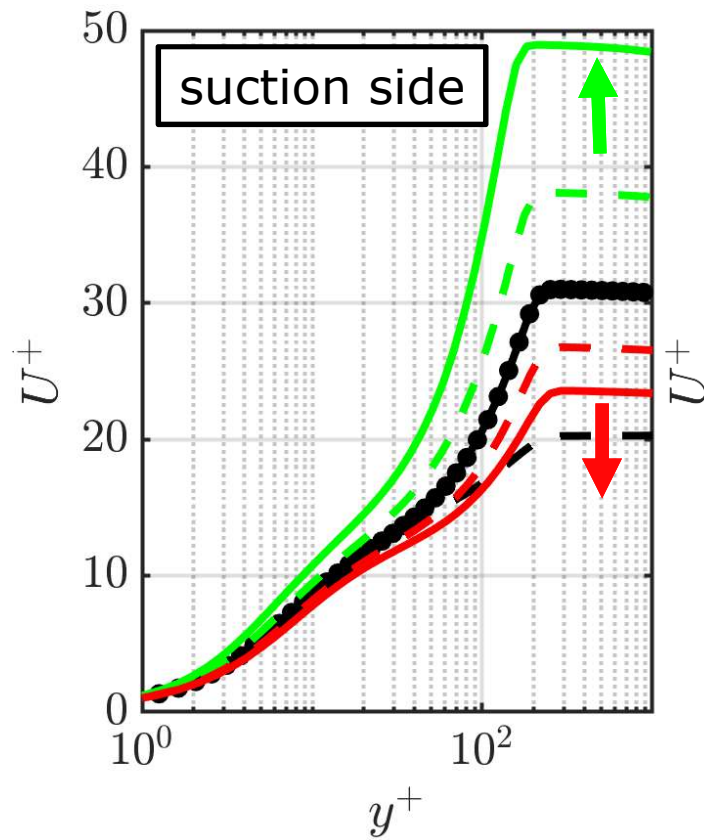


- -ref., ZPG at similar  $Re_\tau(1)$
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- suction s., blowing  $0.2\%U_\infty$
- -suction s., suction  $0.1\%U_\infty$
- suction s., suction  $0.2\%U_\infty$
- suction s., body force
- -pressure s., blowing  $0.1\%U_\infty$
- pressure s., blowing  $0.2\%U_\infty$

**Profiles at:**  
 $x/c = 0.8$

# Effect of control

Suction:  $\downarrow U^+$   
APG, blowing:  $\uparrow U^+$

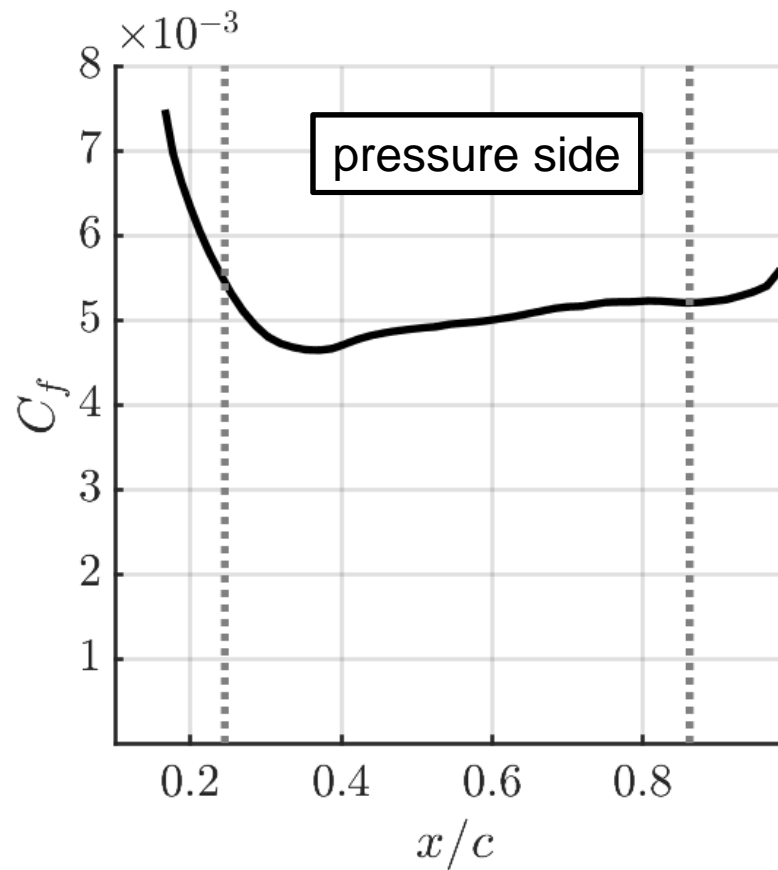
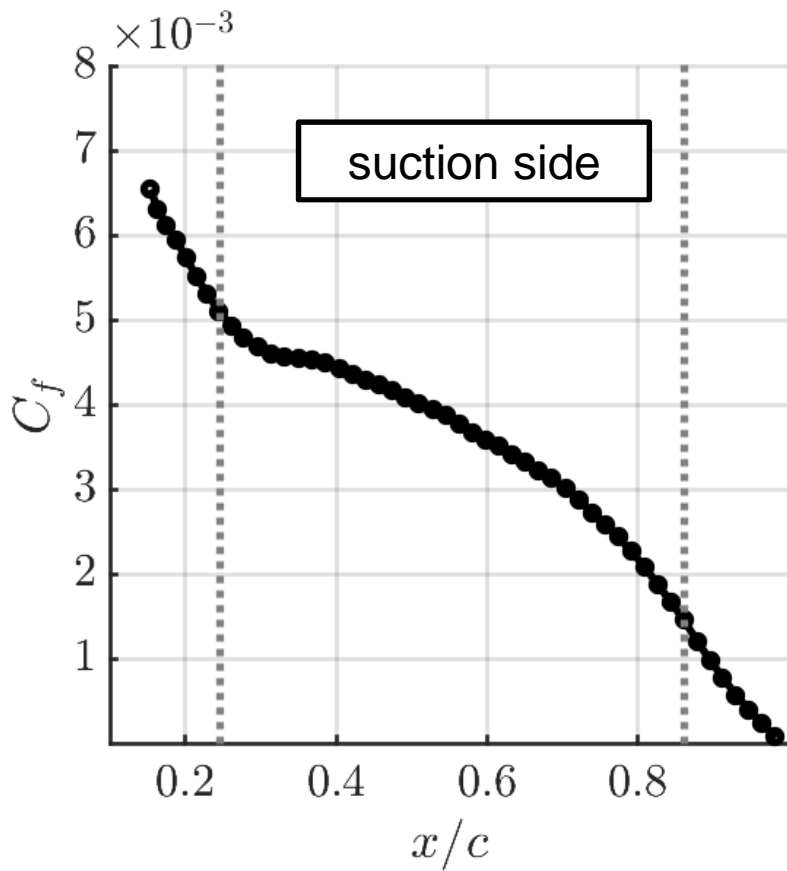


- -ref., ZPG at similar  $Re_\tau(1)$
- ref., pressure s.
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- -suction s., blowing  $0.1\%U_\infty$
- suction s., blowing  $0.2\%U_\infty$
- -suction s., suction  $0.1\%U_\infty$
- suction s., suction  $0.2\%U_\infty$
- suction s., body force
- -pressure s., blowing  $0.1\%U_\infty$
- pressure s., blowing  $0.2\%U_\infty$

**Profiles at:**  
 $x/c = 0.8$

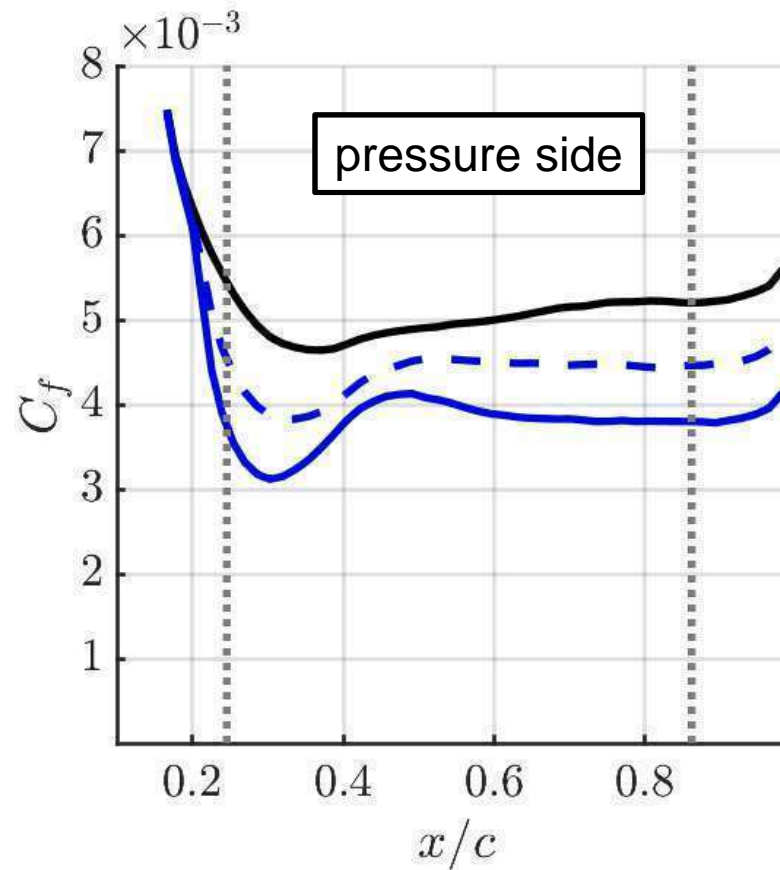
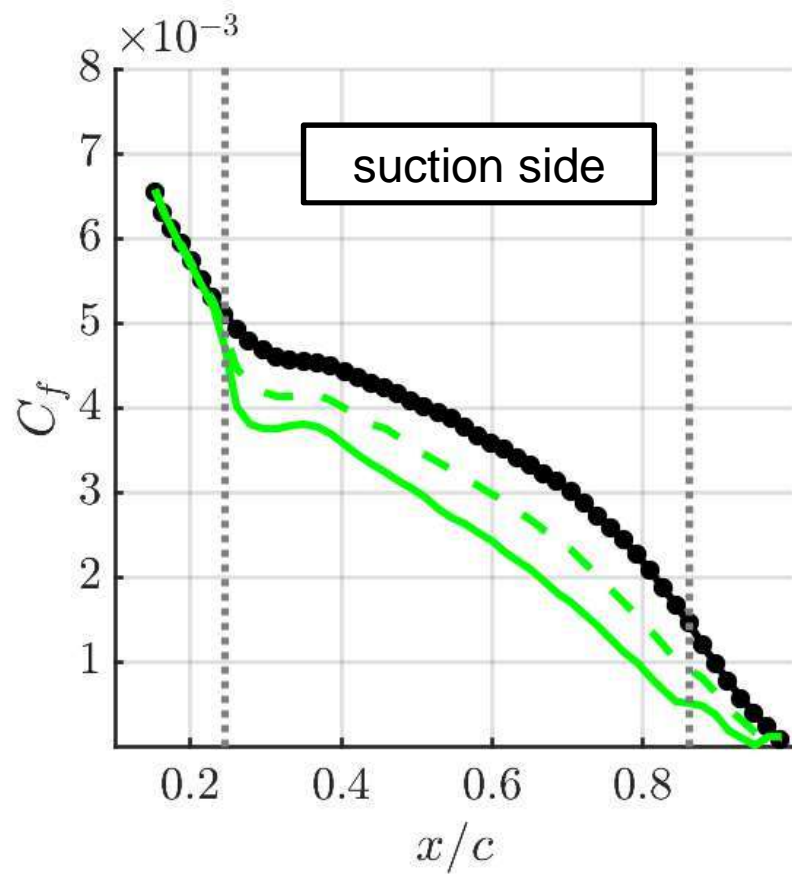
# Effect of control

APG:  $\downarrow C_f$



- ref., pressure s.
- ref., suction s.
- suction s., blowing  $0.1\%U_\infty$
- suction s., blowing  $0.2\%U_\infty$
- suction s., suction  $0.1\%U_\infty$
- suction s., suction  $0.2\%U_\infty$
- suction s., body force
- pressure s., blowing  $0.1\%U_\infty$
- pressure s., blowing  $0.2\%U_\infty$

