RAE 2822 Drag Divergence

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Chapter 1

Introduction and Background

1.1 Background

The RAE 2822 is a supercritical airfoil meant to allow for more efficient transonic cruise by prolonging the drag divergence associated with wave drag to a higher Mach number. This airfoil was chosen for CFD simulations because of the availability of experimental data with which computational data can be compared [1]. For the simulations contained in this report, the CFD data were compared with experimental, wind tunnel data at M = 0.745, $\alpha = 3.19^{\circ}$, and $Re_c = 2.7 \times 10^6$. The ratio of the max thickness to chord is 0.121.



Figure 1.1. RAE 2822 airfoil profile.

1.2 Computational Capabilities

The parallel capabilities of the Lonestar Linux cluster at the Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC) were used to run approximately 100 CFD simulations.

1.2.1 Grid generation

The AFLR2 grid generator from Mississippi State University was used to generate two-dimensional unstructured grids [2, 3]. This software uses advancing-front/local-reconnection schemes to generate high-quality, unstructured grids. Several programs from NASA Langley Research Center were also

used to wrap the AFLR2 grid generator. A Python script was developed to create the geometry files required by the Langley-developed wrappers (see the appendix for the code).

1.2.2 Flow solver

The FUN2D flow solver was used for simulations at various Mach numbers with and without viscosity [4]. FUN2D is a node-based, finite volume code that has capabilities too broad to be completely covered here. See the FUN3D website for more information. For this work, the steady, two-dimensional flow solver was used for inviscid and viscous flow solves. A Python script was developed that allowed the user to submit batch jobs to the queue (see appendix for code listing). Inputs to the script are the flowfield variable to increment and a vector of the desired values. The script creates the directories which are named according to the desired value, copies FUN2D input files, links the grid, increments the necessary values and submits the job to the queue.

1.2.3 Post-processing

Post-processing tasks were accomplished using Python and Tecplot. A script was developed to create and save all the necessary line plots (see appendix). Tecplot was used for more detailed flowfield visualization including contour plots of flow variables and streamlines.

References

- "Experimental Database for Computer Program Assessment," AGARD Advisory Report No. 138, 1979.
- [2] Marcum, D.L., and Weatherhill, N.P., "Unstructured Grid Generation Using Iterative Point Insertion and Local Reconnection," AIAA Journal, Vol. 33, No. 9, pp. 1619-1625, 1995.
- [3] Marcum, D.L., "Unstructured Grid Generation Using Automatic Point Insertion and Local Reconnection," The Handbook of Grid Generations, editted by J.F. Thompson, B. Soni, and N.P. Weatherhill, CRC Press, 1998.
- [4] NASA Langley Research Center, fun3d.larc.nasa.gov.

Chapter 2

Inviscid Drag Divergence

2.1 Grid Convergence Study

2.1.1 Grids





2.1.2 Results



Figure 2.2. Coarse grid residuals.



Figure 2.3. Medium grid residuals.



Figure 2.4. Fine grid residuals.



Figure 2.5. Coarse grid contours of C_p .



Figure 2.6. Medium grid contours of c_p .



Figure 2.7. Fine grid contours of c_p .



Figure 2.8. c_p comparison.



Figure 2.9. C_d vs number of grid points.

Because the main concern is the surface pressure distribution, and the lack of sensitivity of the drag coefficient to grid size, the coarse grid will be used for simulations.



2.2 Drag divergence

Figure 2.10. Inviscid drag divergence of the RAE 2822 airfoil.



2.2.1 Pressure coefficient distributions

Figure 2.11. Inviscid pressure coefficient distributions.



Figure 2.12. Inviscid pressure coefficient distributions, cont.



Figure 2.13. Inviscid pressure coefficient distributions, cont..



(g) M = 0.800.

Figure 2.14. Inviscid pressure coefficient distributions, cont...

2.2.2 Pressure coefficient contours



Figure 2.15. Inviscid contours of pressure coefficient.



