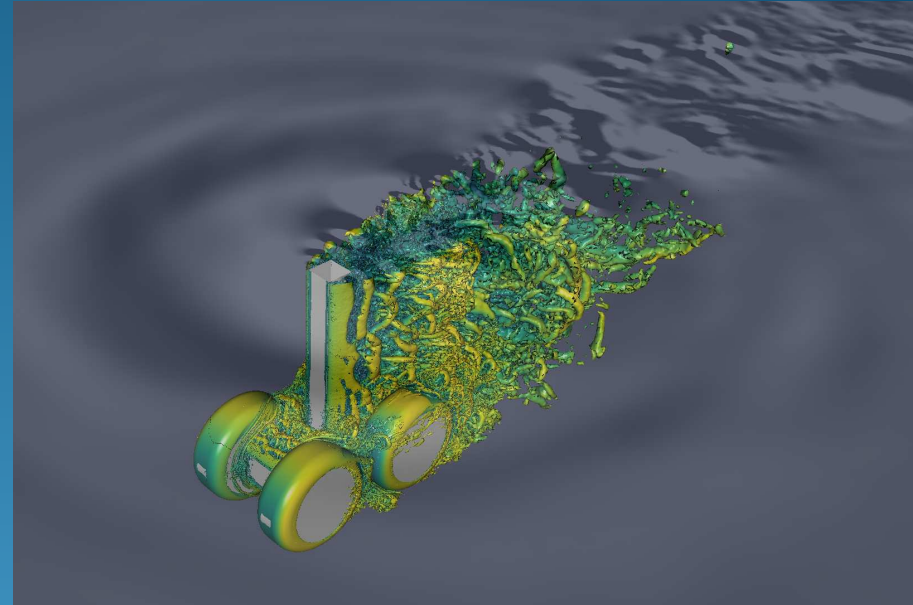


# Reliable aeroacoustic simulation on unstructured grids with OpenFOAM



M. Fuchs<sup>1</sup>, C. Mockett<sup>1</sup>, F. Kramer<sup>1</sup>, T. Knacke<sup>1</sup>, D. Fischer<sup>2</sup> & F. Thiele<sup>1</sup>  
[charles.mockett@cf-d-berlin.com](mailto:charles.mockett@cf-d-berlin.com)

1)



Berlin, Germany

2)



Berlin, Germany

# Introduction

## Enhanced aeroacoustics features in OpenFOAM

- Improved aeroacoustics solver for low Mach number applications
- Efficient input / output library for FW-H analysis
- Improved hybrid RANS-LES turbulence modelling

## Validation for Rudimentary Landing Gear

- Test case setup
- Solver comparison
- Mesh comparison

## Conclusions and next steps



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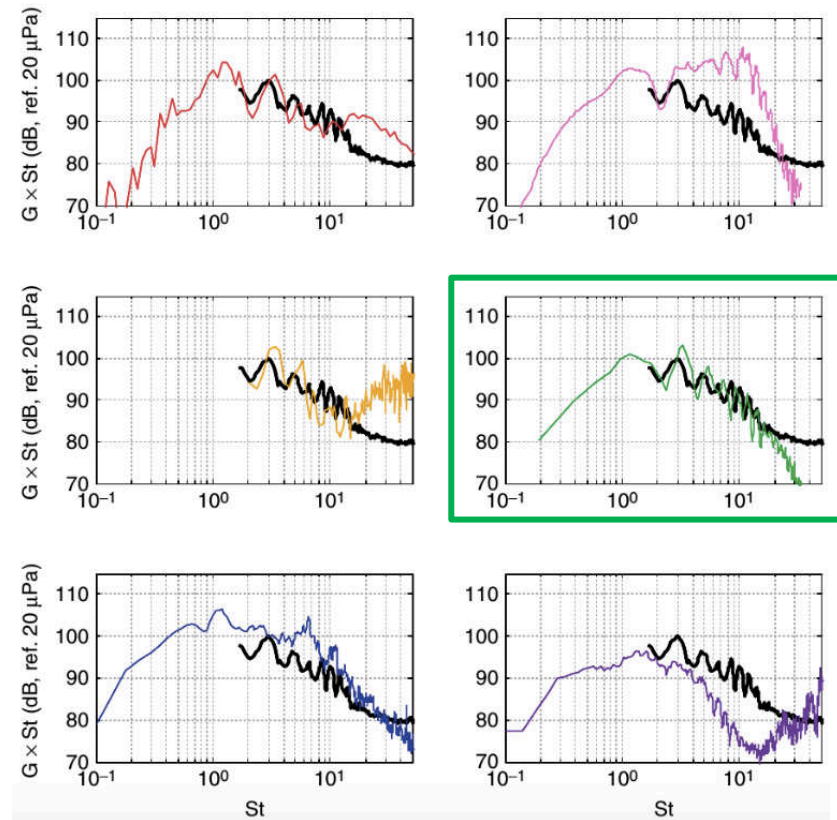
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# Introduction

- Goal: Reliable, source-resolving, direct aeroacoustic prediction for industrial geometries at low Mach numbers
- Requirements on simulation process chain:
  - Compressible solver with low spurious numerical noise
  - High-fidelity scale-resolving turbulence model
  - Non-reflecting boundary conditions
  - Sponge layer for small domains
  - Method for far-field wave propagation (e.g. Ffowcs Williams & Hawkings)
  - Efficient output of unsteady data
  - **Unstructured grids for complex geometries**
- All items have been implemented and validated, but so far only on structured meshes
- First results for the Rudimentary Landing Gear (RLG) test case on an unstructured grid will be presented

## Blind partner results for Rudimentary Landing Gear (RLG) at BANC-II workshop Spalart & Wetzel, 2015



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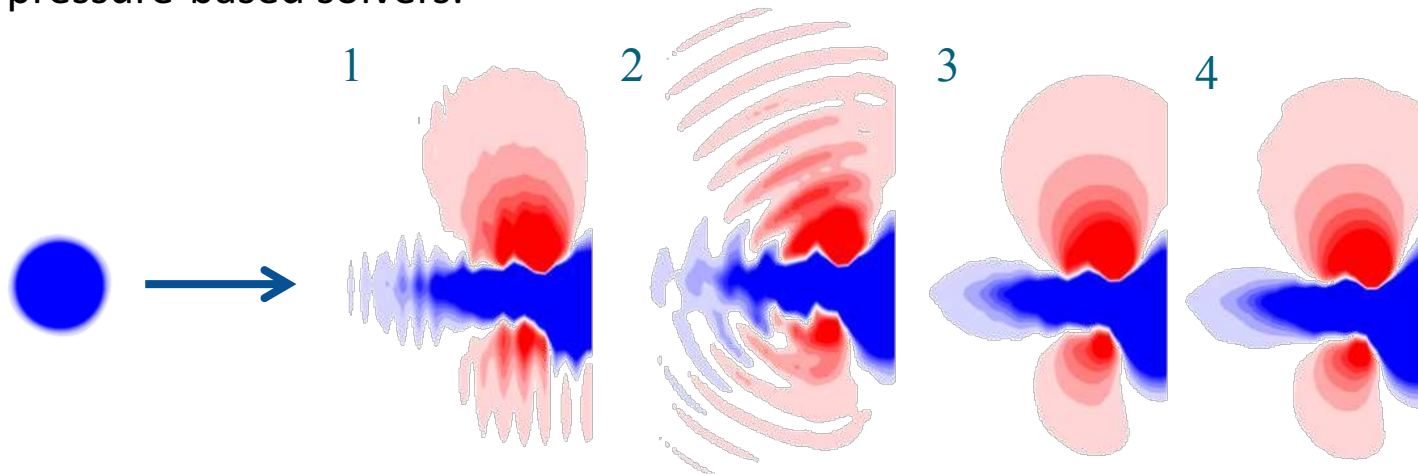
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# Improved aeroacoustics solver for low Mach number applications

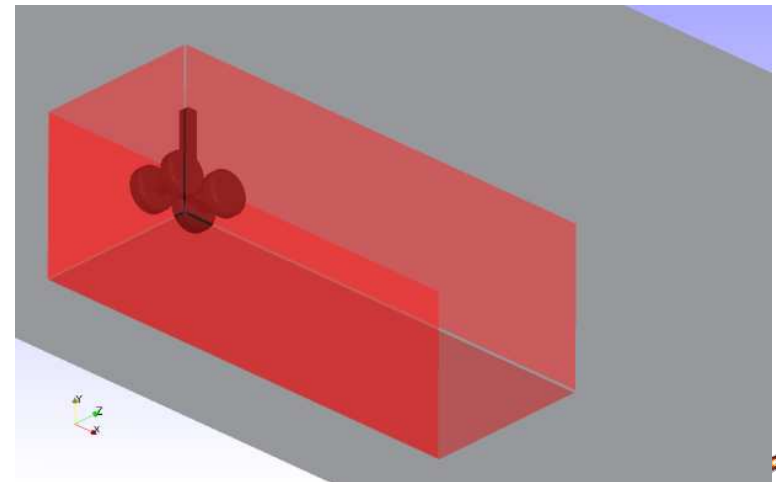
- For low Mach number flows, pressure-based solvers are often an efficient choice (relative to e.g. density-based solvers)
- Unfortunately, numerical implementation details can have a large influence on the prediction of aeroacoustics especially at low Mach numbers:
  - Physical noise sources are very quiet for low Mach number applications, thus greater sensitivity to additional spurious noise from numerics
- We worked extensively on the Rhie & Chow interpolation implementation in OpenFOAM, which is the core mechanism to couple velocity and pressure fields for pressure-based solvers:



# Aeroacoustics post-processing

- Our aim:
  - Development of efficient, solver-independent process chain for farfield noise prediction
- Our process chain consists of two separate tools, which use a common file format
- *effIO*: efficient library for input / output:
  - External solver-independent dynamic library which is linked to OpenFOAM solver at run-time
  - Reads surface description from STL / ASCII input
  - Writes unsteady FW-H data from surfaces in predefined format (HDF5)
- In-house FW-H tool for farfield integration:
  - Uses *effIO* library to read unsteady FW-H data
  - Performs sound integration to farfield

**defined permeable FW-H surfaces in STL format**



# *effIO* = efficient library for input/output

- Key features of *effIO* library:
  - Solver-independent library for consistent post-processing between different CFD solvers
  - Simple integration with minimal impact on solver
  - Output specification outside of solver in a common configuration file (cross-solver)
  - Parallel IO support
  - Writes one single file for each FW-H surface containing all variables
  - Temporal buffering for unsteady data: multiple time steps in one file → reduces IO overhead and number of output files
  - On-the-fly data manipulation:
    - Computation of temporal mean /max, temporal exponential smoothing, etc.
  - Allows data reduction
  - A clear on-disk data layout