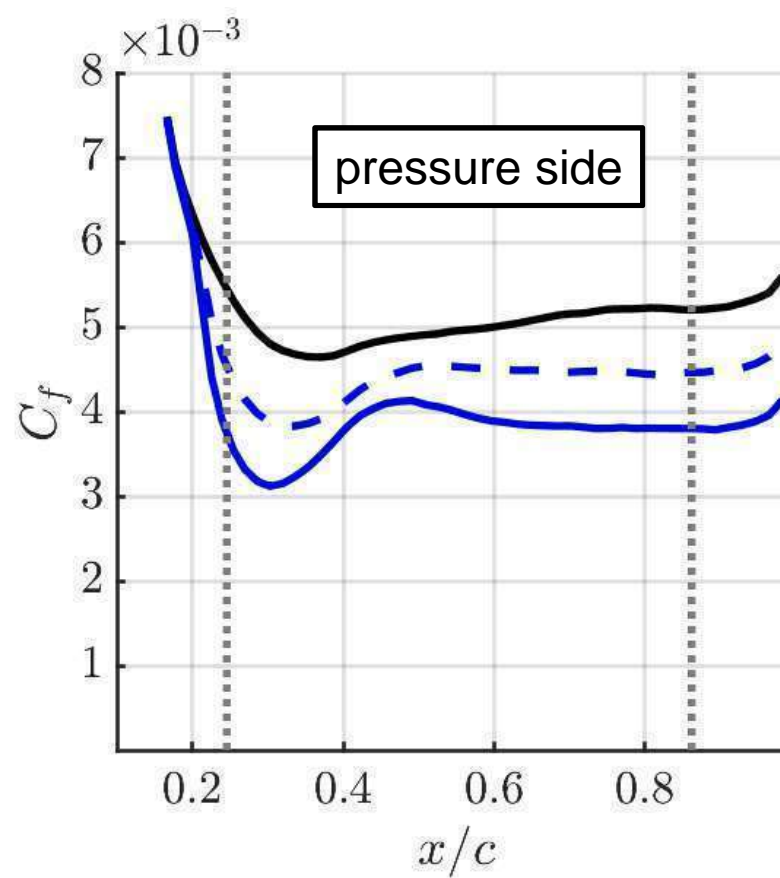
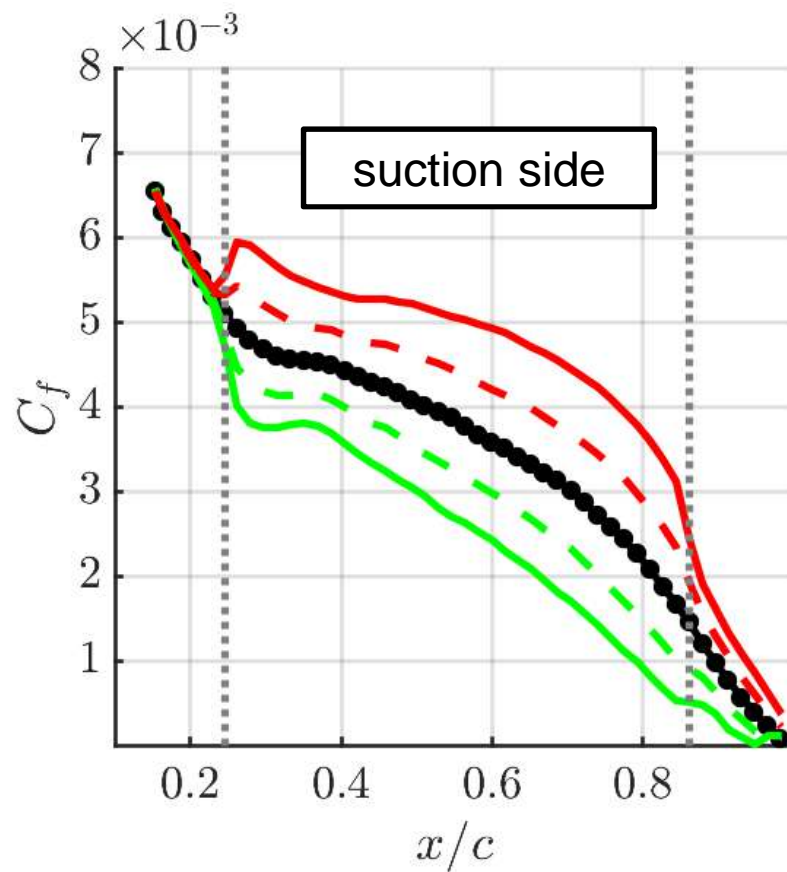
APG, blowing:  $\downarrow C_f$



- ref., pressure s.
- ref., suction s.
- suction s., blowing  $0.1\%U_\infty$
- suction s., blowing  $0.2\%U_\infty$
- suction s., suction  $0.1\%U_\infty$
- suction s., suction  $0.2\%U_\infty$
- suction s., body force
- pressure s., blowing  $0.1\%U_\infty$
- pressure s., blowing  $0.2\%U_\infty$

Suction:  $\uparrow C_f$

APG, blowing:  $\downarrow C_f$





- ref., pressure s.
- ref., suction s.
- suction s., blowing  $0.1\%U_\infty$
- suction s., blowing  $0.2\%U_\infty$
- suction s., suction  $0.1\%U_\infty$
- suction s., suction  $0.2\%U_\infty$
- suction s., body force
- pressure s., blowing  $0.1\%U_\infty$
- pressure s., blowing  $0.2\%U_\infty$




# Friction drag (FIK) decomposition<sup>(1,2)</sup>

$$C_f(x) = C_f^\delta(x) + C_f^T(x) + C_f^D(x) + C_f^P(x)$$

 B.L. thickness:  $C_f^\delta = \frac{4(1 - \delta_{99}/\delta^*)}{Re_\delta}$

 Reynolds-shear stress:  $C_f^T = 2 \int_0^1 2(1 - \eta)(-\overline{uv})d\eta$

 Streamwise development:  $C_f^D = -2 \int_0^1 (1 - \eta)^2 I_x d\eta$

 Pressure:  $C_f^P = -2 \int_0^1 (1 - \eta)^2 \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} d\eta$

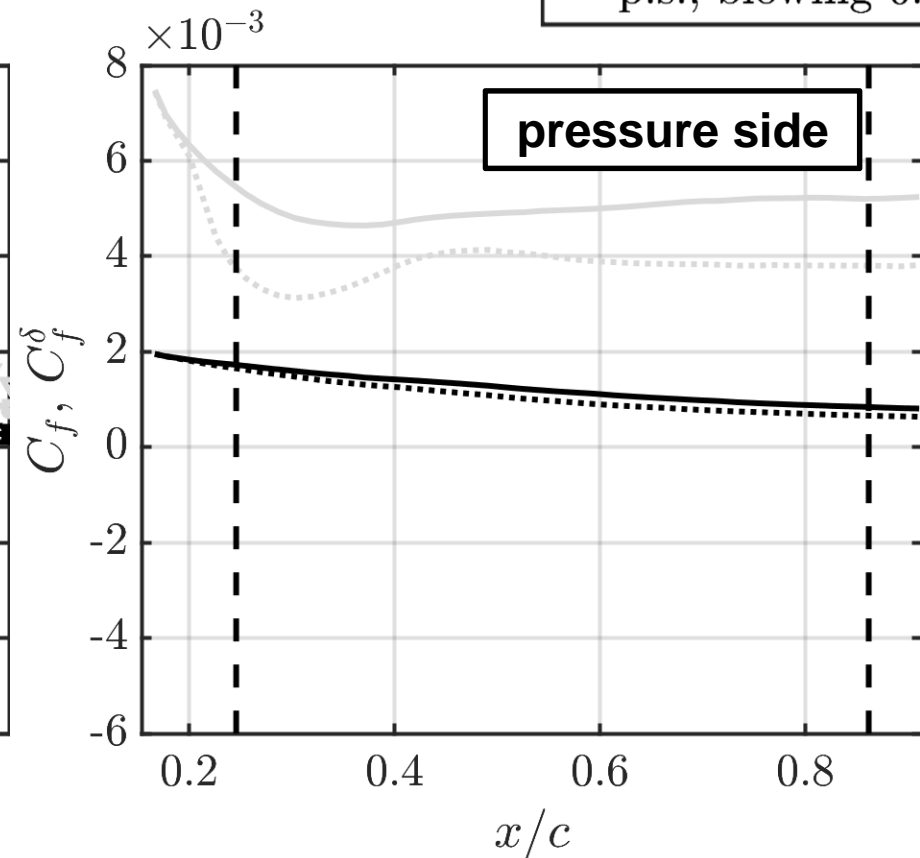
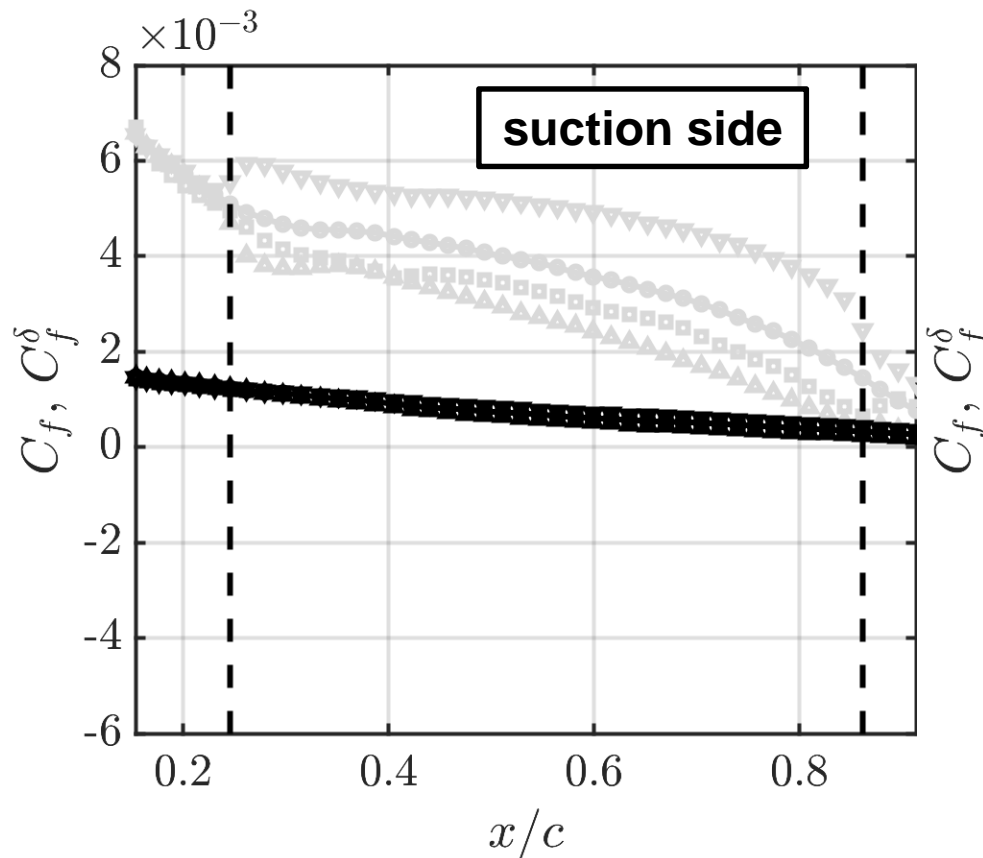
where:

$$\eta = \frac{y}{\delta_{99}}, \quad Re_\delta = \frac{U_e \delta_{99}}{\nu}, \quad I_x = \frac{\partial(U U)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \overline{uu}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(U V)}{\partial \eta} - \frac{1}{Re_\delta} \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x^2}$$