Figure 2.16. Inviscid contours of pressure coefficient.



Figure 2.17. Inviscid contours of pressure coefficient.



Figure 2.18. Inviscid contours of pressure coefficient.



Figure 2.19. Inviscid contours of pressure coefficient.



Figure 2.20. Inviscid contours of pressure coefficient (M = 0.800).

Chapter 3

Viscous Drag Divergence

3.1 Grid Convergence Study

3.1.1 Grids





3.1.2 Results



Figure 3.2. Coarse grid residuals.



Figure 3.3. Medium grid residuals.



Figure 3.4. Fine grid residuals.



Figure 3.5. Coarse grid contours of c_p .



Figure 3.6. Medium grid contours of c_p .



Figure 3.7. Fine grid contours of c_p .



Figure 3.8. c_p comparison.



Figure 3.9. c_d vs number of grid points.

The fine grid is chosen for futher simulations because it resolves the shock better.

3.2 Turbulence model comparison

Three turbulence models were chosen for comparison, namely, the Spallart-Allmaras (SA) model, the k- ϵ model, and the k- ω SST model. The computational data is compared with experimental results from AR-138. Some convergence issues were encountered with the k- ϵ model. Because of the convergence issues, only the SA and k- ω SST models are considered further. The residuals are shown in Figures 3.10 and 3.11.



Figure 3.10. Spallart-Allmaras residuals.

It is well-known that the k- ϵ model does not perform well in cases of strong adverse pressure gradient [1]. Examining the contours of Mach number at the experiment conditions (M = 0.745, $\alpha = 3.19^{\circ}$, and $Re_c = 2.7 \times 10^6$), it is evident that there is shock wave-boundary layer interaction (see Figure 3.12). The strong adverse pressure gradient caused by the shock induces boundary layer separation. Both the SA and k- ω SST turbulence models predict a separation bubble as is shown in Figures 3.13 and 3.14. Perhaps this shock-boundary layer interaction, subsequent flow separation and reattachment is the reason for the k- ϵ convergence issues.

The motivation for the development of the k- ω SST model was to more accurately model the physics of flows with strong pressure gradients and/or turbulent boundary layer separation [2]. Several sources confirm that the SST model is more accurate than the k- ϵ model when considering shocks and boundary layer separation [3]. A comparison between the c_p distributions from SA and k- ω SST models is given in Figure 3.15 and shows that the SST model matches the experimental data better. Because the SST model is capable of more accurately modeling flows that involve



Figure 3.11. k- ω SST residuals.

strong adverse pressure gradients and/or flow separation, the $k\text{-}\omega$ SST turbulence model is chosen for further simulations.



Figure 3.12. Contours of Mach number.



(a) Separation bubble.

(b) Close-up of separation bubble.

Figure 3.13. SA boundary layer separation and reattachment.



(a) Separation bubble.

(b) Close-up of separation bubble.



Also, a comparison of force and moment coefficients is provided in Table 3.1. The percent difference is computed using the following equation

% difference =
$$\left|\frac{E_1 - E_2}{\frac{1}{2}(E_1 + E_2)}\right| \times 100$$

where E_1 and E_2 are the two quantities being compared.

Table 3.1. Comparison between force and moment coefficient	cients.
--	---------

Coefficients	Experiment	SA	% difference	k - ω SST	% difference
$c_n \\ c_m$	0.733 -0.086	$0.857 \\ -0.097$	$15.6\%\ 12.0\%$	0.781 -0.083	$6.34\%\ 3.55\%$
c_d	0.0188	0.0264	33.6%	0.0241	24.7%

 $(Re_c = 2.7 \times 10^6, \, \alpha = 3.19^\circ, \, M = 0.740)$



Figure 3.15. Comparison between c_p distributions for different turbulence models.