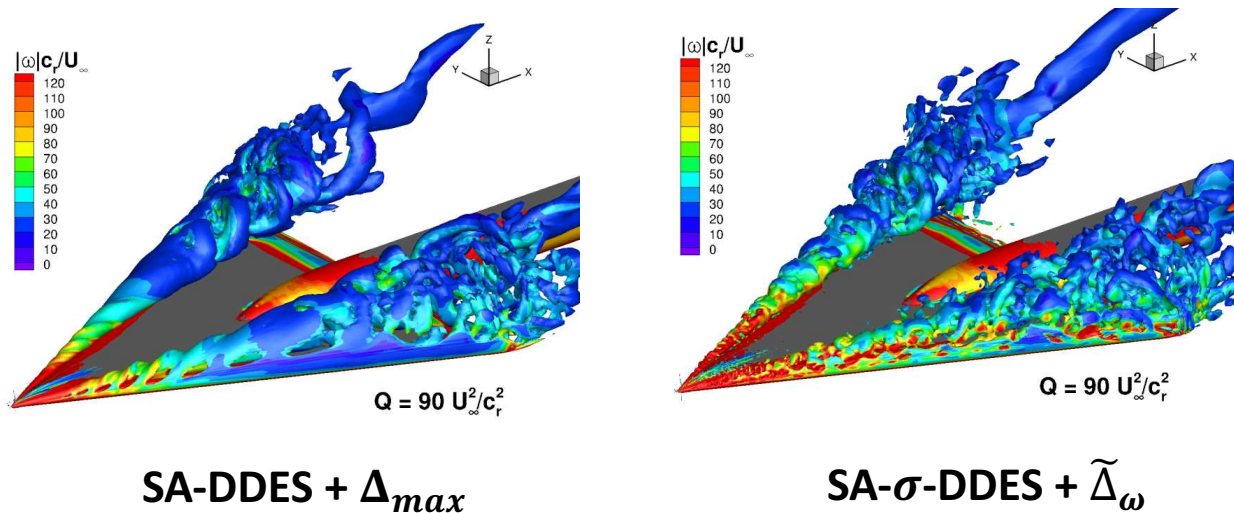




# Enhanced hybrid RANS-LES modelling

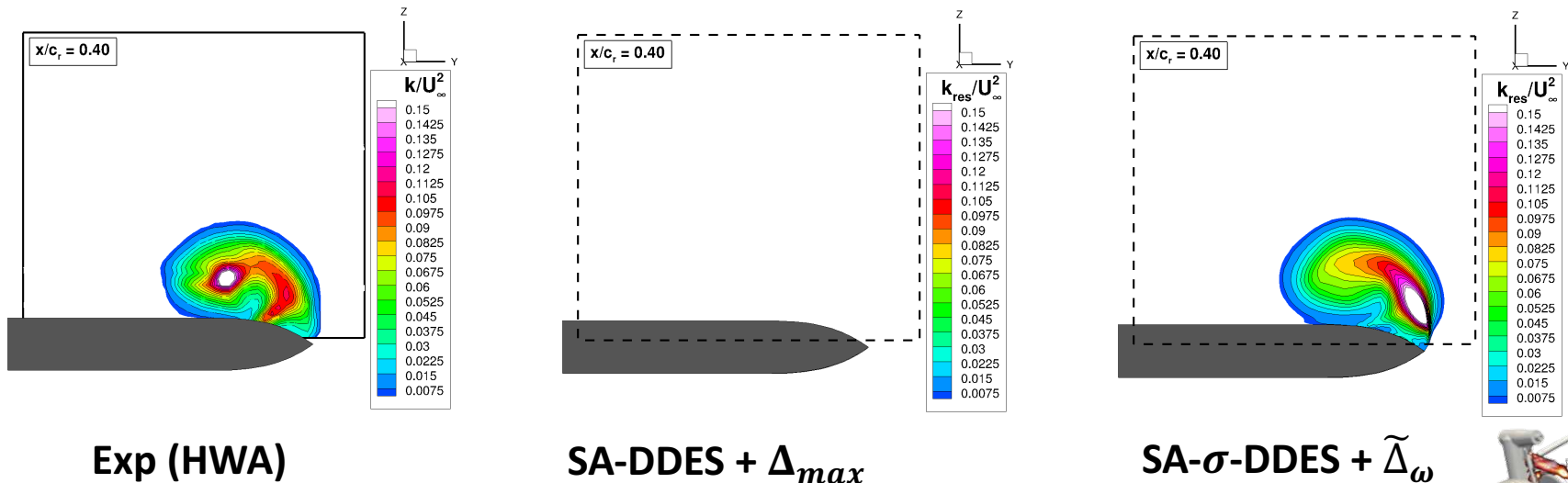
- Delayed DES (DDES) with accelerated “RANS-to-LES transition”
- Details of formulation published:

C. Mockett, M. Fuchs, A. Garbaruk, M. Shur, P. Spalart, M. Strelets, F. Thiele, A. Travin: Two non-zonal approaches to accelerate RANS to LES transition of free shear layers in DES. In: *Progress in Hybrid RANS-LES Modelling*, NNFM Vol 130, Springer (2015)
- Two key ingredients:
  - An adaptive definition of the grid filter, denoted  $\tilde{\Delta}_\omega$
  - Alternative form of SGS model in LES mode region, i.e. the  $\sigma$ -model of Nicoud et al.



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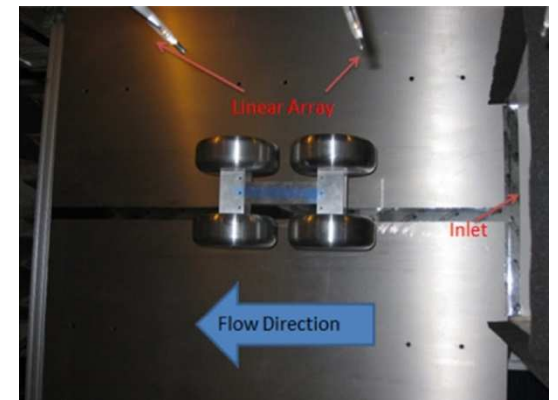


# Rudimentary landing gear (RLG)

- Test case was part of 2012 AIAA BANC-II aeroacoustics benchmarking workshop
- Aerodynamic and acoustic measurement data available
- Test case properties:
  - Generic 4-wheel landing gear configuration mounted on ceiling
  - $Re_D = 1.0 \times 10^6$ ,  $M = 0.12$
- Existing results for in-house solver on structured grid from Wang et al. “Detached-Eddy Simulation of Landing-Gear Noise”, 19<sup>th</sup> AIAA/CEAS Aeroacoustics Conference, (AIAA 2013-2069)



Aerodynamic measurements at National Aerospace Laboratories, Bangalore / India

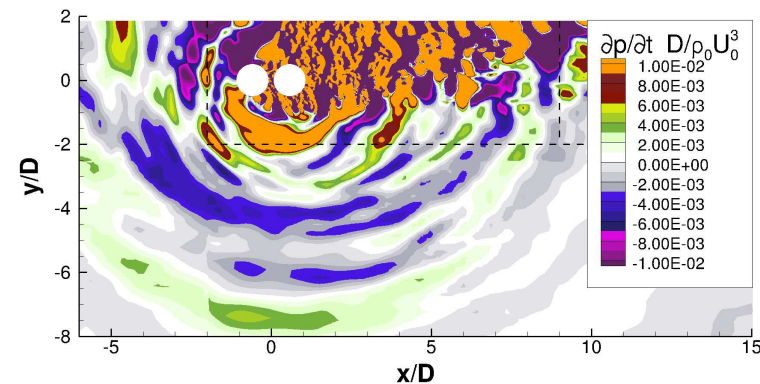
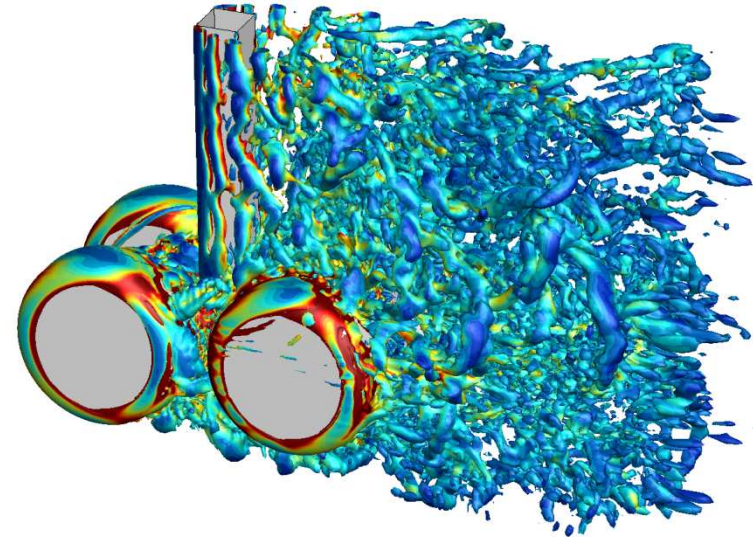


Aeroacoustics measurements at University of Florida / USA



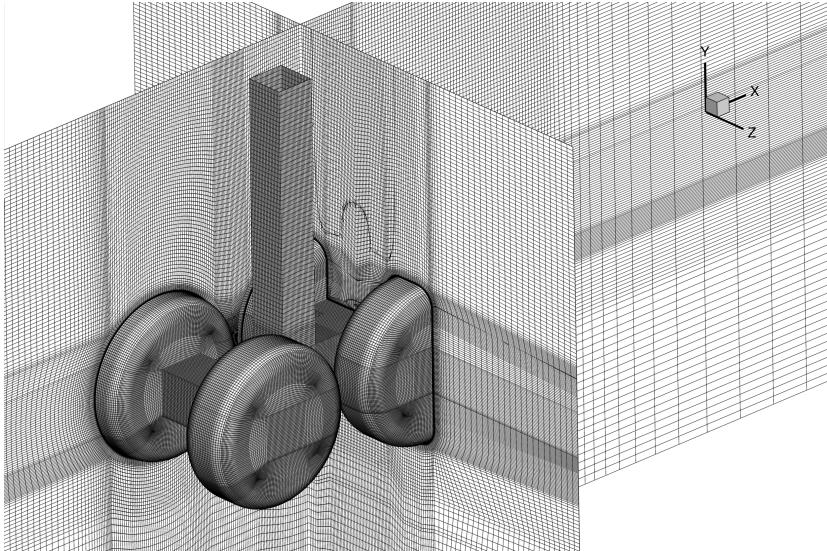
# Test case setup

- Flow solver (OF-v3.0+):
  - Fully compressible pressure-based branch with multiple sub-iterations: standard OF solver is *rhoPimpleFoam*
- Turbulence model:
  - Grey-area enhanced SA- $\sigma$ -DDES +  $\tilde{\Delta}_\omega$
- Discretisation schemes & time step size:
  - Hybrid convection scheme of Travin et al. For advection term: blending between 2<sup>nd</sup> order CDS / upwind-biased scheme
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> order implicit Euler scheme for time
  - $\Delta t = 0.005 \times D / U_\infty$
- Convergence criteria:
  - 1 order of magnitude reduction for p
  - 3 orders of magnitude reduction for U, h,  $v_t$
- 32.5-70 CTU computed for acoustic statistics