# FIK: Boundary-layer thickness

$$C_f^\delta = \frac{4(1 - \delta_{99}/\delta^*)}{Re_\delta}$$

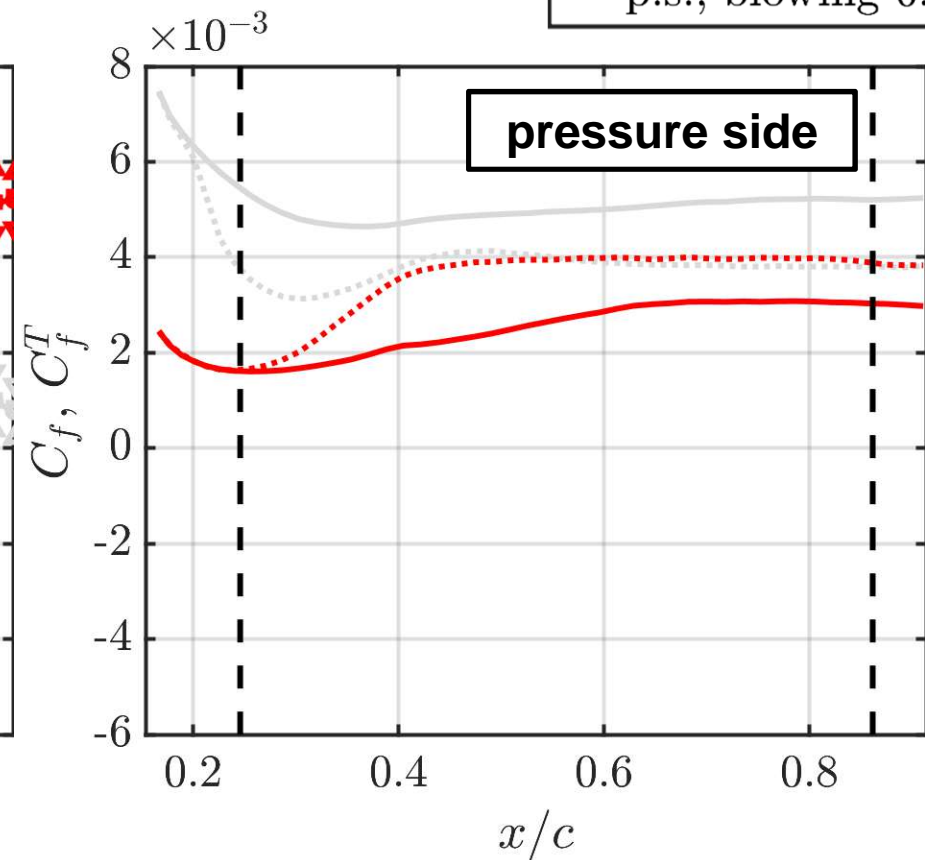
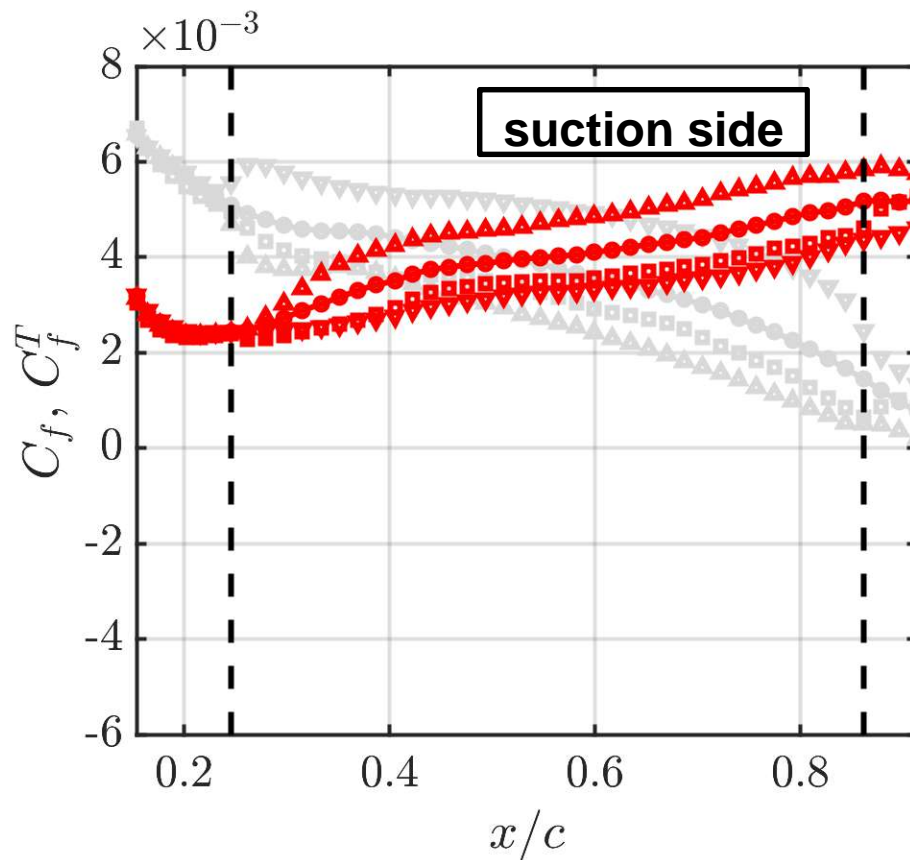
- suction side, reference
- ▲ s.s., blowing  $0.2\%U_\infty$
- ▼ s.s., suction  $0.2\%U_\infty$
- s.s., body force
- pressure side, reference
- ⋯ p.s., blowing  $0.2\%U_\infty$



# FIK: Turbulent fluctuations ■

$$C_f^T = 2 \int_0^1 2(1 - \eta)(-\overline{uv})d\eta$$

- suction side, reference
- ▲ s.s., blowing  $0.2\%U_\infty$
- ▼ s.s., suction  $0.2\%U_\infty$
- s.s., body force
- pressure side, reference
- ... p.s., blowing  $0.2\%U_\infty$

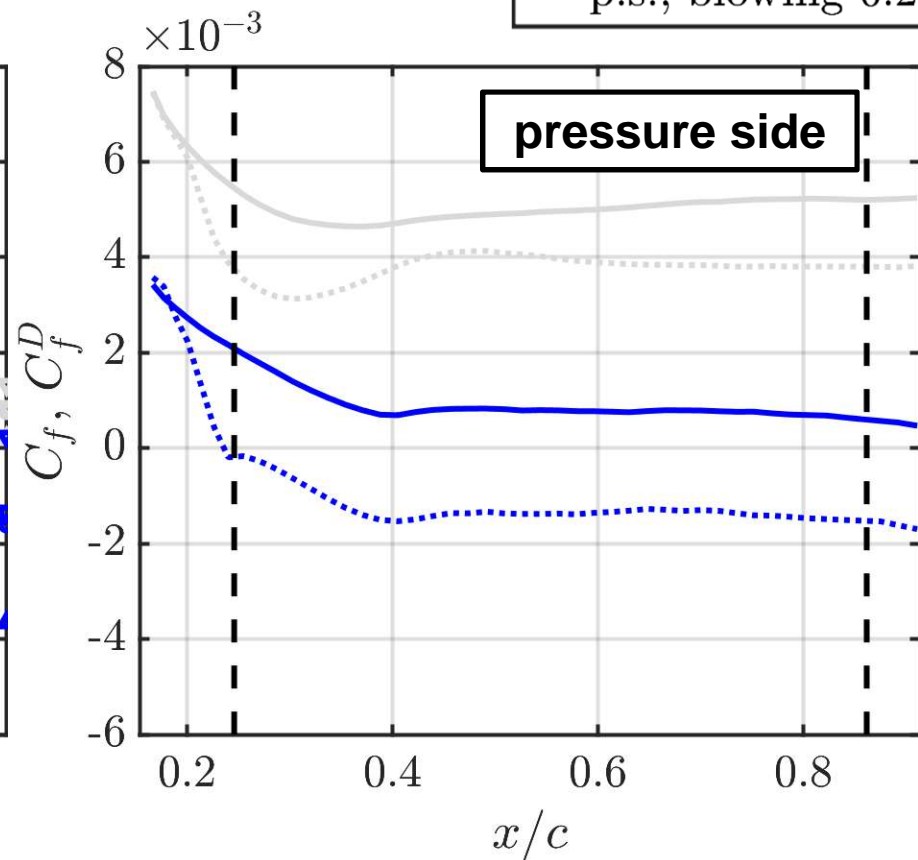
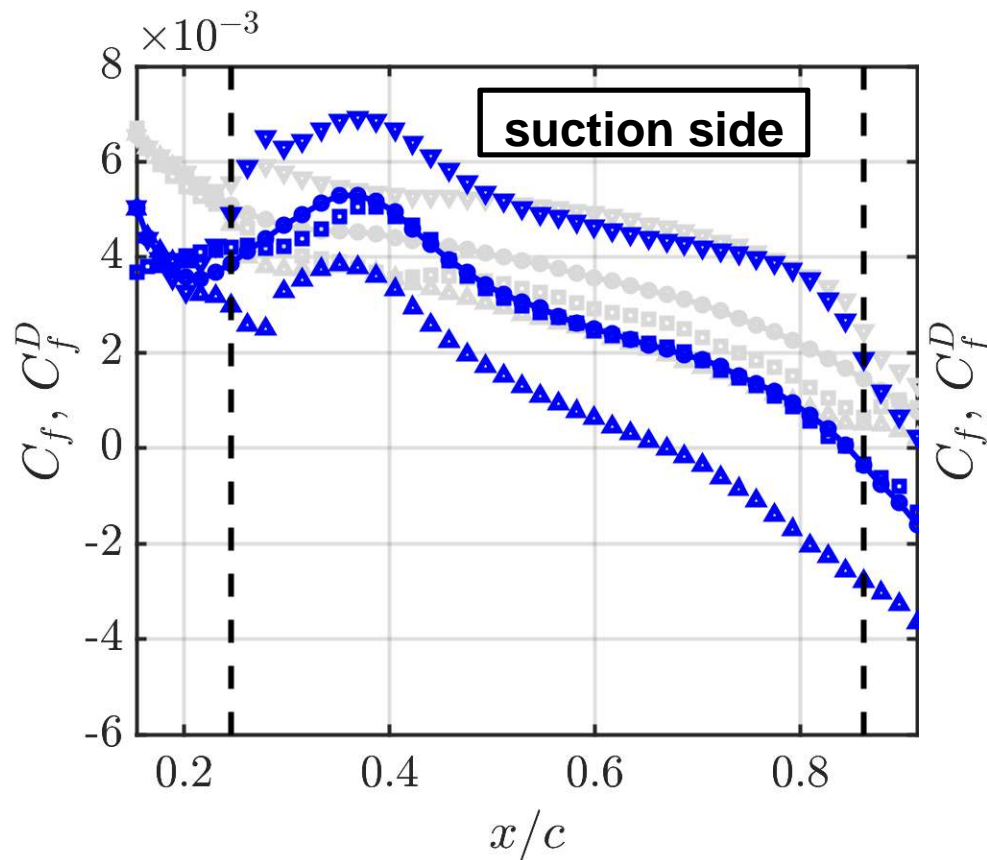


# FIK: Streamwise inhomogeneity

$$I_x = \frac{\partial(UU)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \overline{uu}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(UV)}{\partial \eta} - \frac{1}{Re_\delta} \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x^2}$$

$$C_f^D = -2 \int_0^1 (1 - \eta)^2 I_x d\eta$$

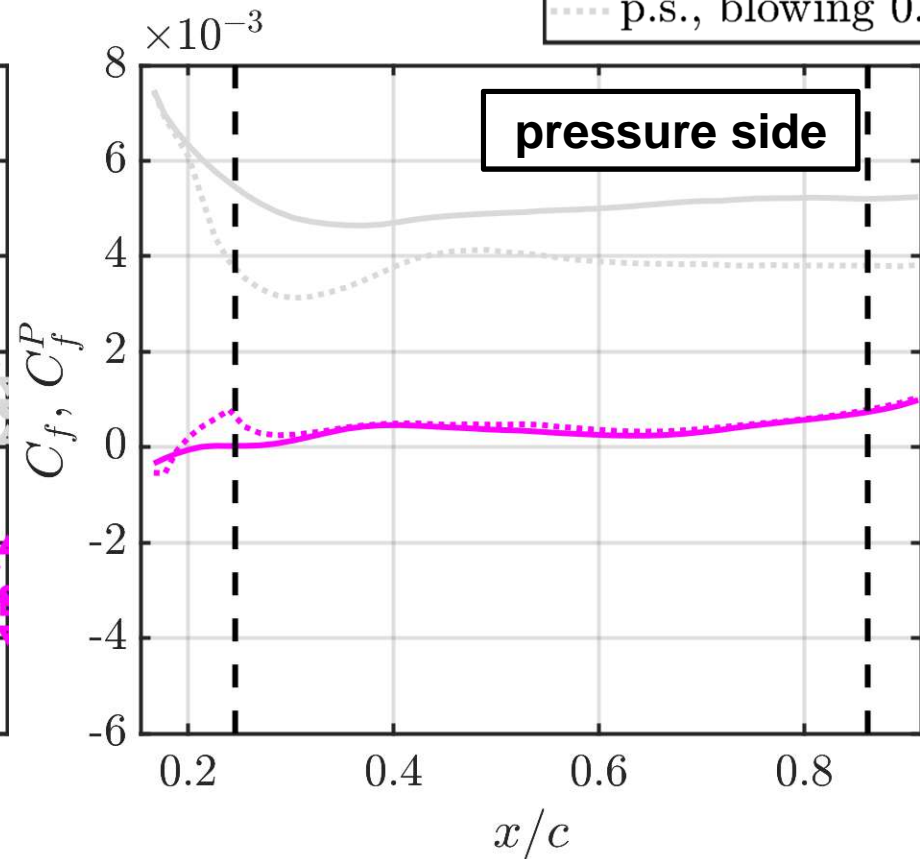
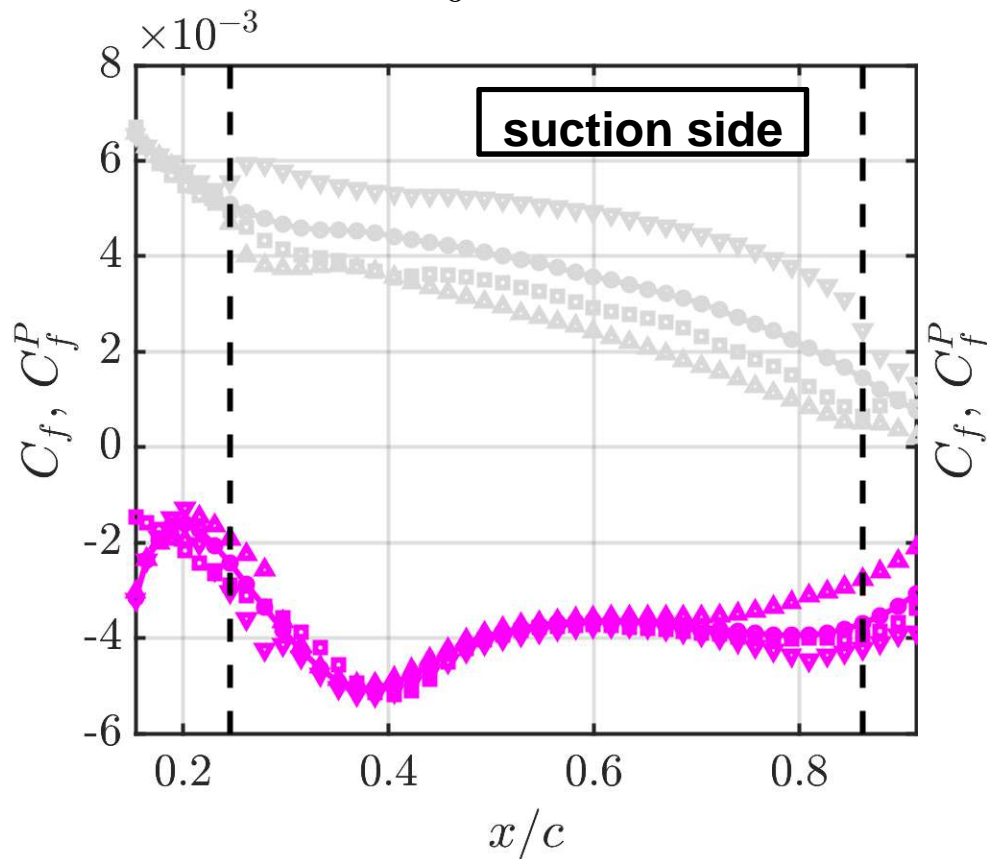
- suction side, reference
- ▲ s.s., blowing 0.2%  $U_\infty$
- ▼ s.s., suction 0.2%  $U_\infty$
- s.s., body force
- pressure side, reference
- ... p.s., blowing 0.2%  $U_\infty$