References

- [1] Wilcox, D., "Turbulence Modeling for CFD," DCW Industries, Inc., La Cañada, CA, 1993.
- [2] Menter, F. ,R., Kuntz, M., and Langtry, R., "Ten Years of Industrial Experience with the SST Turbulence Model," Turbulence, Heat and Mass Transfer 4, 2003.
- [3] Wilcox, D., "Turbulence Modeling: An Overview," AIAA 2001-0724, 2001.
- [4] Babinksy, H., and Harvey, J., "Shock Wave-Boundary-Layer Interactions," Cambridge University Press, 2011.

3.3 Drag divergence

Figure 3.16. Viscous drag divergence of the RAE 2822 airfoil.

Figure 3.17. Viscous pressure coefficient distributions.

Figure 3.18. Viscous pressure coefficient distributions.

3.3.2 Pressure coefficient contours

Figure 3.20. Viscous contours of pressure coefficient.

Figure 3.21. Viscous contours of pressure coefficient (M = 0.800).

3.3.3 Comparison between inviscid and viscous drag divergence

Figure 3.22. Comparison between inviscid and viscous drag divergence.

Appendices

Python geometry set-up script

```
1 #!/usr/bin/python
2
3 from StringIO import StringIO
4 from subprocess import call
5 import os
6 import sys
7 import numpy as np
8 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
9
10 #=========
              _____
11 # Setting up
12
  #_____
13
14 # Setting file name to read
15 dataFile = 'rae2822.dat'
16
17 # Setting file names to write
18 fName = 'data'
19
20 # Getting current path
21 mainPath = os.getcwd()
22
24 # Reading airfoil geometry file
25 #-----
26
27 # Read data
28 airfoil = np.genfromtxt(dataFile,skip_header=2)
29
30 # Separating upper and lower profiles
31 geomUpper = airfoil[0:65,:]
32 geomLower = airfoil[65:130,:]
33
34 # Sorting the lower portion so that the curve is
35 # continuous
36 geomLower = geomLower[np.argsort(-geomLower[:,0])]
37
38 # Separating upper and lower curves
39 x_u = geomUpper[:,0]
40 y_u = geomUpper[:,1]
x_1 = \text{geomLower}[:,0]
```

```
42 y_l = geomLower[:,1]
43
44 # Plotting to double check
45 x = np.concatenate((x_u, x_l))
46 y = np.concatenate((y_u,y_l))
47
48 # Setting up the figure
49 fig = plt.figure()
50 figSize = fig.get_size_inches()
51 fig.set_size_inches((figSize[0],figSize[1]*0.4))
52
53 # Plotting
54 plt.plot(x,y,'-k')
55
56 # Adding labels
57 #plt.xlabel('$x/c$',fontsize=15)
58 #plt.ylabel('$y/c$',fontsize=15)
59
60 # Fixing the axes
61 plt.axis('equal')
62 plt.xlim(-0.05,1.05)
63 plt.ylim(-0.15,0.15)
64
65 # Adding labels
66 plt.xlabel('$x/c$',fontsize=15)
67 plt.ylabel('$y/c$',fontsize=15)
68 plt.gcf().subplots_adjust(bottom=0.25)
69
70 # Saving figure
71 fig.savefig('rae2822.eps')
72
74 # Setting up data file for aflr2
76
77 # Initializing list
78 data = []
79
80 # Number of curves
81 nCurves = 2
82 data.append(str(nCurves))
83
84 # Segments in curves
85 curvelseg = 2
s_6 curve2seg = 1