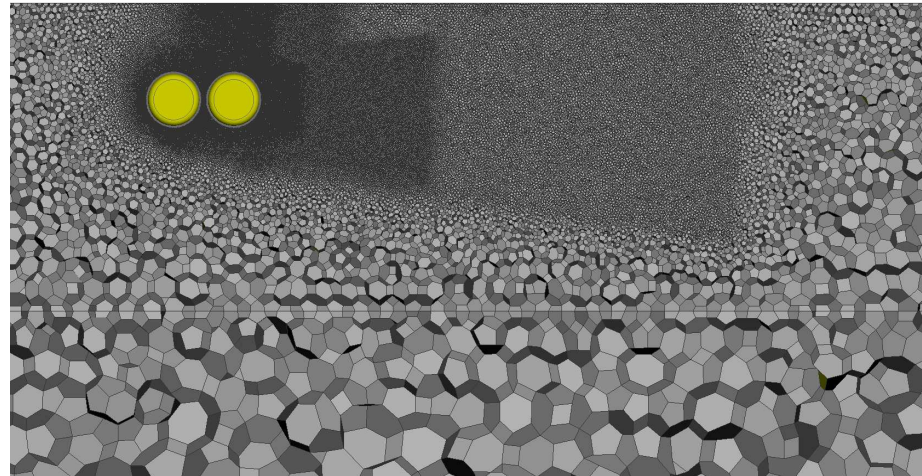
# Structured and unstructured grids

Structured grid



- Courtesy of L. Wang
- 37M cells
- Designed to support wave resolution up to  $St \approx 10$  for 2<sup>nd</sup> order accurate solver

Unstructured grid

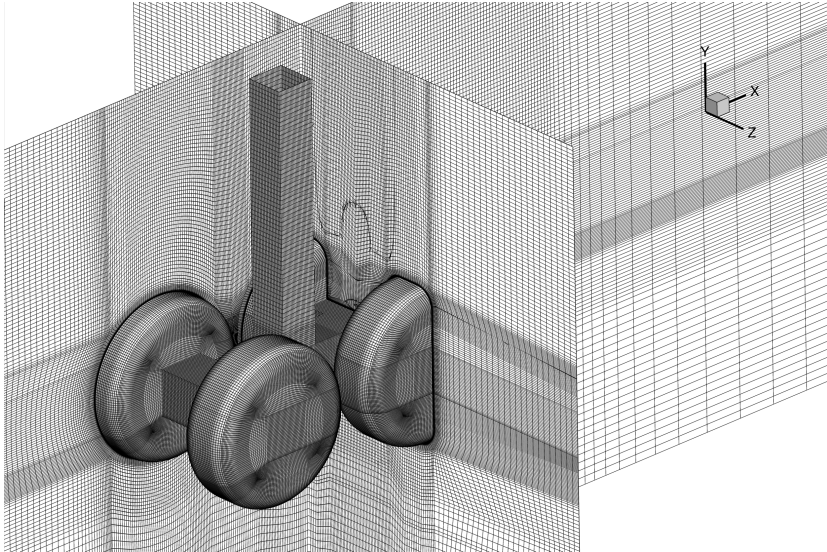


- Polyhedral mesh generated with ANSA
- 18.4M cells
- 32 prism layers,  $y_{max}^+ = 1.45$
- Refinement tailored to flow features



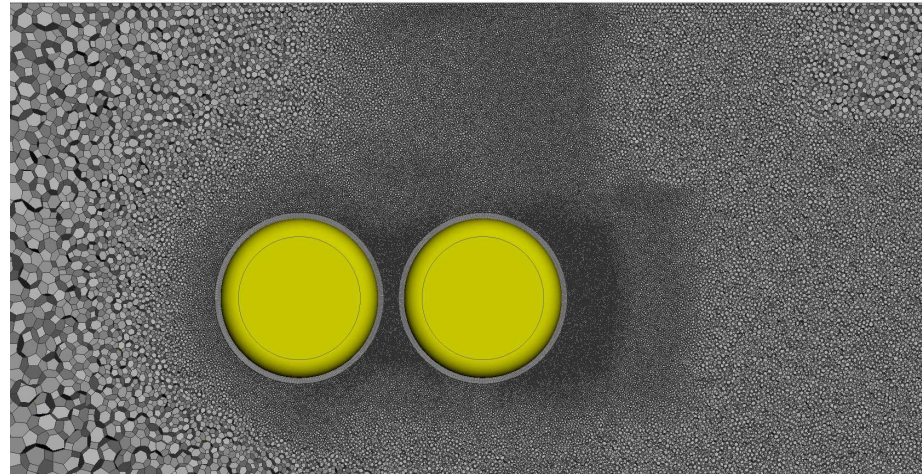
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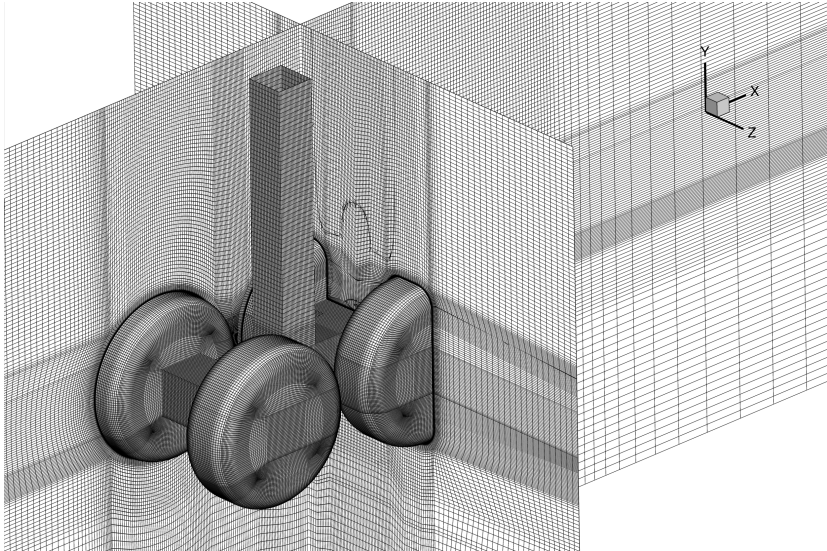


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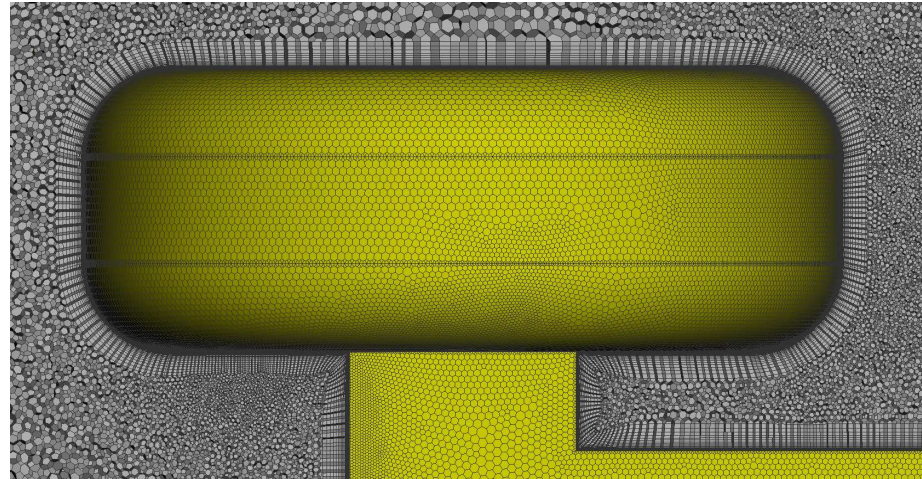
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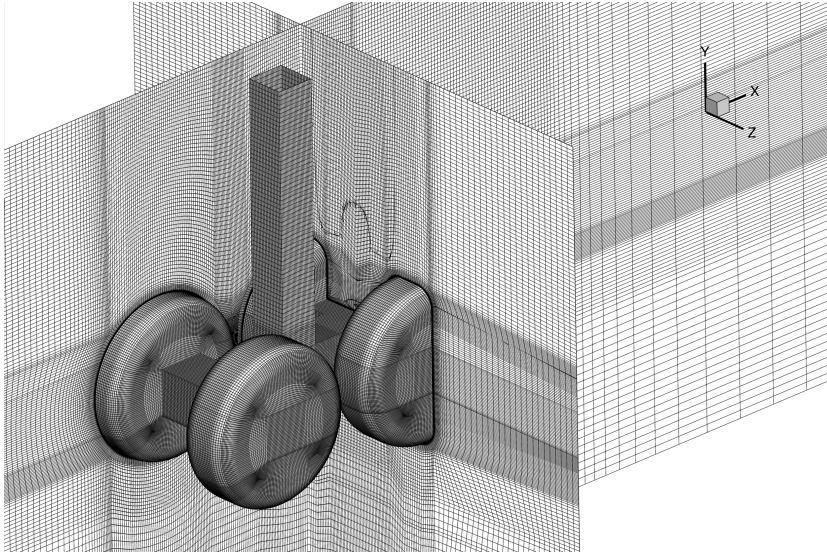
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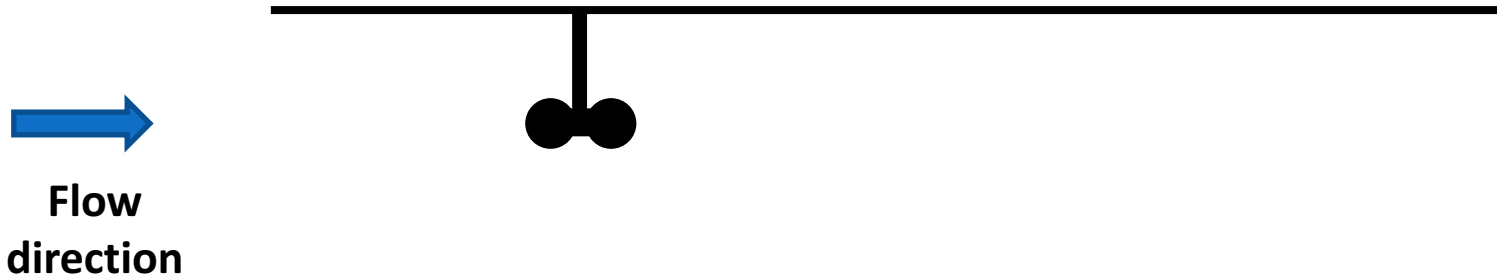