# FIK: Pressure gradient ■

$$C_f^P = -2 \int_0^1 (1 - \eta)^2 \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} d\eta$$

- suction side, reference
- ▲ s.s., blowing  $0.2\%U_\infty$
- ▼ s.s., suction  $0.2\%U_\infty$
- s.s., body force
- pressure side, reference
- ⋯ p.s., blowing  $0.2\%U_\infty$





# Aerodynamic effects

$$C_d = \frac{\vec{F} \cdot \vec{e}_x}{\frac{1}{2} \rho U_\infty^2 c} = C_{d,f} + C_{d,p} \quad , \quad C_l = \frac{\vec{F} \cdot \vec{e}_y}{\frac{1}{2} \rho U_\infty^2 c}$$

| <u>Case</u>                     | $C_{d,f}$     | $C_{d,p}$     | $C_d = C_{d,f} + C_{d,p}$ | $C_l$       | $L/D$     |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| <u>Reference</u>                | <b>0.0125</b> | <b>0.0071</b> | <b>0.0196</b>             | <b>0.87</b> | <b>44</b> |
| <u>Blowing 0.1%, s. side</u>    |               |               |                           |             |           |
| Blowing 0.2%, s. side           |               |               |                           |             |           |
| <u>Suction 0.1%, s. side</u>    |               |               |                           |             |           |
| Suction 0.2%, s. side           |               |               |                           |             |           |
| <u>Body force 0.1%, s. side</u> |               |               |                           |             |           |
| Blowing 0.1%, p. side           |               |               |                           |             |           |
| <u>Blowing 0.2%, p. side</u>    |               |               |                           |             |           |

# Aerodynamic effects

$$C_d = \frac{\vec{F} \cdot \vec{e}_x}{\frac{1}{2} \rho U_\infty^2 c} = C_{d,f} + C_{d,p} \quad , \quad C_l = \frac{\vec{F} \cdot \vec{e}_y}{\frac{1}{2} \rho U_\infty^2 c}$$

| <u>Case</u>                     | $C_{d,f}$       | $C_{d,p}$       | $C_d = C_{d,f} + C_{d,p}$ | $C_l$         | $L/D$             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| <u>Reference</u>                | <b>0.0125</b>   | <b>0.0071</b>   | <b>0.0196</b>             | <b>0.87</b>   | <b>44</b>         |
| <u>Blowing 0.1%, s. side</u>    | <b>0.0119</b> ↓ | <b>0.0082</b> ↑ | <b>0.0201</b> ↑           | <b>0.84</b> ↓ | <b>42 (-4%)</b> ↓ |
| <u>Blowing 0.2%, s. side</u>    | <b>0.0115</b> ↓ | <b>0.0091</b> ↑ | <b>0.0206</b> ↑           | <b>0.82</b> ↓ | <b>40 (-9%)</b> ↓ |
| <u>Suction 0.1%, s. side</u>    |                 |                 |                           |               |                   |
| <u>Suction 0.2%, s. side</u>    |                 |                 |                           |               |                   |
| <u>Body force 0.1%, s. side</u> |                 |                 |                           |               |                   |
| <u>Blowing 0.1%, p. side</u>    |                 |                 |                           |               |                   |
| <u>Blowing 0.2%, p. side</u>    |                 |                 |                           |               |                   |

# Aerodynamic effects

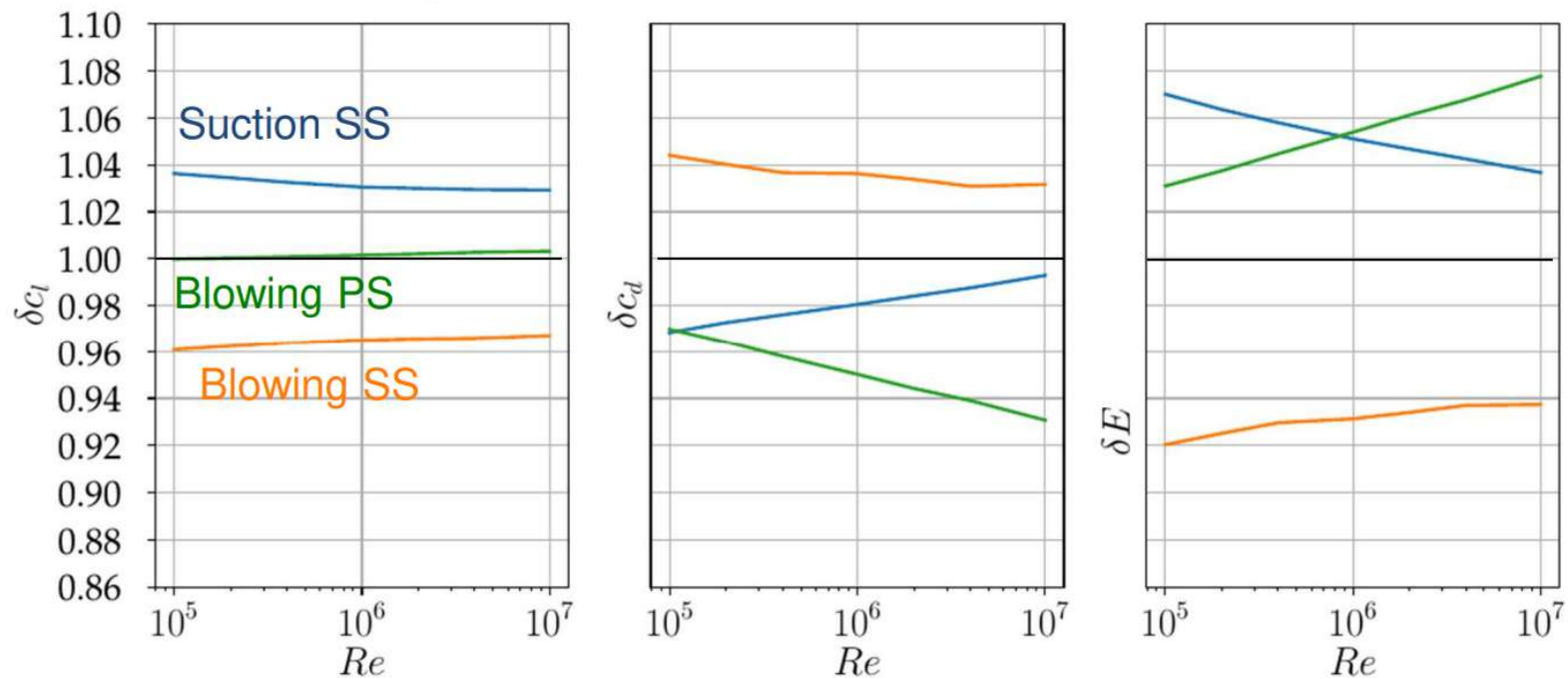
$$C_d = \frac{\vec{F} \cdot \vec{e}_x}{\frac{1}{2} \rho U_\infty^2 c} = C_{d,f} + C_{d,p} \quad , \quad C_l = \frac{\vec{F} \cdot \vec{e}_y}{\frac{1}{2} \rho U_\infty^2 c}$$

| Case                     | $C_{d,f}$ | $C_{d,p}$ | $C_d = C_{d,f} + C_{d,p}$ | $C_l$  | $E = L/D$  |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------------|--------|------------|
| Reference                | 0.0125    | 0.0071    | 0.0196                    | 0.87   | 44         |
| Blowing 0.1%, s. side    | 0.0119 ↓  | 0.0082 ↑  | 0.0201 ↑                  | 0.84 ↓ | 42 (-4%) ↓ |
| Blowing 0.2%, s. side    | 0.0115 ↓  | 0.0091 ↑  | 0.0206 ↑                  | 0.82 ↓ | 40 (-9%) ↓ |
| Suction 0.1%, s. side    | 0.0131 ↑  | 0.0063 ↓  | 0.0194 ↓                  | 0.89 ↑ | 46 (+4%) ↑ |
| Suction 0.2%, s. side    | 0.0137 ↑  | 0.0058 ↓  | 0.0195 ↓                  | 0.91 ↑ | 47 (+7%) ↑ |
| Body force 0.1%, s. side | 0.0118 ↓  | 0.0077 ↑  | 0.0196 =                  | 0.88 ↑ | 45 (+2%) ↑ |
| Blowing 0.1%, p. side    | 0.0120 ↓  | 0.0070 ↓  | 0.0190 ↓                  | 0.87 = | 46 (+4%) ↑ |
| Blowing 0.2%, p. side    | 0.0116 ↓  | 0.0070 ↓  | 0.0186 ↓                  | 0.88 ↑ | 47 (+7%) ↑ |

# Reynolds number dependency

- Friction drag becomes more relevant at higher Re
  - Optimal control mechanism expected to change

$$\delta\Phi = \Phi/\Phi_{ref}$$



(1): Fahland, Master's thesis KIT (2019)



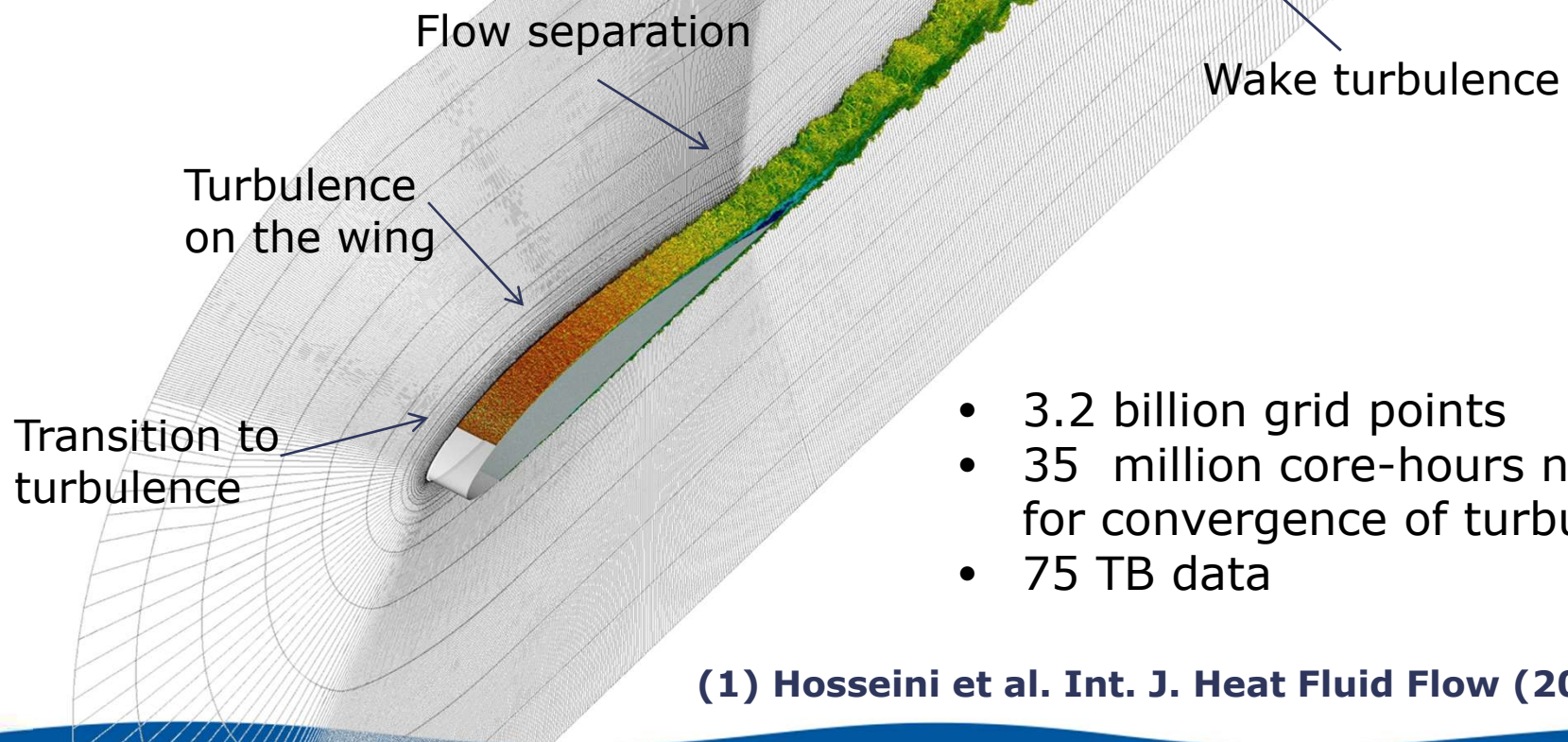
# Reynolds number dependency

- Friction drag becomes more relevant at higher Re
  - Optimal control mechanism expected to change
  - Simulations much more expensive ( $N \propto Re_c^{13/7}_{(1)}$ )
- Need an **optimized** numerical setup!