87 data.append(str(curve1seg))
88
89 # Knots on segment 1 and 2 of curve 1
90 curvelseg1knots = 65
91 curve1seg2knots = 65
92 data.append(str(curve1seg1knots))
93
94 #-----
95 # Segment 1
96 #-----
97
98 # Index x & y coordinates of knots
99 for n in range(1,curvelseg1knots+1):
100
       data.append(str(n) + ' ' + str(x_u[n-1]) + ' ' + str(y_u[n-1]))
```

```
101
102 # Other specs
103 nPts = 600
104 nKnotPts = 2
105 adaptTol = 1
106 \text{ nLap} = 0
107 lapRelax = 0.5
   data.append(str(nPts) +' '+ str(nKnotPts) +' '+ str(adaptTol) +' 1.0002 '+ str(nLap) +' ...
108
       '+ str(lapRelax))
109
110 # Knot control points
111 C = 0;
ind = [1,5,10,20,30,50,60,63]
113 spacParam = [5.0e-3,5.0e-2,5.0e-2,5.0e-2,5.0e-2,5.0e-2,5.0e-3]
114 ind = [1,65]
115 spacParam = [1.0e-4,1.0e-6]
116 for i in ind:
       data.append(str(i) + ' ' + str(spacParam[c]))
117
118
       c += 1
119
120 #-----
   # Segment 2
121
122
   #-----
123
   # Number of knots
124
   data.append(str(curve1seg2knots))
125
126
127
   # Index x & y coordinates of knots
128
   for n in range(1,curve1seg2knots+1):
129
       data.append(str(n) + ' ' + str(x_l[n-1]) + ' ' + str(y_l[n-1]))
130
131
132 # Other specs
133 adaptTol = 1
   nLap = 0
134
   lapRelax = 0.5
135
   data.append(str(nPts) +' '+ str(nKnotPts) +' '+ str(adaptTol) +' 1.0002 '+ str(nLap) +' ...
136
       '+ str(lapRelax))
137
138 # Knot control points
139 C = 0;
140 #ind = [1,5,10,20,30,50,60,63]
141 spacParam = [1.0e-6,1.0e-4]
142 #spacParam = [5.0e-3,5.0e-2,5.0e-2,5.0e-2,5.0e-2,5.0e-2,5.0e-3,5.0e-3]
143
   for i in ind:
144
       data.append(str(i) + ' ' + str(spacParam[c]))
       c += 1
145
146
   #-----
147
   # Outer boundary
148
   #-----
149
150
   # Number of curves in outer boundary
151
152 data.append(str(1))
153
154 # Number of knots
155 data.append(str(13))
156
157 # index, x, y coordinates of knots
```

```
data.append('1 30.00 0.00')
158
   data.append('2 25.98 -15.00')
159
160 data.append('3 15.00 -25.98')
161 data.append('4
                 0.00 - 30.00'
162 data.append('5 -15.00 -25.98')
163 data.append('6 -25.98 -15.00')
164 data.append('7 -30.00
                        0.00')
165 data.append('8 -25.98 15.00')
166 data.append('9 -15.00 25.98')
167 data.append('10 0.00 30.00')
168 data.append('11 15.00 25.98')
   data.append('12 25.98 15.00')
169
   data.append('13 30.00
                          0.00')
170
171
172 # Other stuff
173 data.append('57 2 2 1.00 0 0.5')
174 data.append('1 3.34')
   data.append('13 3.34')
175
176
177
   #_____
   # Writing out data file
178
   #_____
179
180
181
   # Counter
   n = 0
182
183
   datafile = open(fName, 'w')
184
   for line in data:
185
       datafile.write(data[n] + '\n')
186
187
       n += 1
188
  # Closing the file
189
190 datafile.close()
```