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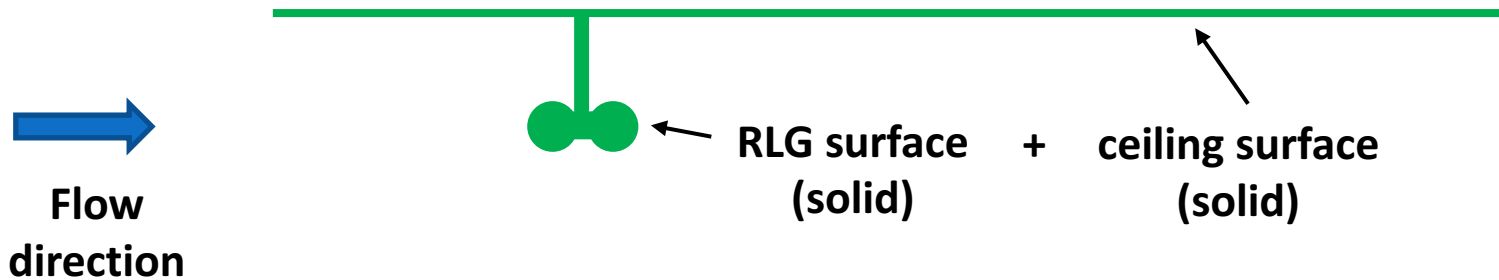
# Aeroacoustics post-processing

- Two different strategies for surface data collection are analysed:



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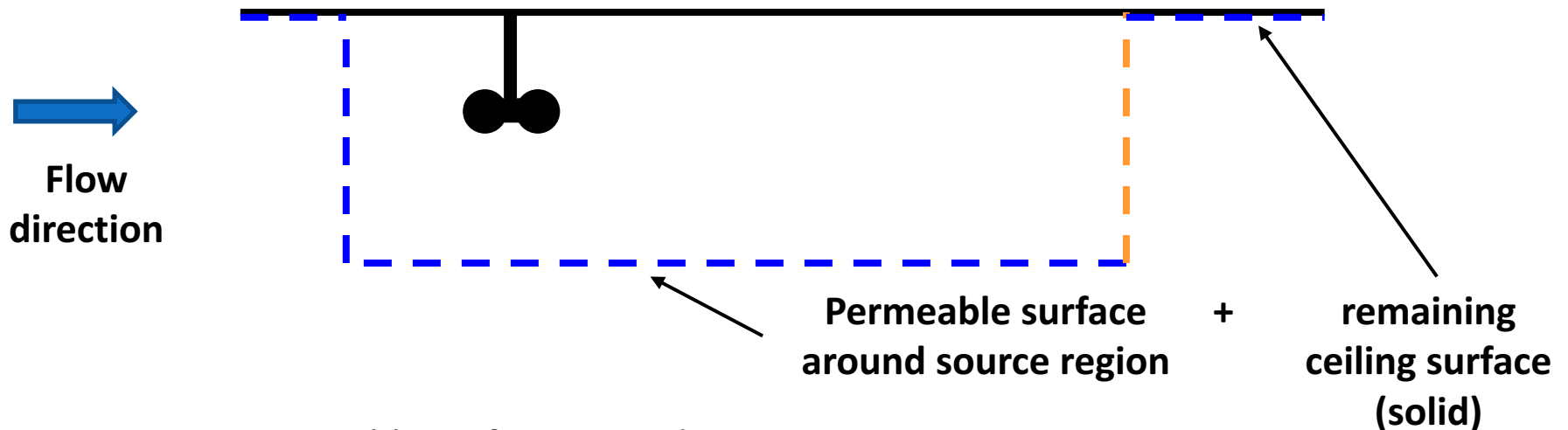


- **Curle:** only contributions of solid surfaces are considered
  - Quadrupole terms neglected
  - Including the ceiling in the analysis is indispensable to capture wave reflections



# Aeroacoustics post-processing

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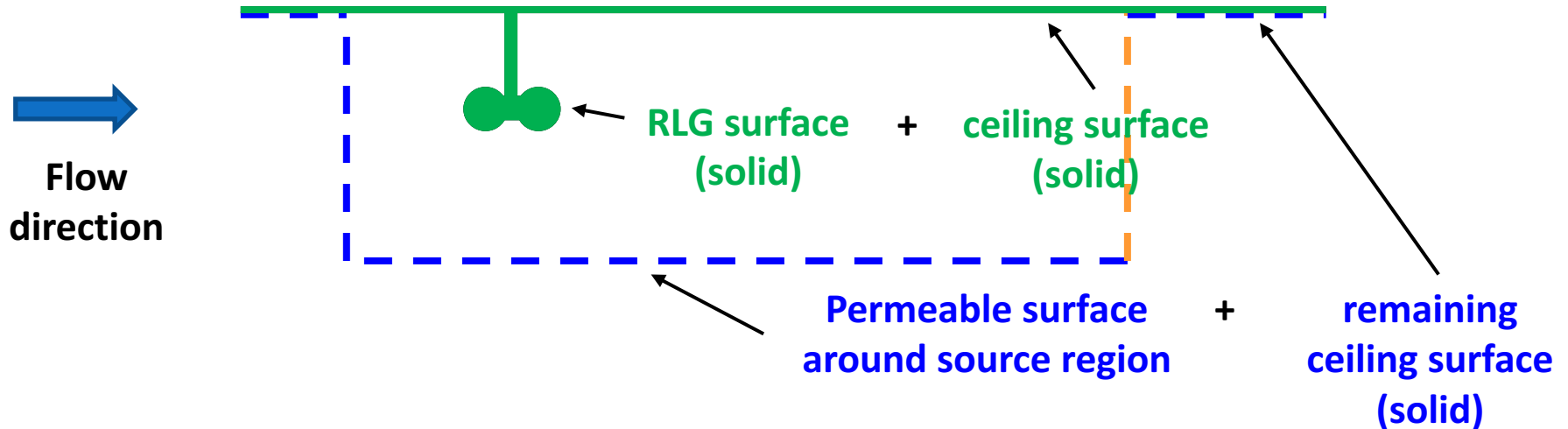


- **FW-H**: permeable surface around acoustic source region
  - Includes all acoustic source terms
  - Treatment of **closing surface** downstream can have a significant influence on low-frequency noise contribution



# Aeroacoustics post-processing

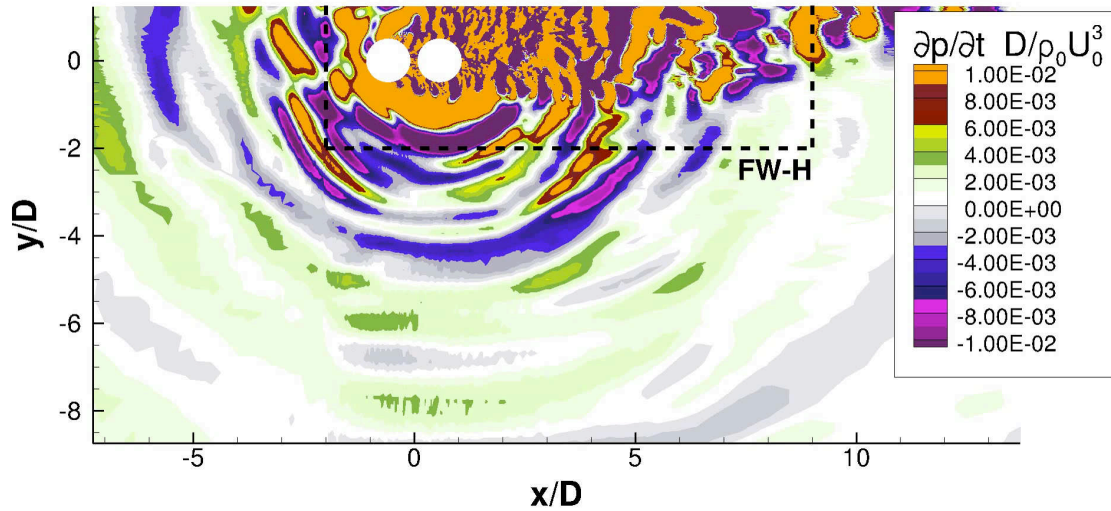
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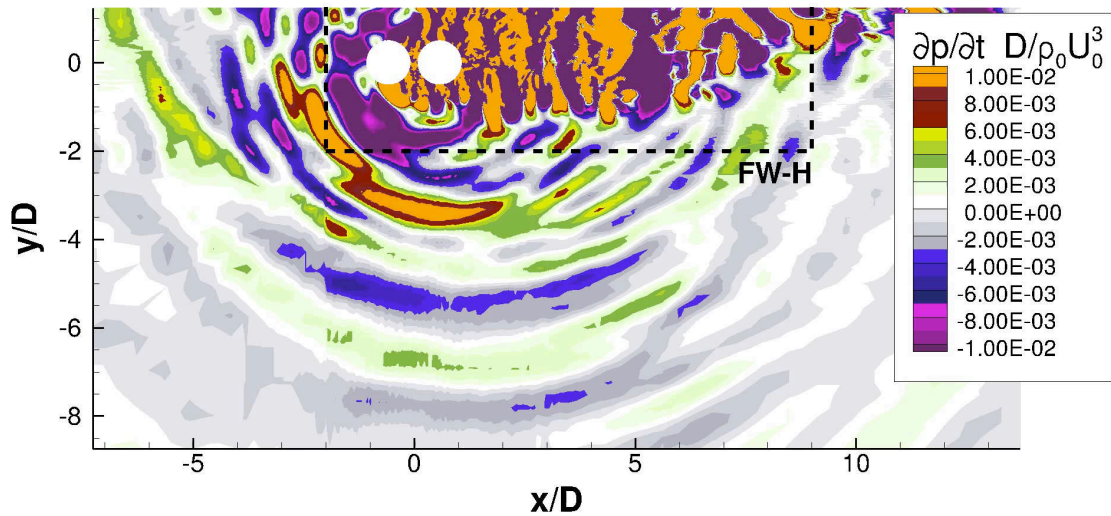
- For low Mach number flows ( $M = 0.12$  in this case), both **Curle** and **FW-H** approaches are expected to deliver a comparable prediction for the far-field sound, as the role of quadrupoles should be minor