# Direct numerical simulation of flow over a full NACA4412 wing at $Re_c = 400\,000$

- DNS with Nek5000
- $Re_\tau = 400$ ,  $Re_\theta = 2800$
- AoA = 5 deg.
- $z_L = 10\%$  chord



# High-resolution LES of NACA-4412<sup>(1)</sup>

2018...

LES with **relaxation filtering** (Schlatter *et al.* 2005)

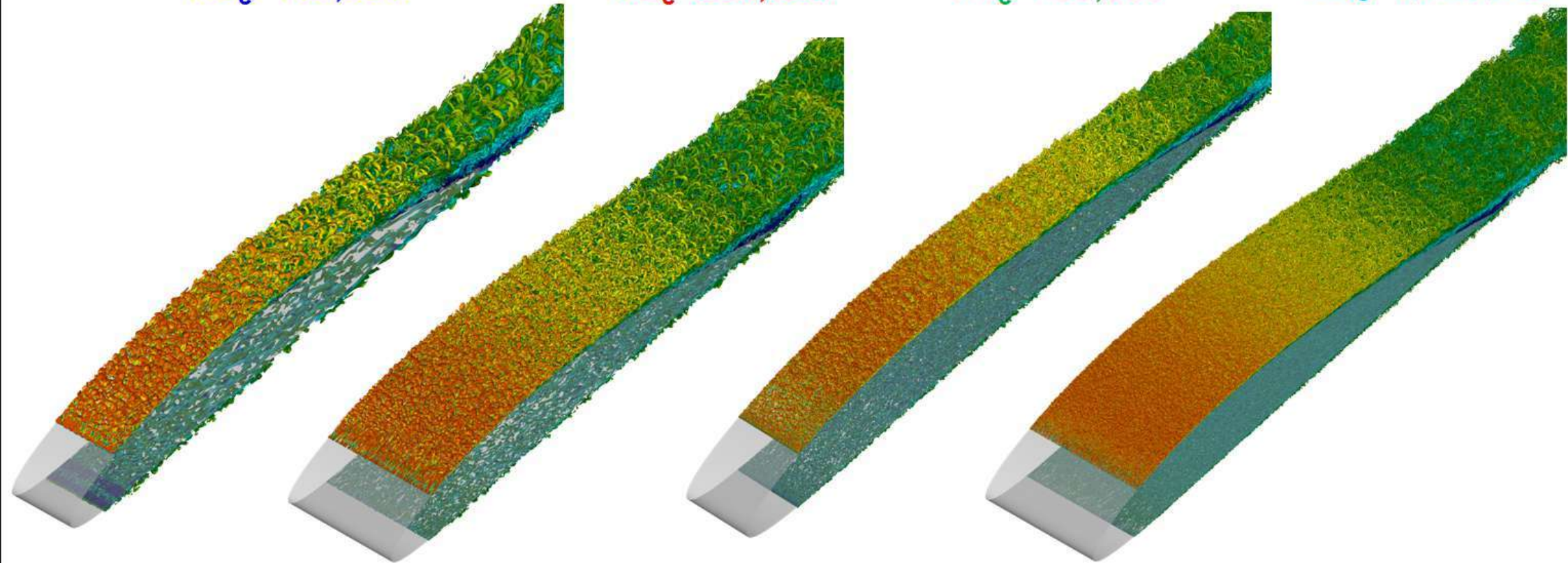
**Factor 40** reduction  
in computational effort

$Re_c=100,000$

$Re_c=200,000$

$Re_c=400,000$

$Re_c=1,000,000$





# High-resolution LES of NACA-4412

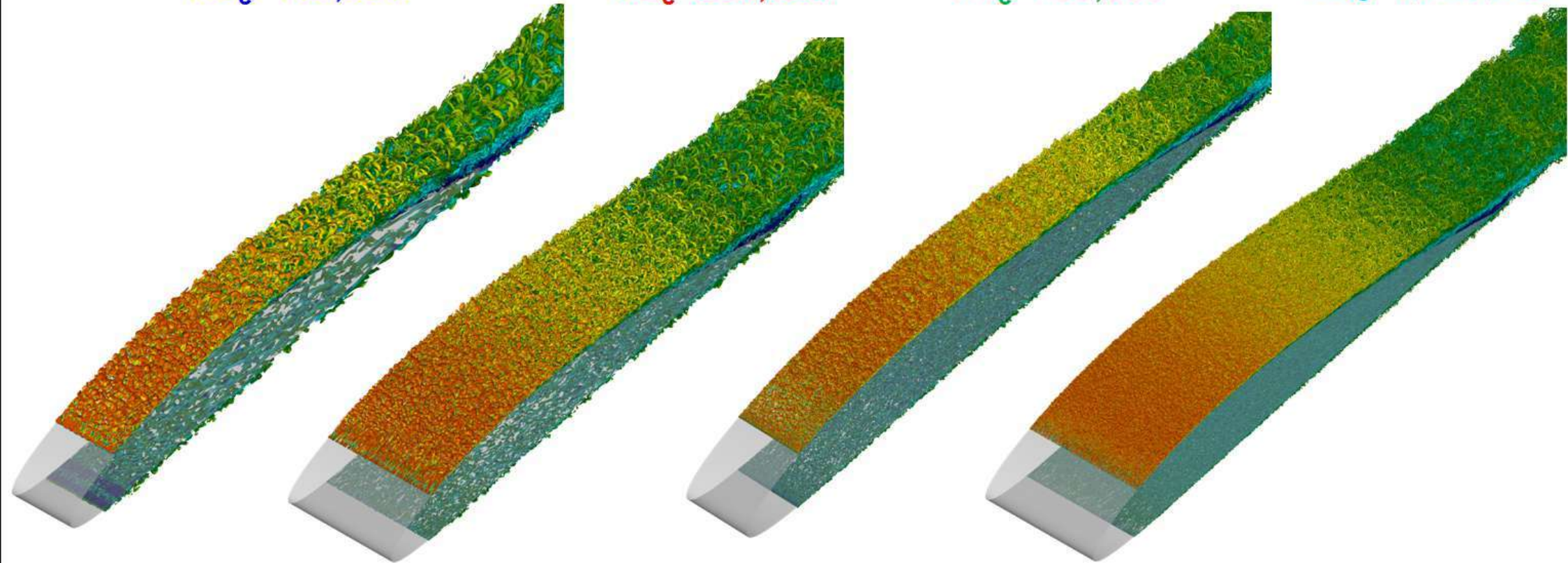
LES with **relaxation filtering** (Schlatter *et al.* 2005)

$Re_c=100,000$

$Re_c=200,000$

$Re_c=400,000$

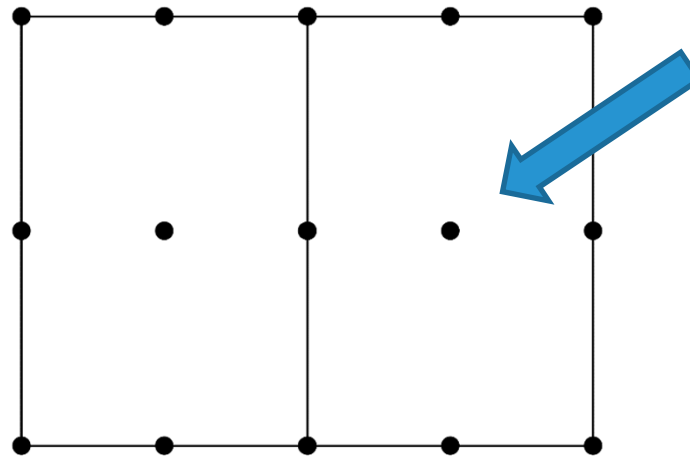
$Re_c=1,000,000$



Goal: Reach (at least)  **$Re_c=1.6$  M** similar to the (reference) experiments by Wadcock (1987)