Python batch job script

```
1 #!/usr/bin/python
2
3 from StringIO import StringIO
4 from subprocess import call
  import os
\mathbf{5}
6 import sys
  import shutil
\overline{7}
  import numpy as np
8
9
  #-----
10
11 # Setting up
13
14 # Setting file names to write
15 fName = 'fun3d.nml'
                   # <--- Namelist input to FUN3D</pre>
16 fSub = 'FUN3D_MPI'
                      # <--- Bash job submission script</pre>
17
18 # Getting current path
```

```
mainPath = os.getcwd()
19
20
21 # Name of baseline directory (contains fun3d.nml and FUN3D_MPI files)
22 blineDir = mainPath + '/Baseline/'
23
24 # Specifying Mach numbers to run
_{25} Mstart = 0.5
_{26} Mstop = 0.8
         = np.linspace(Mstart,Mstop,31)
27
  М
28
  # Specifying the project root name
29
  rootname = 'RAE2822'
30
31
32 # Name of grid file
33 gridName = rootname + '.faces'
34
36 # Iteratively setting up and submitting jobs
  #-----
37
38
  i=0
39
40
   for mNum in M:
41
42
      # Creating directories
43
      dirName = 'M=' + '%.3f' % M[i]
44
      os.mkdir(dirName)
45
46
      # Copying files to new directory
47
      shutil.copy('./Baseline/fun3d.nml',dirName)
48
      shutil.copy('./Baseline/FUN3D_MPI',dirName)
49
50
      # Changing to new directory
51
      os.chdir(dirName)
52
53
54
      #==
      # Opening fun3d.nml and incrementing the Mach number
55
      #_____
56
57
      # Opening file and reading in lines
58
      with open(fName, 'r') as file:
59
          nmlLines = file.readlines()
60
61
      # Overwriting old line that contains Mach number
62
      nmlLines[14] = '\tmach_number = ' + str(mNum) + '\n'
63
64
      # Writing new lines to file
65
      with open(fName, 'w') as file:
66
          file.writelines(nmlLines)
67
68
          #==========
69
                                  _____
      # Linking grid file
70
      #-----
71
72
      # Grid
73
      lnCommand1 = blineDir + gridName
74
      lnCommand2 = os.getcwd() + '/' + gridName
75
      os.symlink(lnCommand1,lnCommand2)
76
77
```

```
78
       #_____
       # Submitting job to queue
79
80
       #______
81
       # Creating job name
82
       jobName = 'M' + '%.f' % (1000*M[i])
83
84
       # Opening file
85
       with open(fSub,'r') as file:
86
87
          jobLines = file.readlines()
88
       # Changing job name (line 6)
89
       jobLines[5] = '#$ -N ' + jobName + '\n'
90
91
       # Writing new line to file
92
       with open(fSub, 'w') as file:
93
          file.writelines(jobLines)
94
95
       # Submitting job
96
       call('qsub FUN3D_MPI', shell=True)
97
98
       # Going up one level
99
       os.chdir(mainPath)
100
101
       # Incrementing counter
102
       i += 1
103
```