# Solver comparison (structured grid)



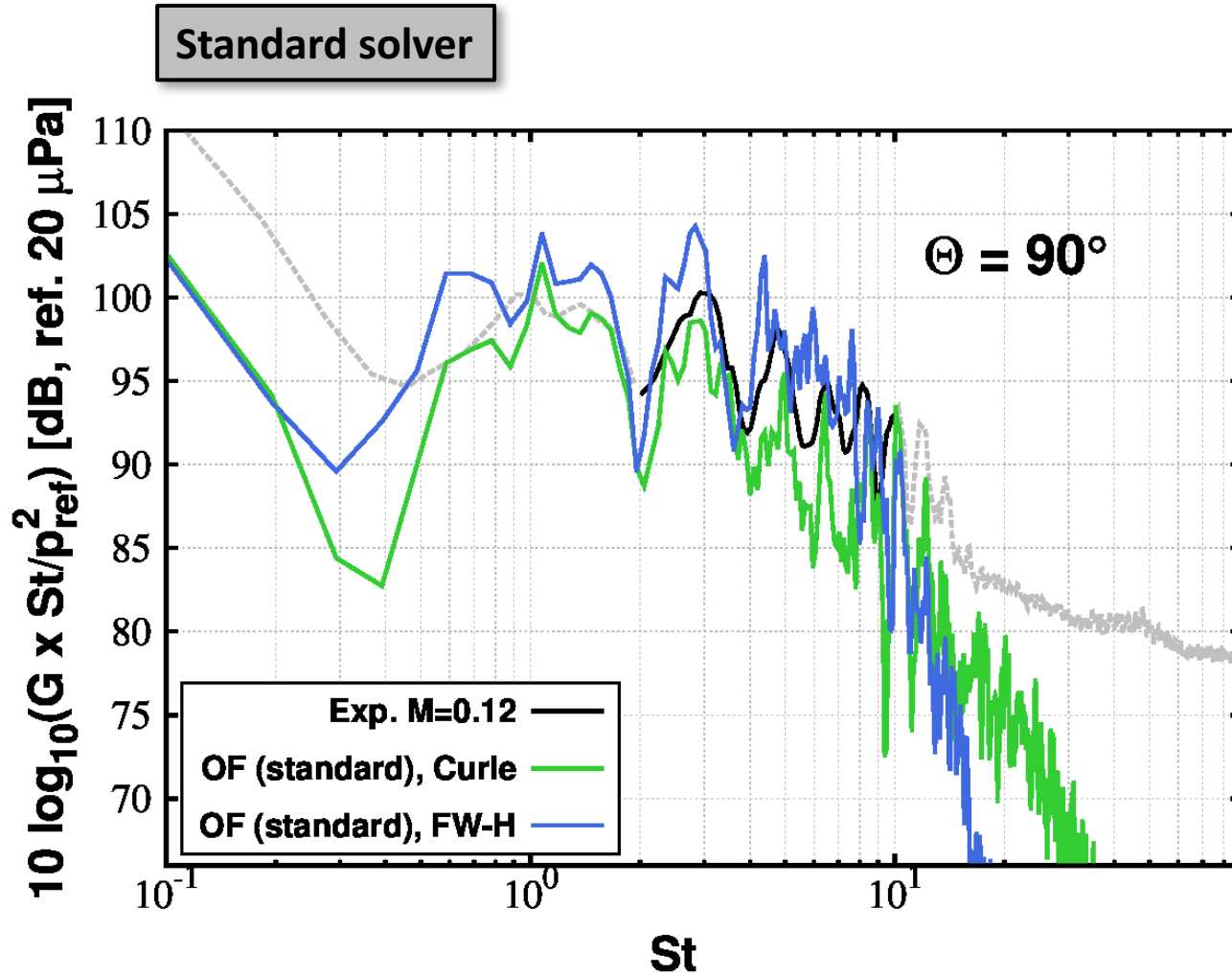
Standard solver



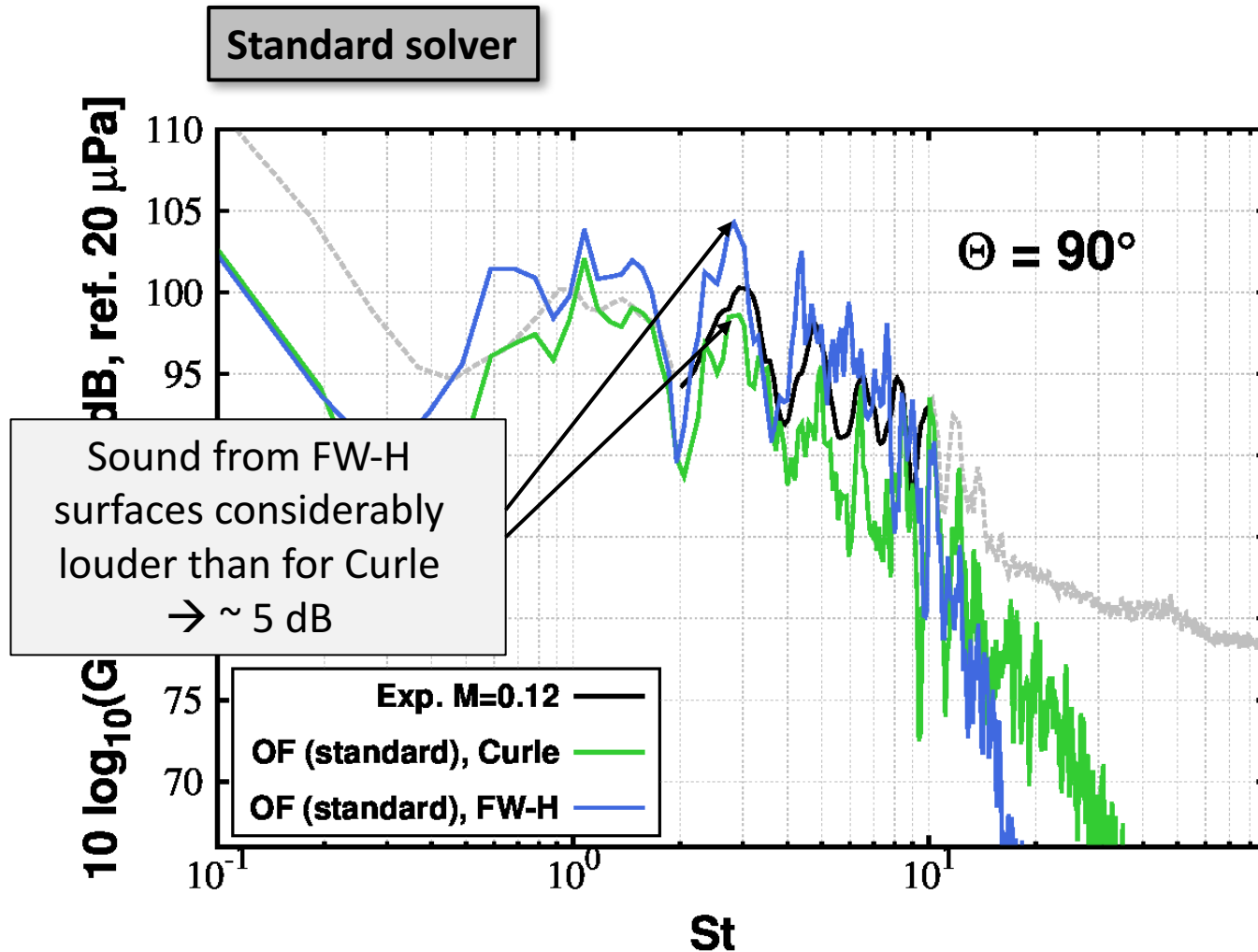
Improved solver



# Solver comparison (structured grid)

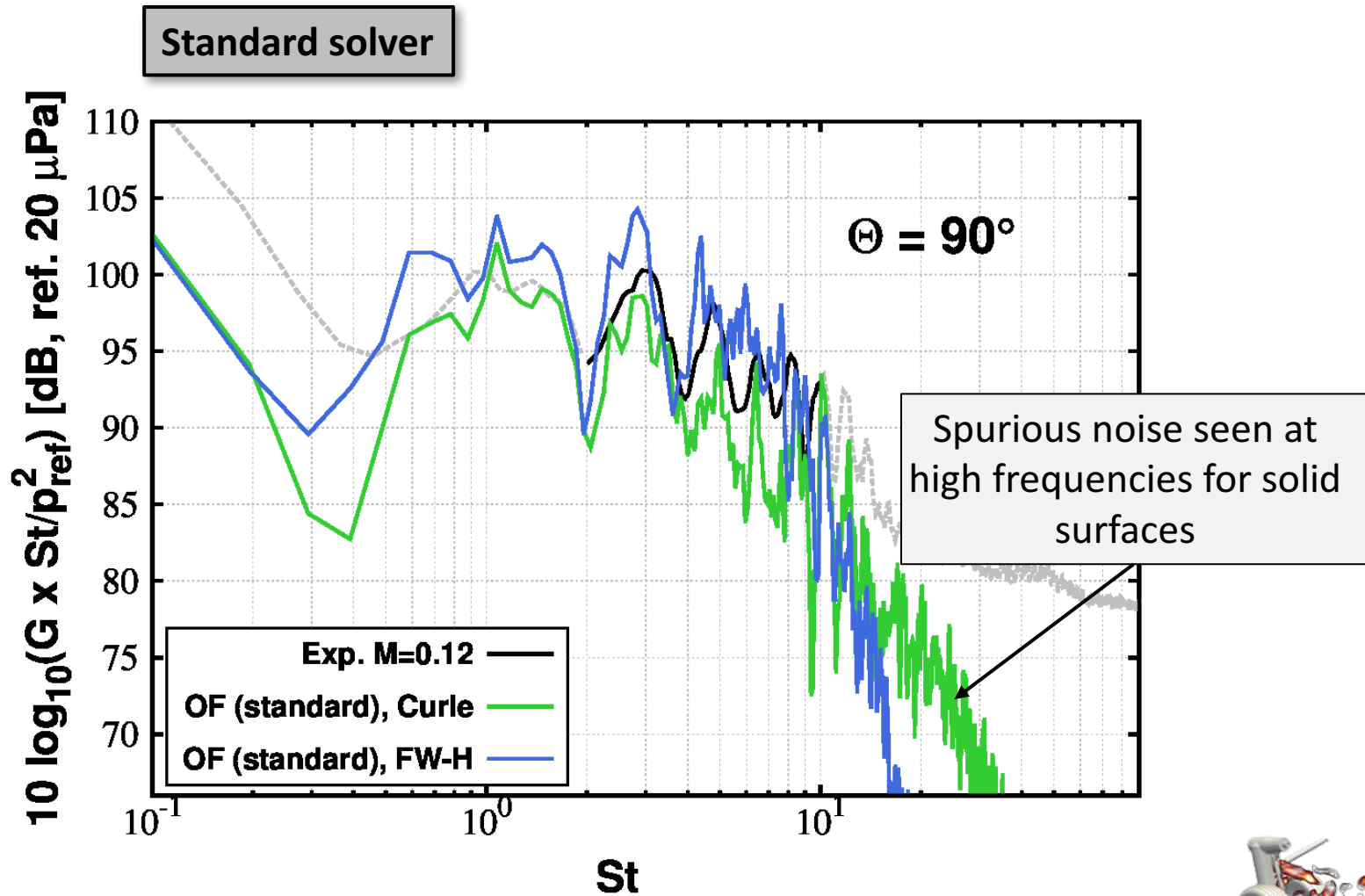