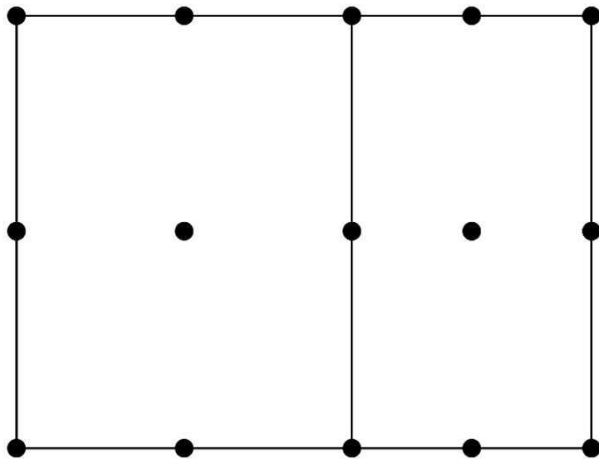
## Mesh refinement

Spectral grid

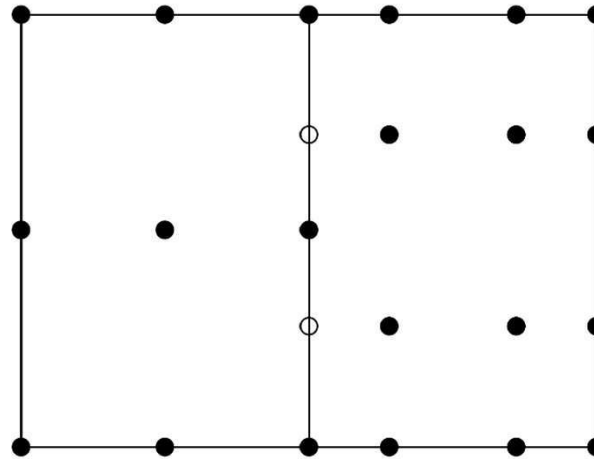


**Element  
identified  
for refinement**

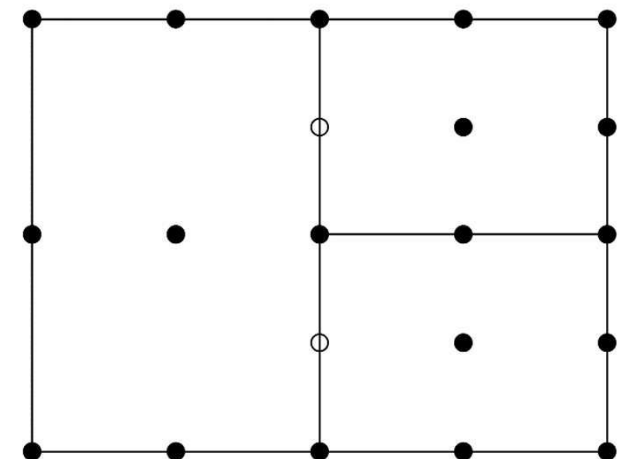
*r*-refinement



*p*-refinement

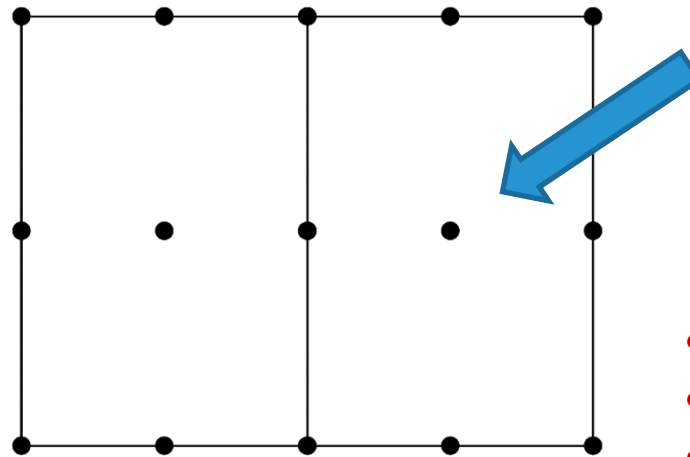


*h*-refinement



## Mesh refinement

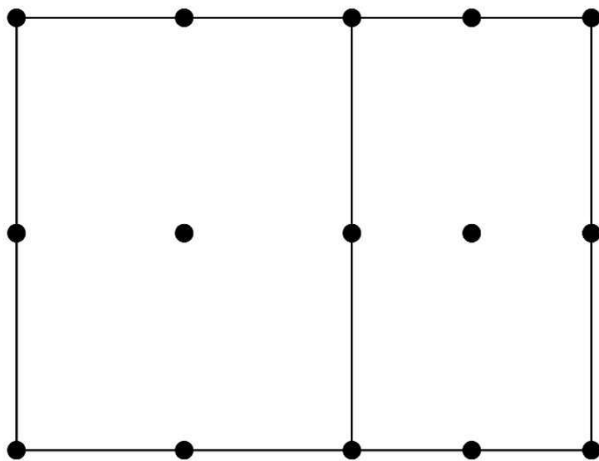
Spectral grid



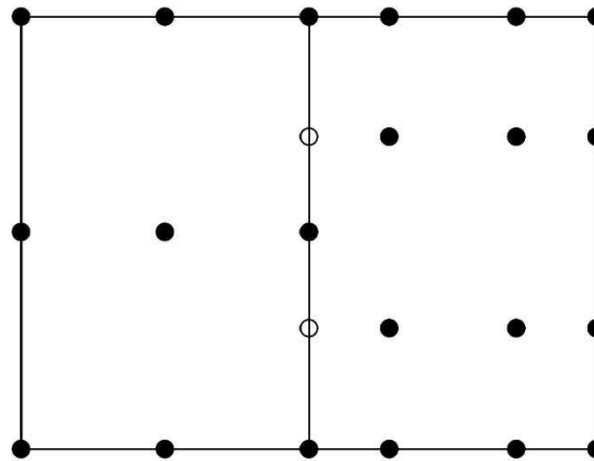
**Element  
identified  
for refinement**

- "Ease" of implementation
- Greatest potential
- New data structure

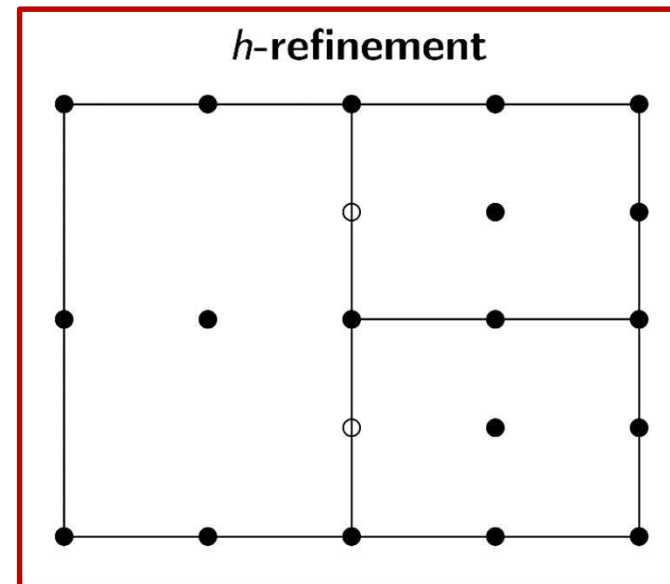
*r*-refinement



*p*-refinement



*h*-refinement



# Spectral error indicator

## ■ Truncated spectral expansion in Legendre base in 1D (local)

$$u(x) = \sum_{k=0}^N \hat{u}_k p_k(x)$$

$$\hat{u}_k = \frac{1}{\gamma_k} \int_{-1}^1 w(x) u(x) p_k(x) dx$$

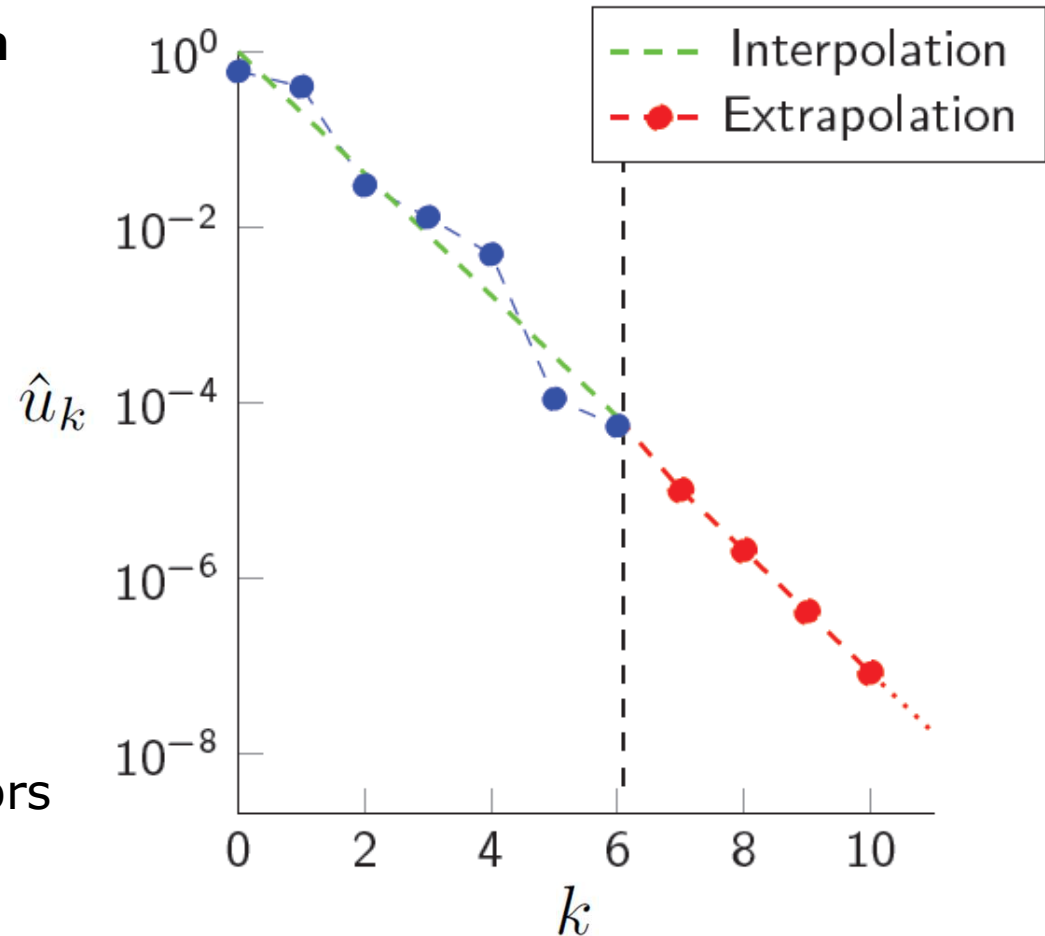
## ■ Error estimate

- Assumed spectral decay

$$\hat{u}(k) \approx c \exp(-\sigma k)$$

- Truncation and quadrature errors

$$\varepsilon_{\text{est}} = \left( \int_N^\infty \frac{\hat{u}(k)^2}{\frac{2k+1}{2}} dk + \frac{\hat{u}_N^2}{\frac{2N+1}{2}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$



Legendre spectral coefficients

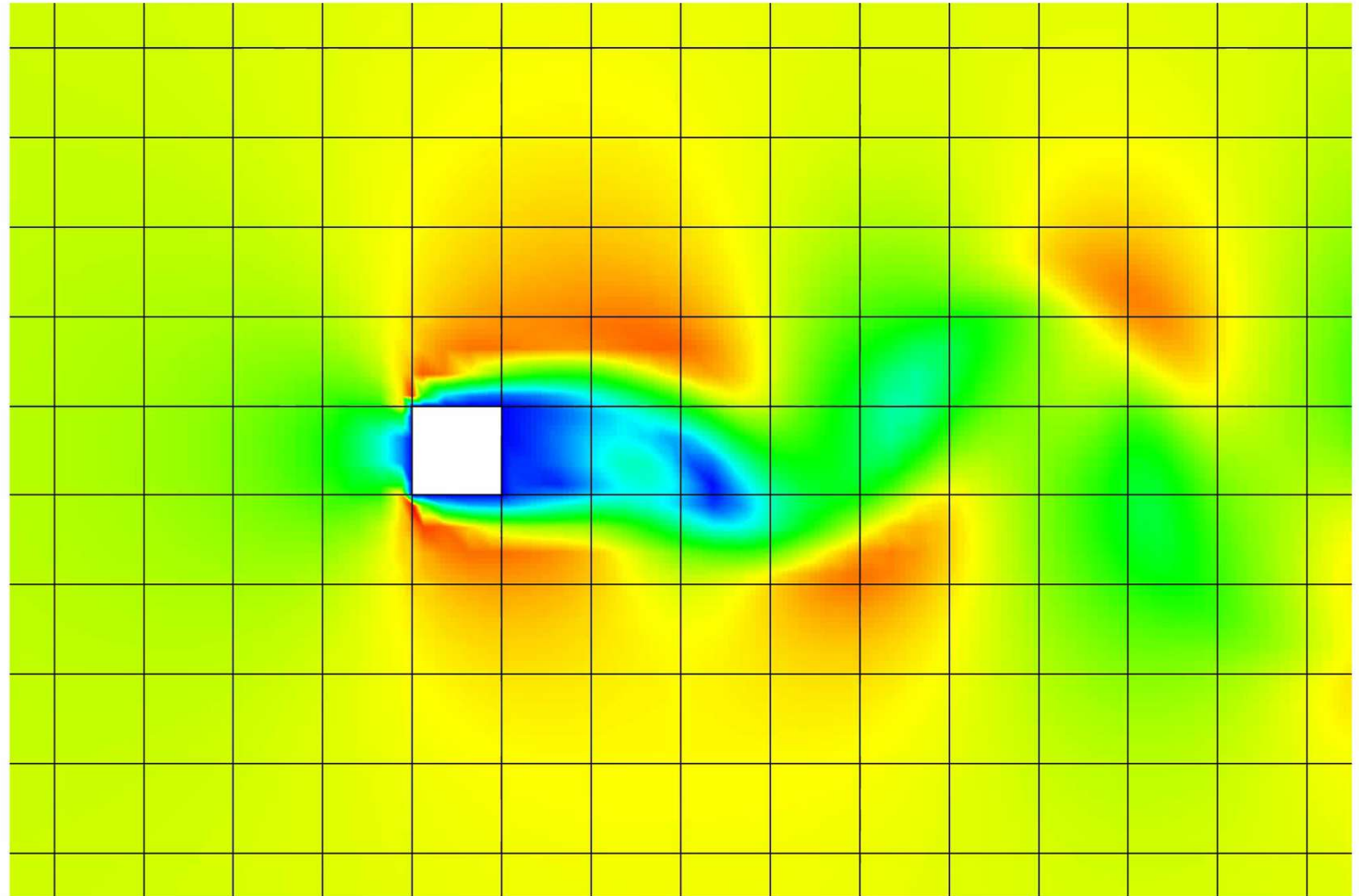
(1): Mavriplis, Comput. Methods Appl. Mech. Engrg. (1994)