Python post-processing script

```
1 #!/usr/bin/python
2
3 from StringIO import StringIO
4 from subprocess import call
5 import re
6 import os
7 import sys
8 import numpy as np
9 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
10 import itertools
11 from matplotlib import rcParams
12 import csv
13 rcParams.update({'figure.autolayout': True})
14
  #-----
15
16 # Setting up
18
19 # Setting font size
20 font = {'size': 14}
21
22 # Getting current path
23 mainPath = os.getcwd()
24
25 # Specifying Mach numbers to run
```

```
26 Mstart = 0.5
27 \text{ Mstop} = 0.8
         = np.linspace(Mstart,Mstop,31)
28 M
29
30 # Specifying the project root name
31 rootname = 'RAE2822'
32
33 # Initializing counter
34 i = 0
35
36 # Initializing list for Cd
  Cd = []
37
38
  for mNum in M:
39
40
       dirName = 'M=' + '%.3f' % M[i]
41
       residFile = mainPath + '/' + dirName + '/' + rootname + '_hist.dat'
42
               = mainPath + '/' + dirName + '/' + rootname + '_slice.dat'
       cpFile
43
       sliceFile = mainPath + '/' + dirName + '/' + rootname + '.sectional_forces'
44
45
       #_____
46
       # Importing and plotting residuals
47
48
       #_____
                      _____
                                         _____
49
       # Importing
50
       data = np.genfromtxt(residFile,delimiter=' ',skip_header=3,usecols=(0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7))
51
52
       # Separating
53
       iter = data[:,0]
54
       R1 = data[:,1]
55
       R2 = data[:,2]
56
       R3 = data[:,3]
57
       R4 = data[:,4]
58
       R5 = data[:,5]
59
       Clhist = data[:,6]
60
       Cdhist = data[:,7]
61
62
       # Creating figure
63
       fig = plt.figure()
64
65
       # First subplot
66
       ax1 = fig.add_subplot(211)
67
       plt.plot(iter,R1,label='R1')
68
       plt.plot(iter,R2,label='R2')
69
       plt.plot(iter,R3)
70
71
       plt.plot(iter,R4)
72
       plt.plot(iter,R5)
       plt.title('Residuals')
73
       plt.xlabel('Iteration')
74
       #plt.legend()
75
76
       ax1.set_yscale('log')
77
       # Second subplot
78
       ax2 = fig.add_subplot(212)
79
       plt.plot(iter,Clhist,'-b',label='$C_l$')
80
       plt.plot(iter,Cdhist,'-r',label='$C_d$')
81
       plt.legend(loc=4)
82
       plt.title('$C_l$/$C_d$ convergence')
83
       plt.xlabel('Iteration')
84
```

```
ax2.set_yscale('log')
 85
 86
       # Adjusting
 87
       fig.subplots_adjust(wspace=0.35, hspace=0.35)
 88
89
       # Saving plot
90
       pltName = 'M' + '%.f' % (1000*M[i]) + '_resids.eps'
91
       fig.savefig('./Images/' + pltName)
92
 93
 94
       #_____
 95
       # Importing and plotting Cp slice
       #_____
 96
 97
       # Counter
 98
       ii = 0
99
100
       # Initializing lists
101
       x = []
102
       Cp = []
103
104
       # Importingnd strip data
105
       f = open(cpFile,'r')
106
       for line in itertools.islice(f,2,None):
107
           if ii % 2 != 0:
108
               line = line.strip()
109
               columns = line.split()
110
               x.append(float(columns[0]))
111
               Cp.append(float(columns[3]))
112
           ii += 1
113
114
       # Closing data file
115
       f.close()
116
117
       # Normalize the x-data
118
       xStart = min(x)
119
120
       xStop = max(x)
       xNorm = []
121
       for xVal in x:
122
           xNorm.append(((xVal - xStart)/(xStop - xStart)))
123
124
       # Plotting
125
       fig = plt.figure(figsize=(4.5,3))
126
       plt.plot(xNorm,Cp)
127
128
       plt.gca().invert_yaxis()
       plt.xlim([-0.05,1.05])
129
130
131
       # Adding labels
       plt.xlabel('$x/c$')
132
       plt.ylabel('$C_p$')
133
134
       plt.tight_layout()
135
       # Saving plot
136
       pltName = 'M' + '%.f' % (1000*M[i]) + '_Cp.eps'
137
       fig.savefig('./Images/' + pltName)
138
139
140
       #______
141
       # Extracting sectional Cd from slice
       142
143
```

```
144
       # Open slice file and reading line
       dline = open(sliceFile, 'r').readlines()[30]
145
146
       # Extracting data
147
       dline = dline.strip()
148
       col = dline.split()
149
       Cd.append(float(col[-1]))
150
151
       # Append value to list
152
153
       # Incrementing counter
154
       i += 1
155
156
157
   158
   # Plotting drag divergence
159
160
   #-----
161
162 # Setting up figure
163
   fig = plt.figure()
164
   # Plotting
165
   plt.plot(M,Cd,'ob')
166
167
   # Adding labels
168
   plt.xlabel('$M_n$',fontdict=font)
169
   plt.ylabel('$C_d$',fontdict=font)
170
171
   # Saving plot
172
  fig.savefig('./Images/2D_RAE2822_DragDiv.eps')
173
```