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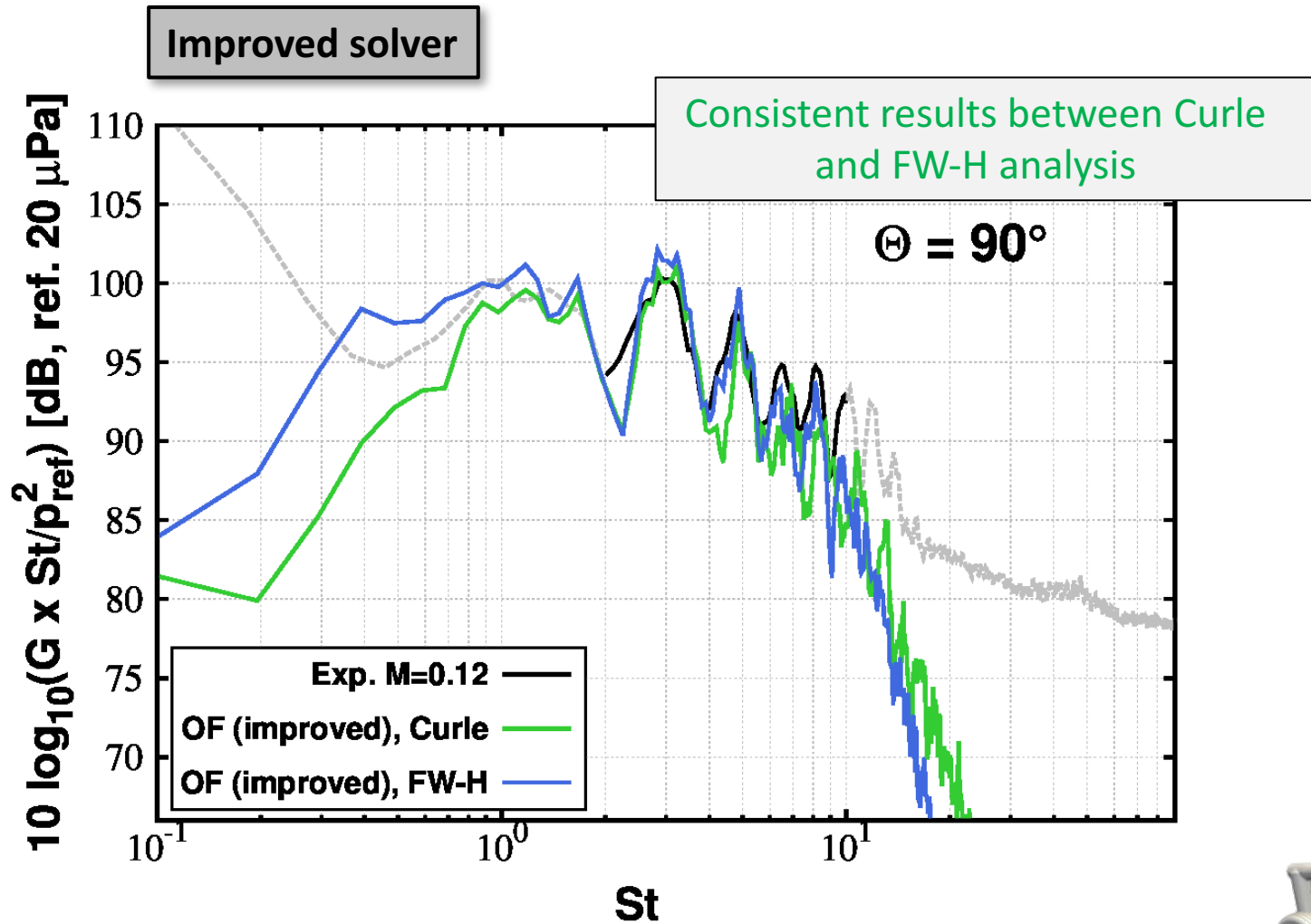




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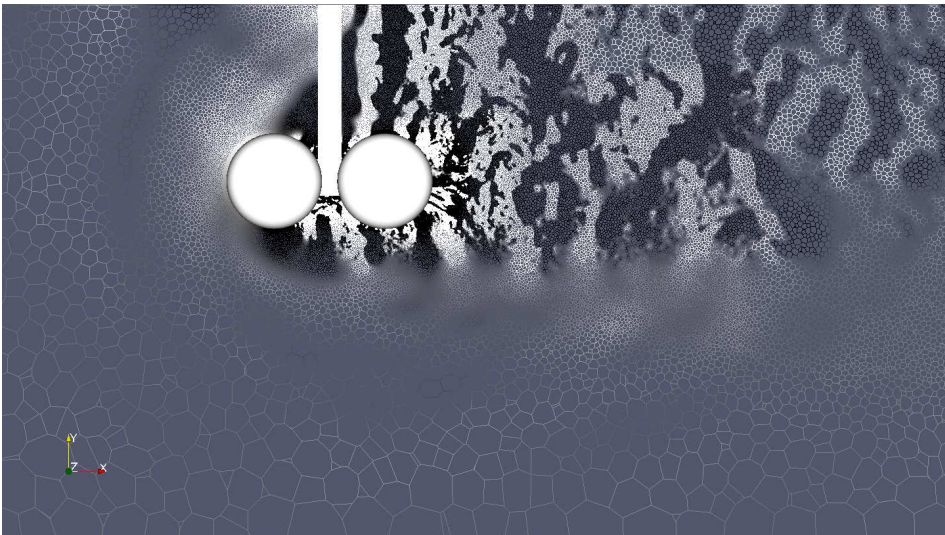
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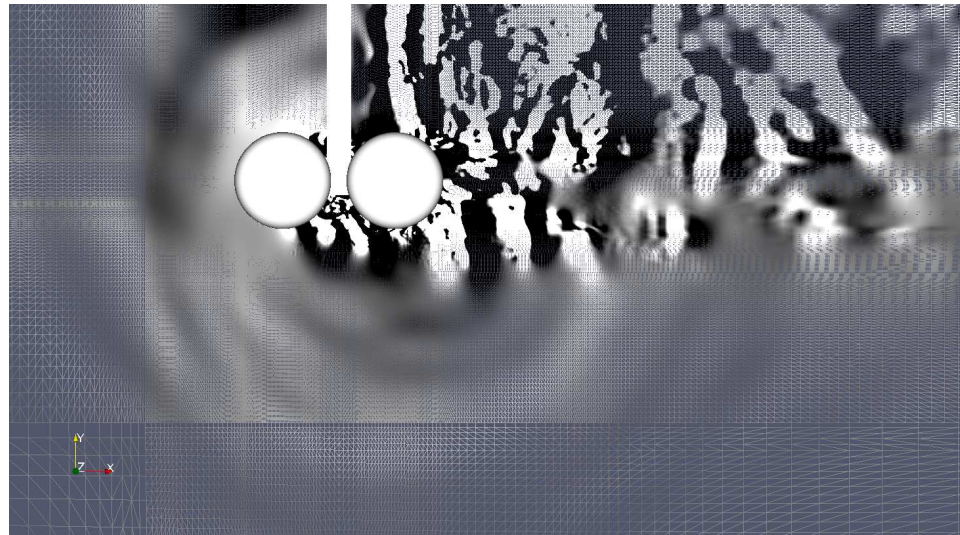
# Grid comparison (improved solver)