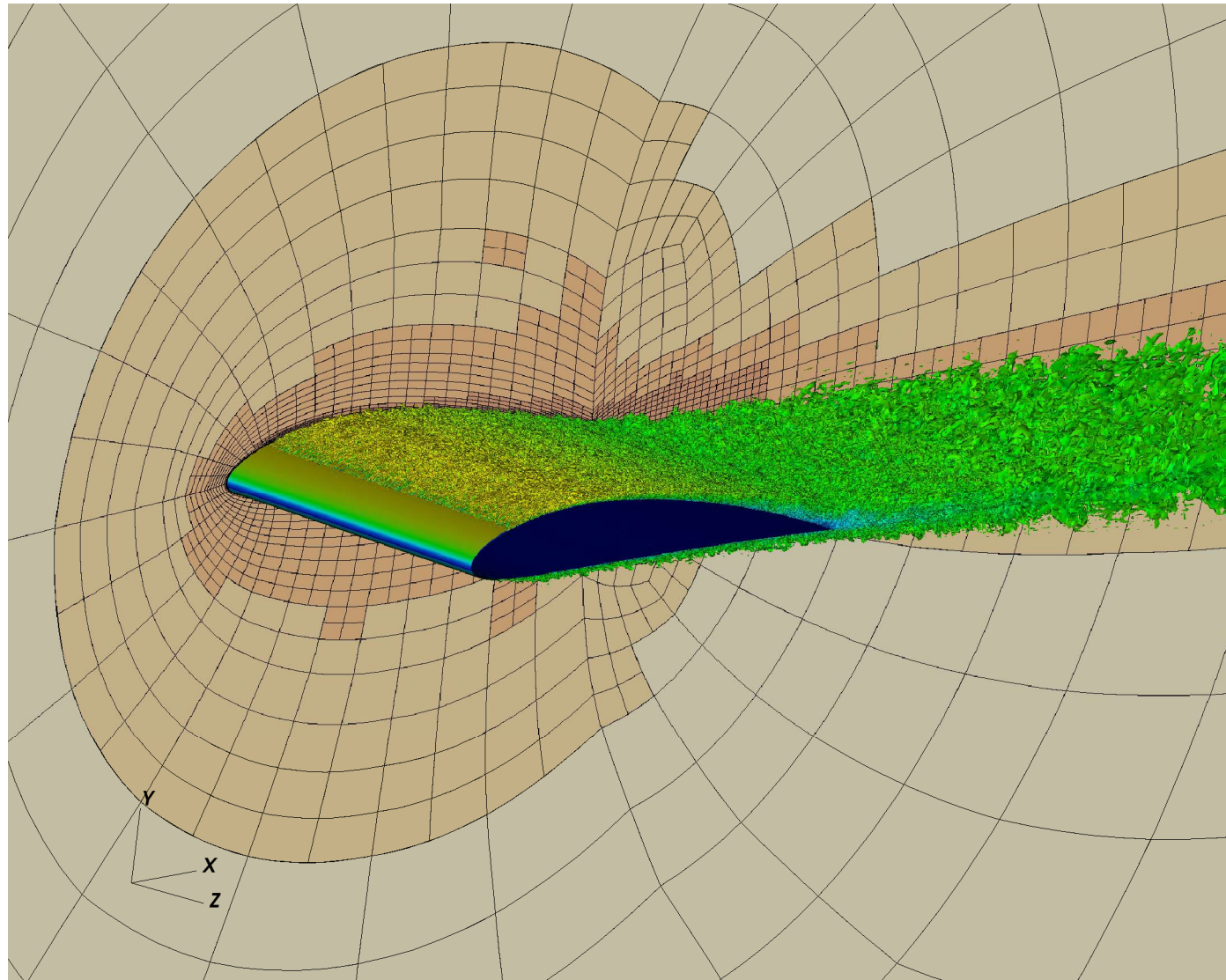
# Adaptive simulations with Nek5000

## What we can do...

- **Fully on the fly!**
- Refining and coarsening
- Tracking features



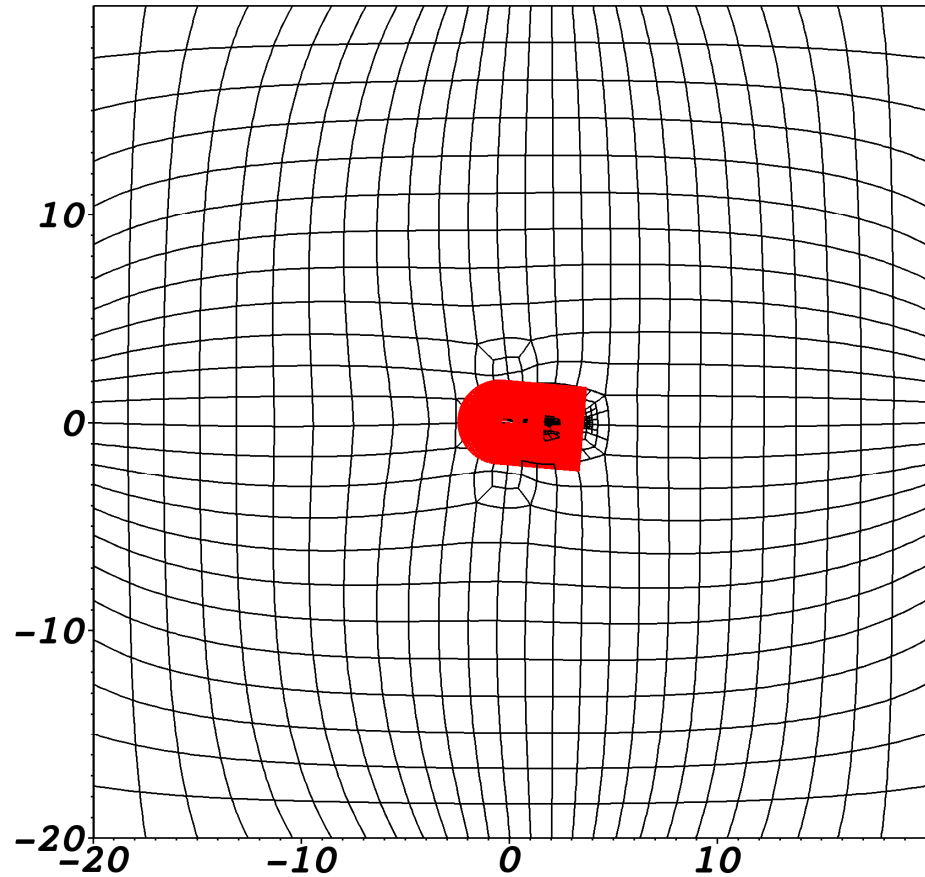
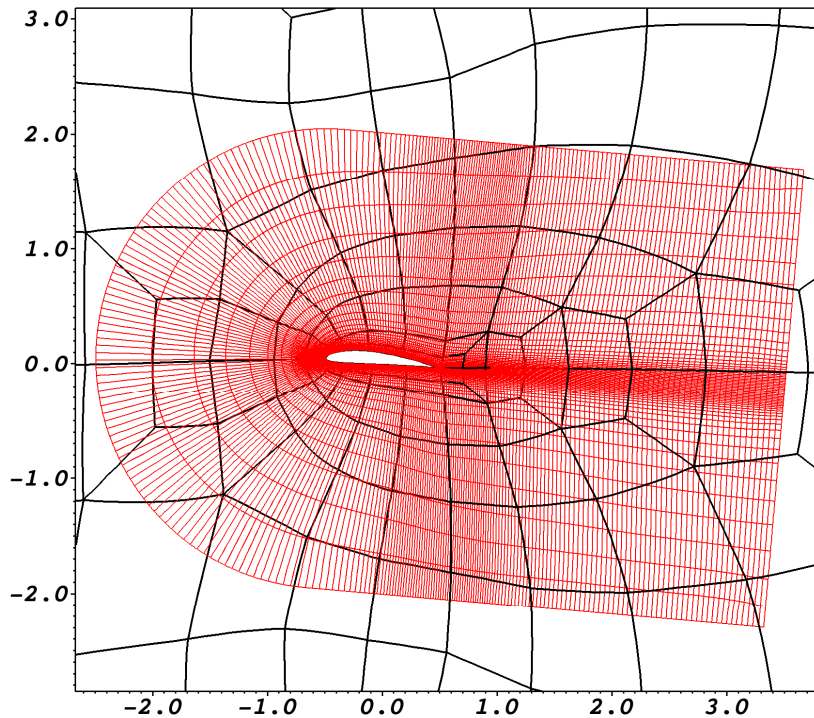
**... but potentially expensive with certain error estimators!**  
**→ Freeze the mesh after a run of refinements**



# Comparison between conformal and non-conformal mesh

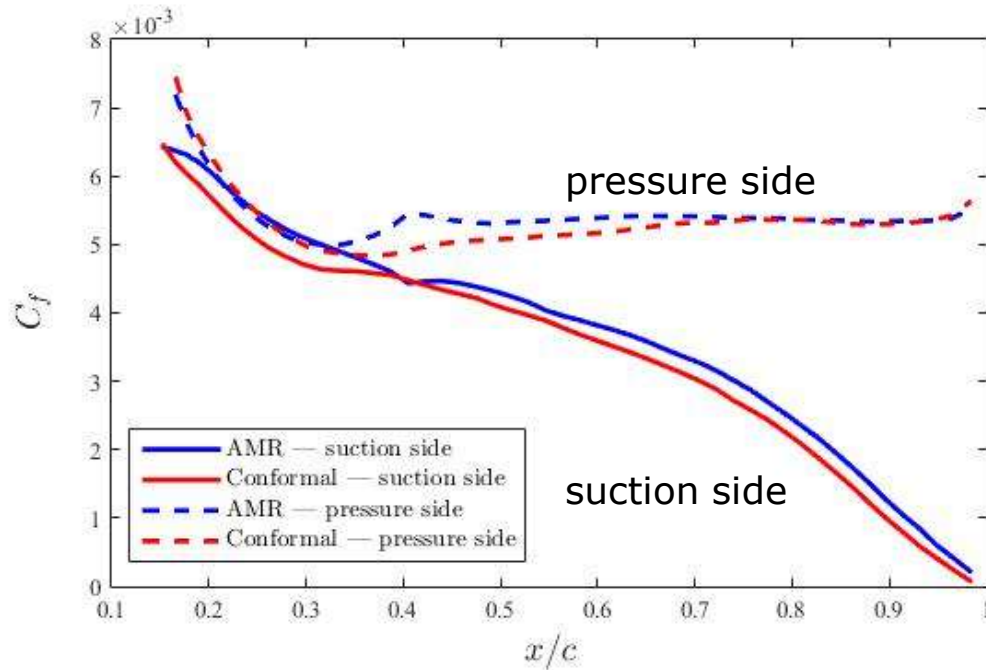
|                          | Conformal  | Non-conformal  |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| Code                     | Nek5000  |  |
| $Re_c$                   | 200,000  |  |
| Resolution (wing)        | $\Delta x^+ = 18$ , $\Delta y^+ = 0.64$ , $\Delta z^+ = 9$ | $\Delta x^+ = 7$ , $\Delta y^+ = 0.58$ , $\Delta z^+ = 4$                |
| Resolution (wake)        | $\Delta x < 9\eta$   | $(\Delta x \Delta y \Delta z)^{1/3} < 9\eta$                             |
| Domain size              | $L_x = 6c$ , $L_y = 4c$ , $L_z = 0.2c$                     | $L_x = 40c$ , $L_y = 40c$ , $L_z = 0.6c$                                 |
| Polynomial order         | 11   | 7  |
| Number of grid points    | 218 M  | 234 M (3x larger $L_z$ !)  |
| B.C. inflow & top/bottom | Dirichlet (RANS)   | Dirichlet $U_\infty = 1$ & Normal outflow with tangential $U_\infty = 1$ |
| B.C. outflow             | Stabilised outflow by Dong <i>et al.</i> (2014)            |  |
| B.C. in z-direction      | Periodic   |  |

# AMR NACA 4412, $Re_c = 200\,000$



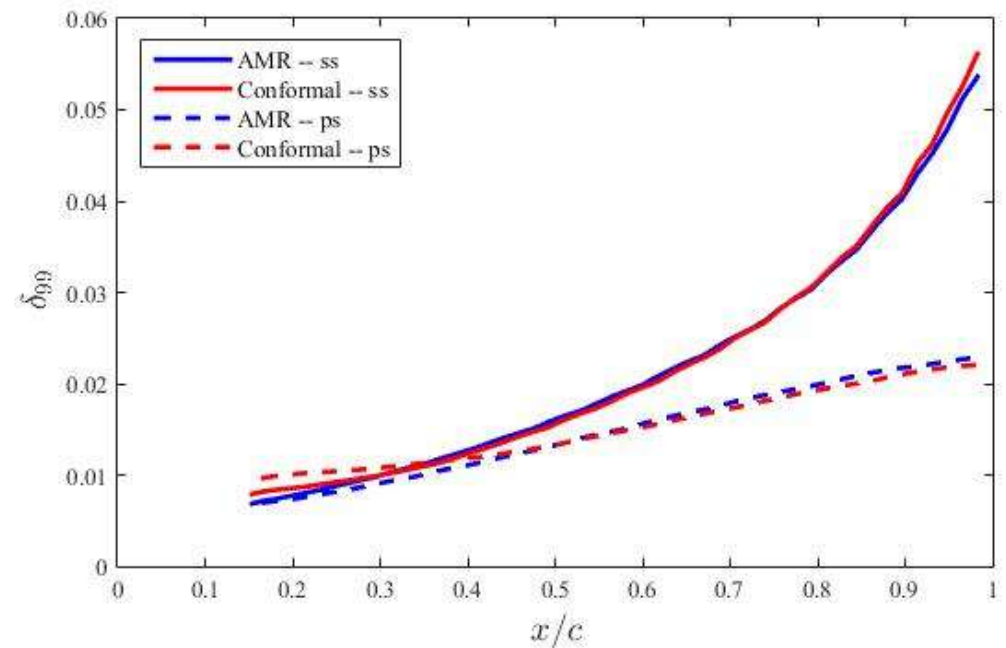
Comparison of mesh structure

# Skin-friction coefficient and 99% boundary layer thickness ( $Re_c=200k$ )



Slight discrepancy in the skin-friction coefficient which could be the result of the higher resolution of the non-conformal mesh in the wall.