Snapshots of flow and acoustic fields

Unstructured grid



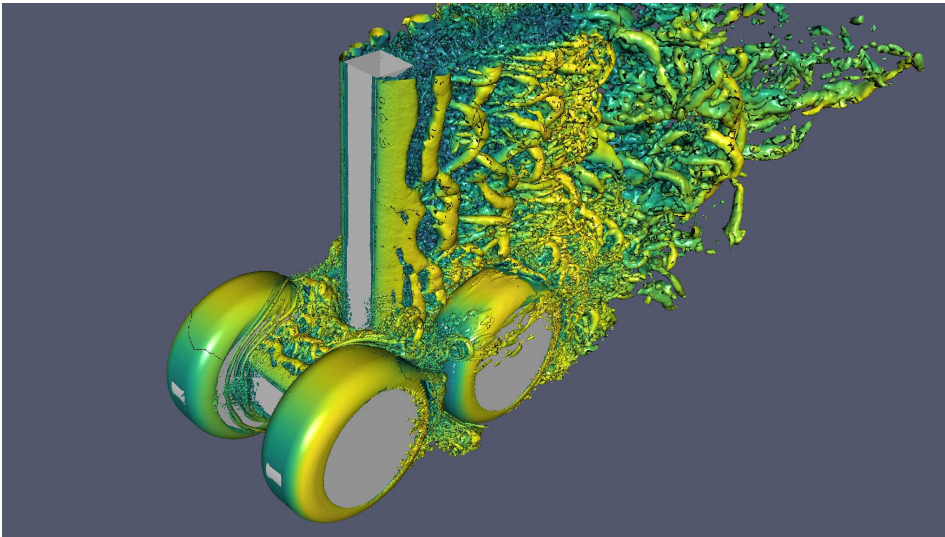
Structured grid



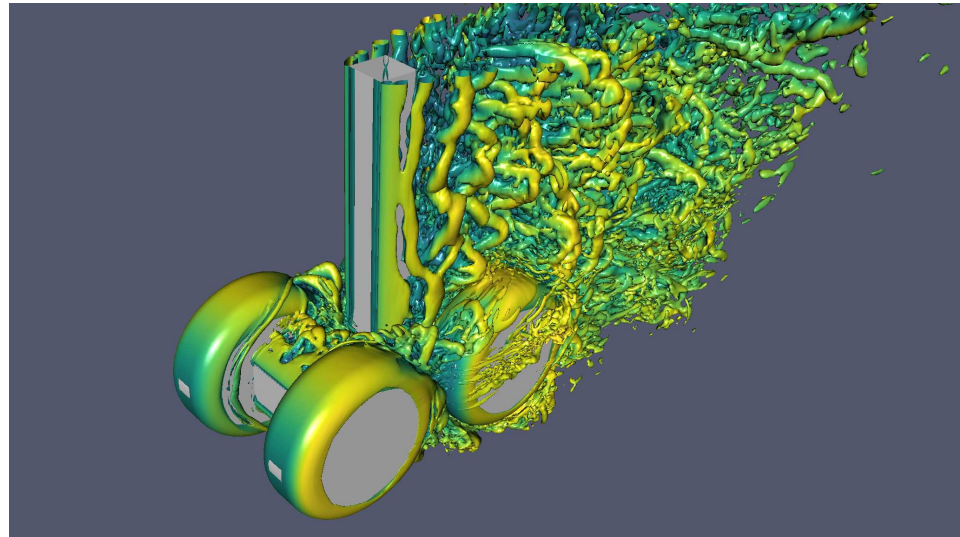
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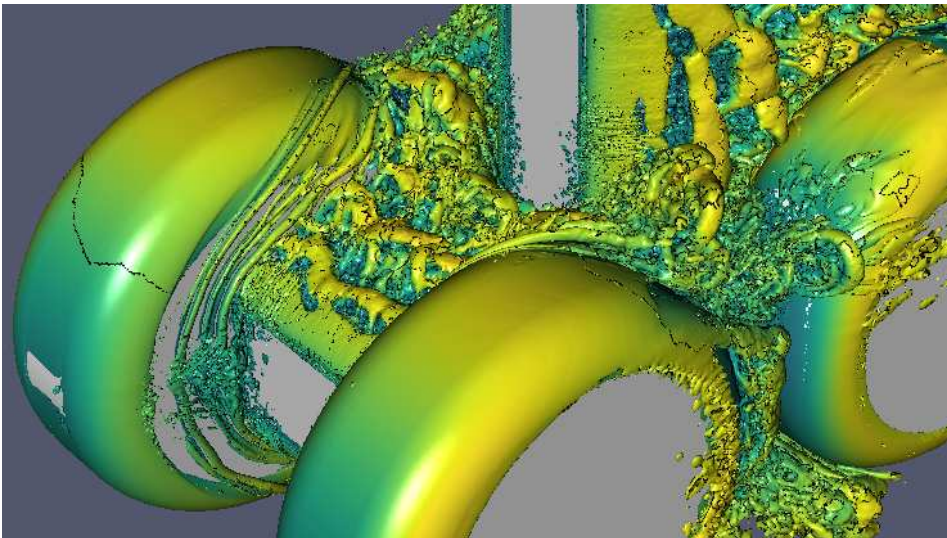
Finer turbulence resolution on unstructured grid  
...but also some spurious structures?



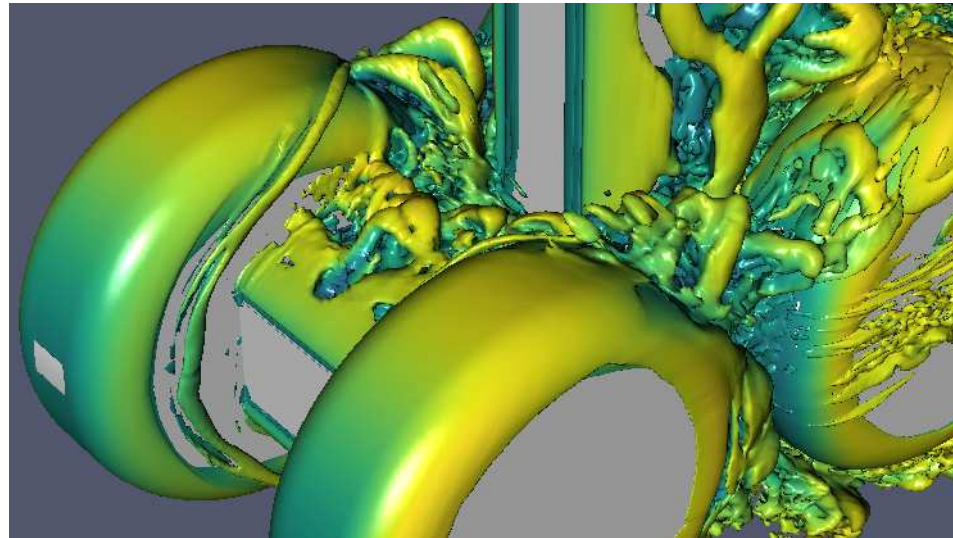
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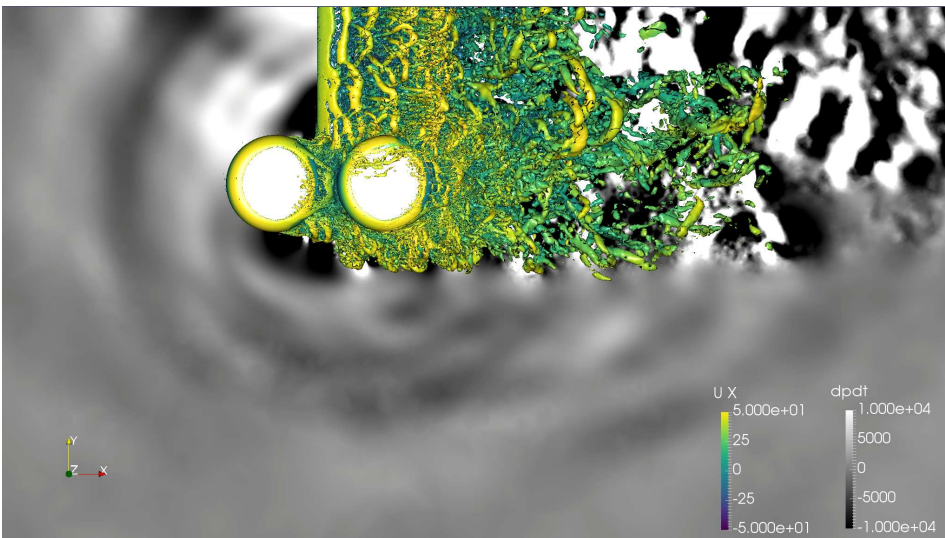
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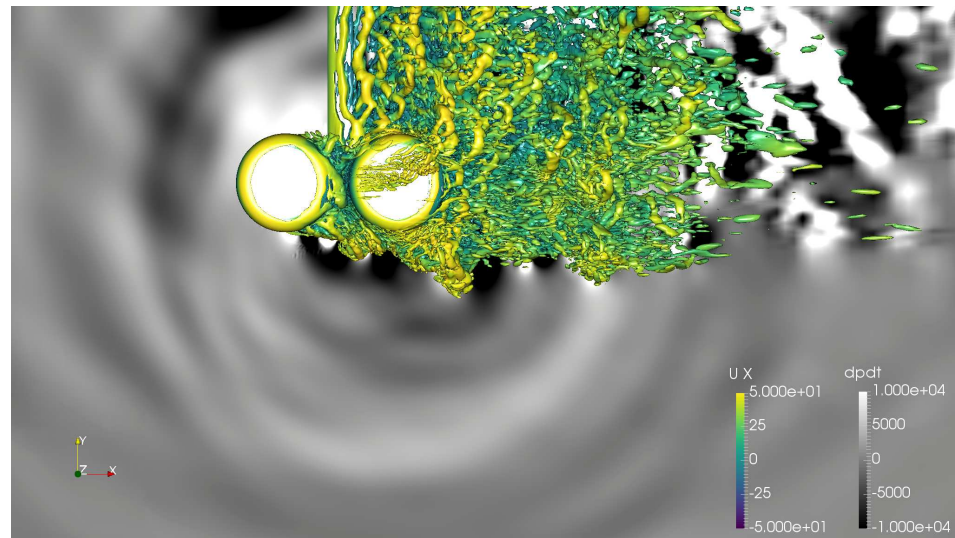
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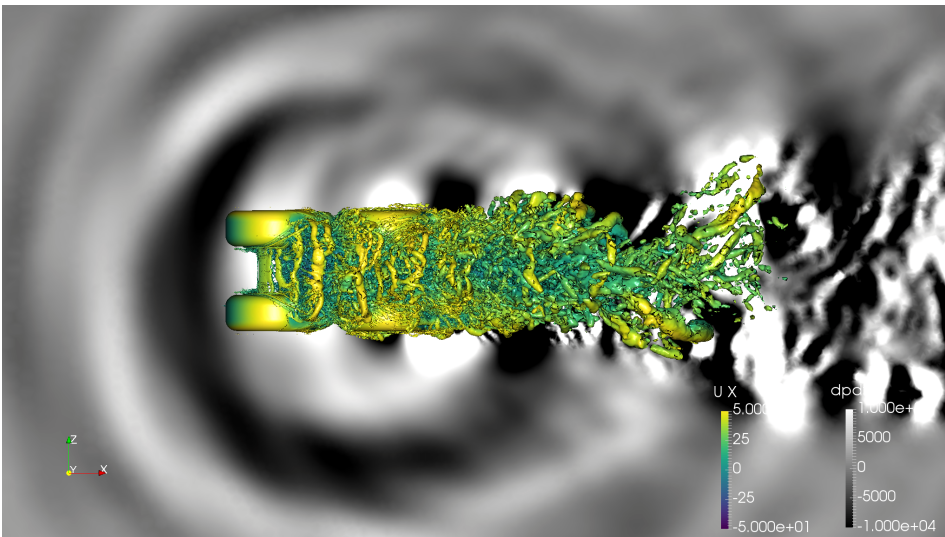


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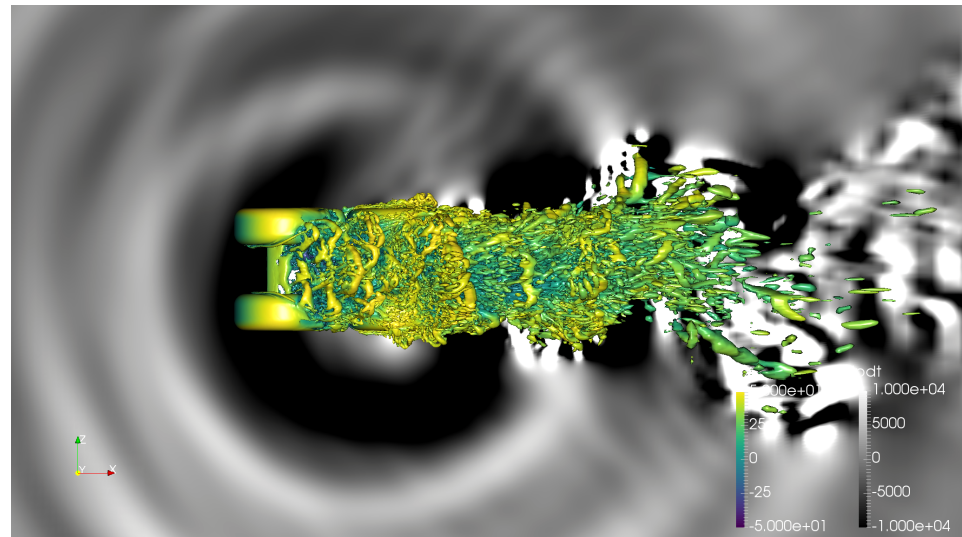
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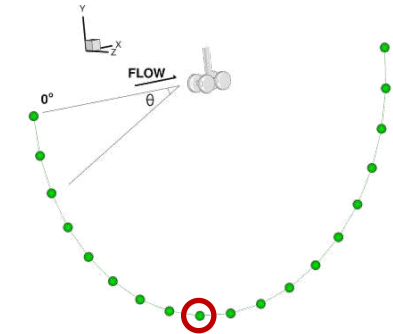
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# Far-field sound spectra