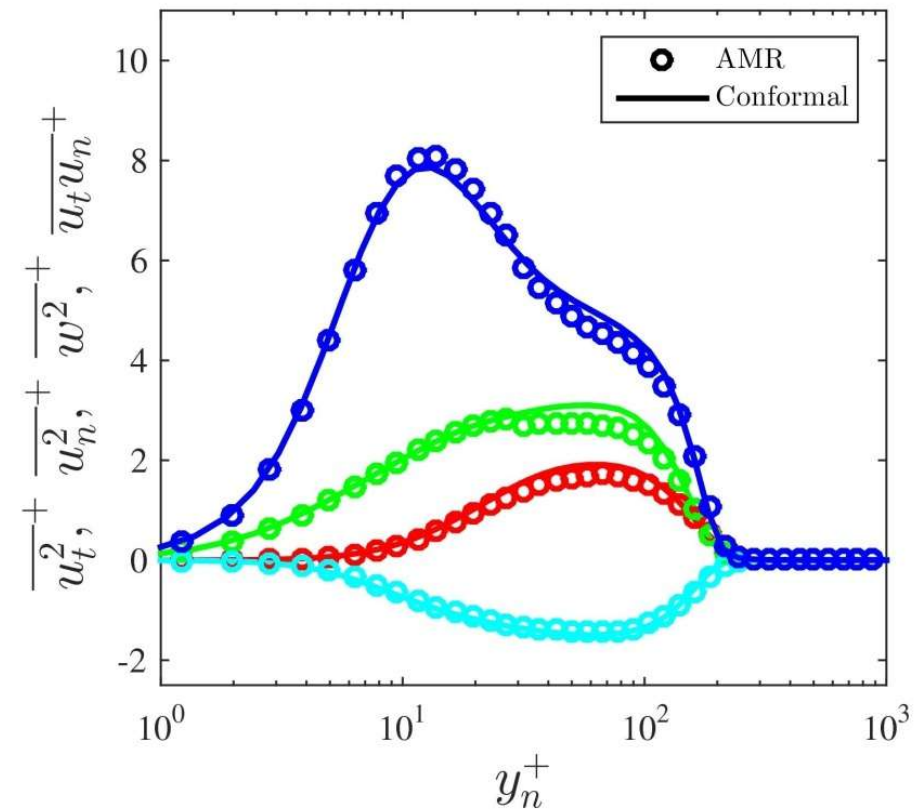
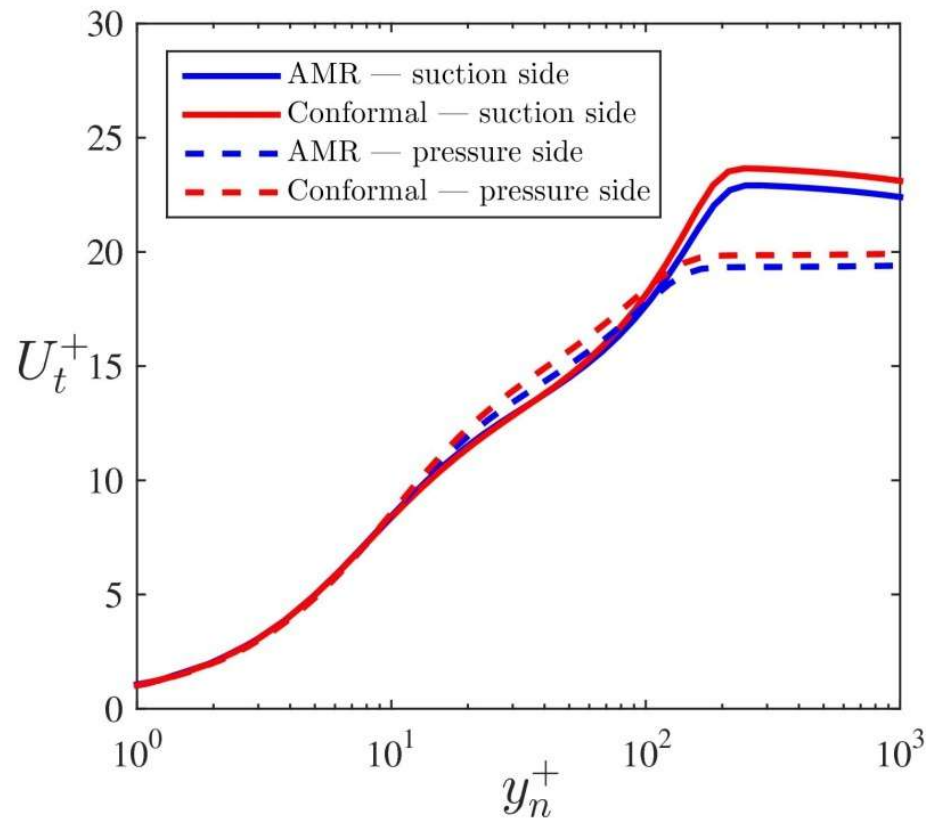
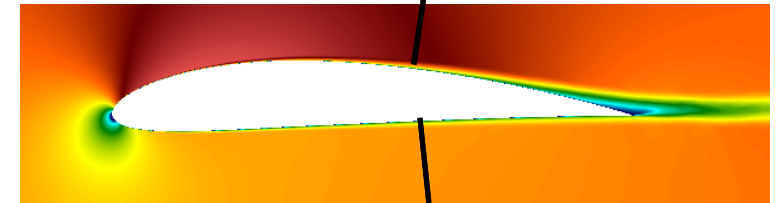
Excellent agreement on the computation of the boundary-layer thickness  $\delta_{99}$ .





# Mean velocity and rms profiles ( $Re_c=200k$ )

$\beta = 2$   
(moderate APG)



Differences are mostly due to inner scaling (i.e. the friction coefficient). All the qualitative aspects are recovered with both simulations.



# “Real Experiments” in the MTL wind tunnel (KTH Mechanics)

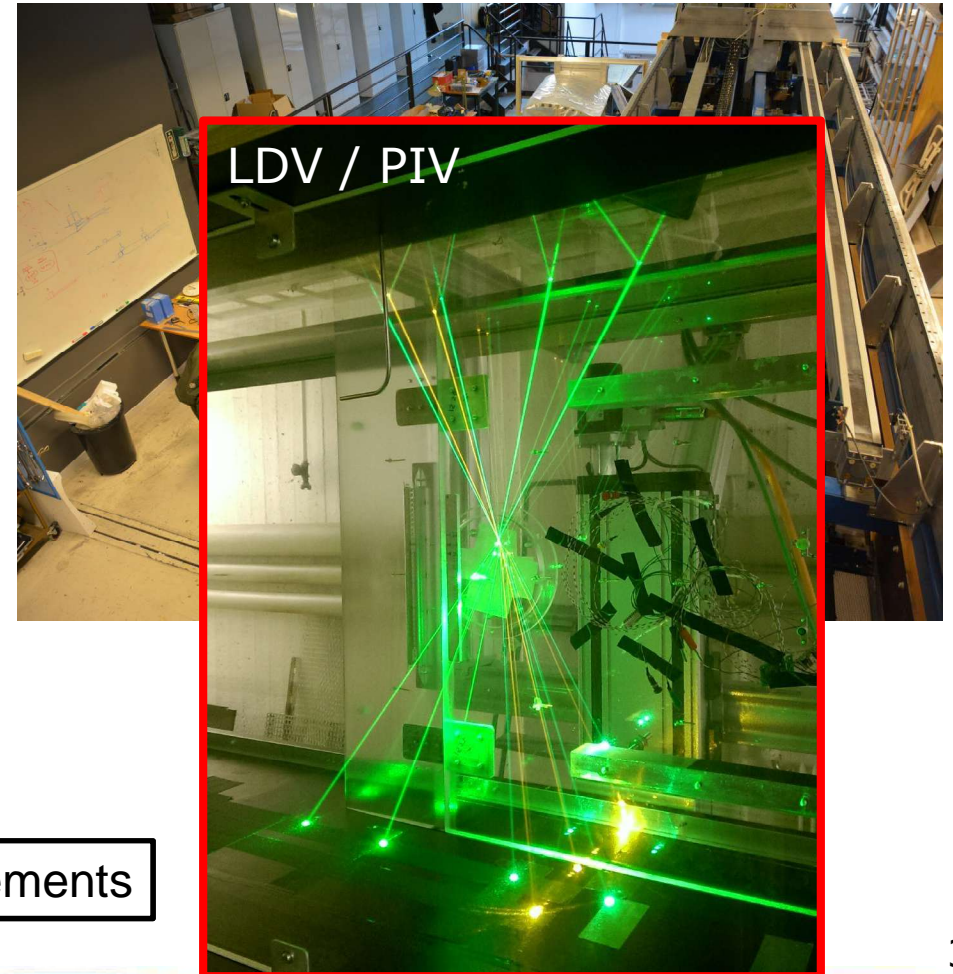
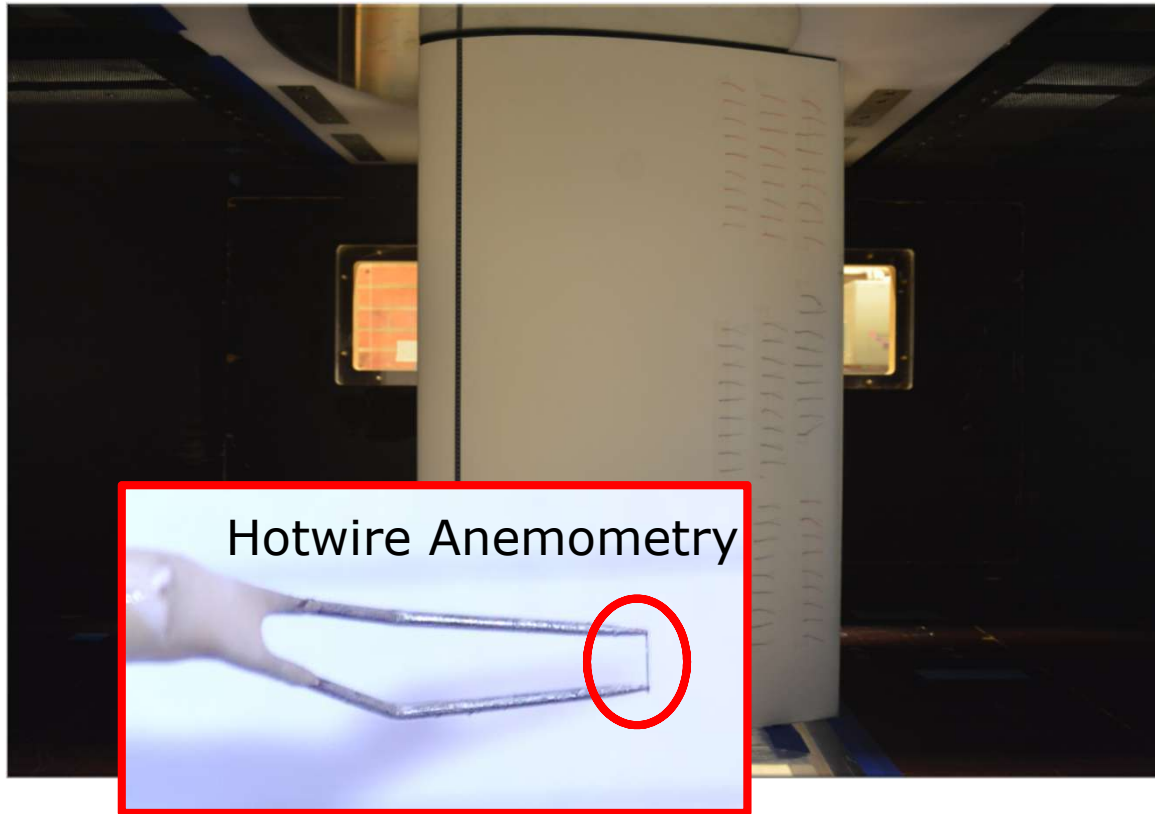
- Complement and extend numerical simulations
- Reynolds number up to 2 M



Spring 2019: Implementation and validation

# “Real Experiments” in the MTL wind tunnel (KTH Mechanics)

- Complement and extend numerical simulations
- Reynolds number up to 2 M



Spring 2020: BL measurements

# Conclusions

- Flow-control simulations using **high-order (spectral) methods**
- First in-detail study of the different contributors to drag on a wing
- Suction on suction-side and blowing in pressure-side lead to highest drag reduction at moderate  $Re$
- Steps towards increasing the achievable  $Re$ 
  - LES RT-filtering
  - Implementation of **Adaptive Mesh Refinement** (AMR) in NEK5000
- Highest  $Re$  for reference high-fidelity data of turbulence in wings
- Experiments in the MTL wind tunnel

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