Structured (green) and unstructured (blue) meshes

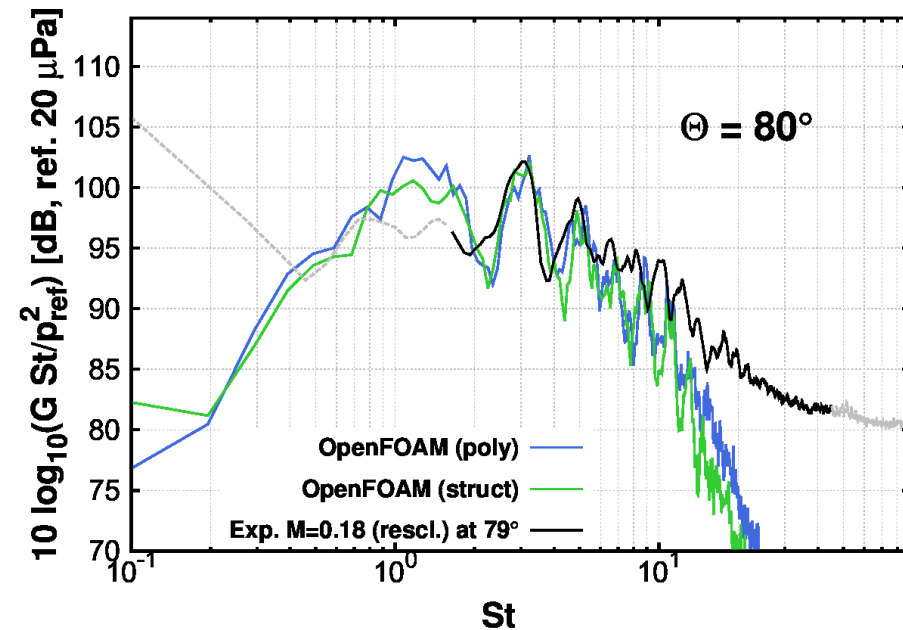
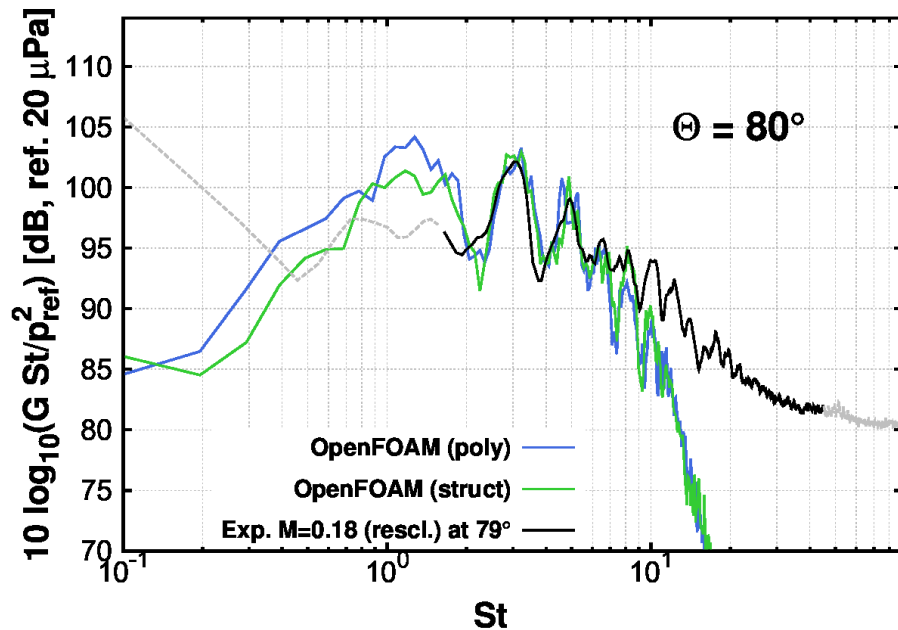
All with improved solver

Comparison of permeable and solid integration surfaces



Permeable (FW-H)

Solid (Curle)



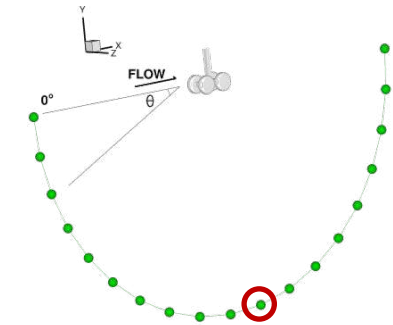


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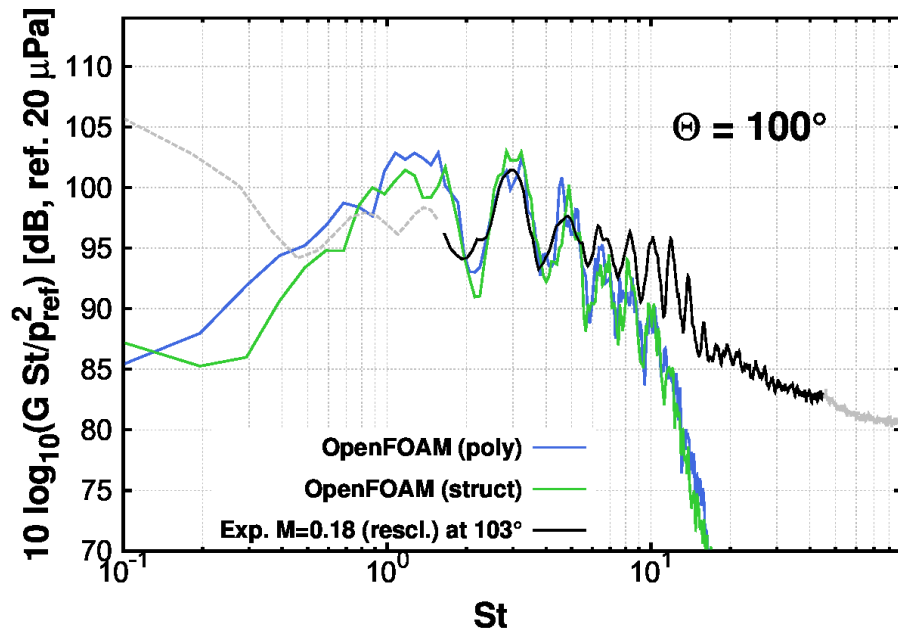
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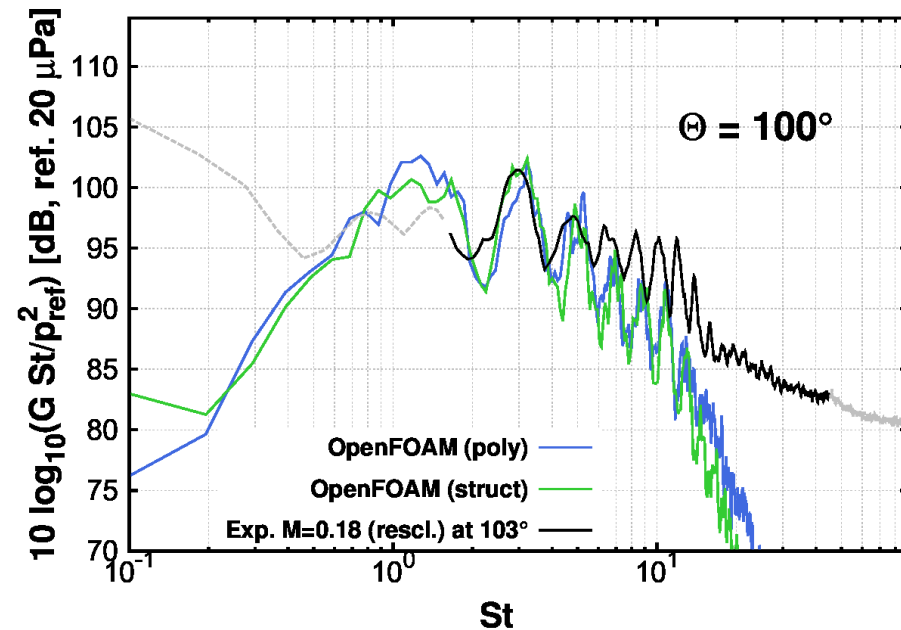
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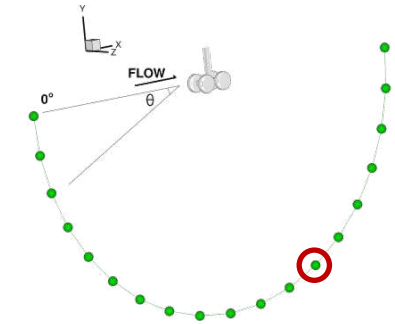


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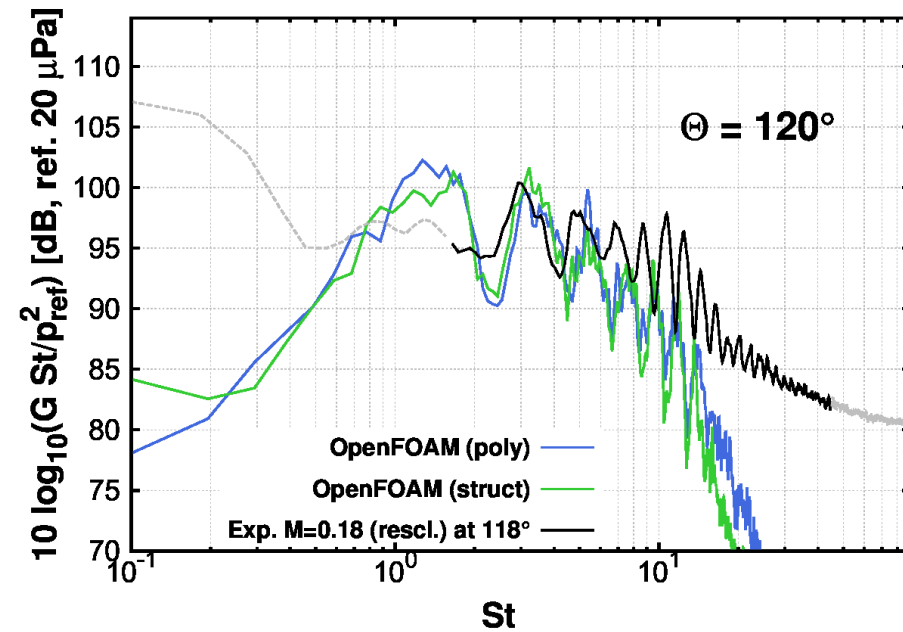
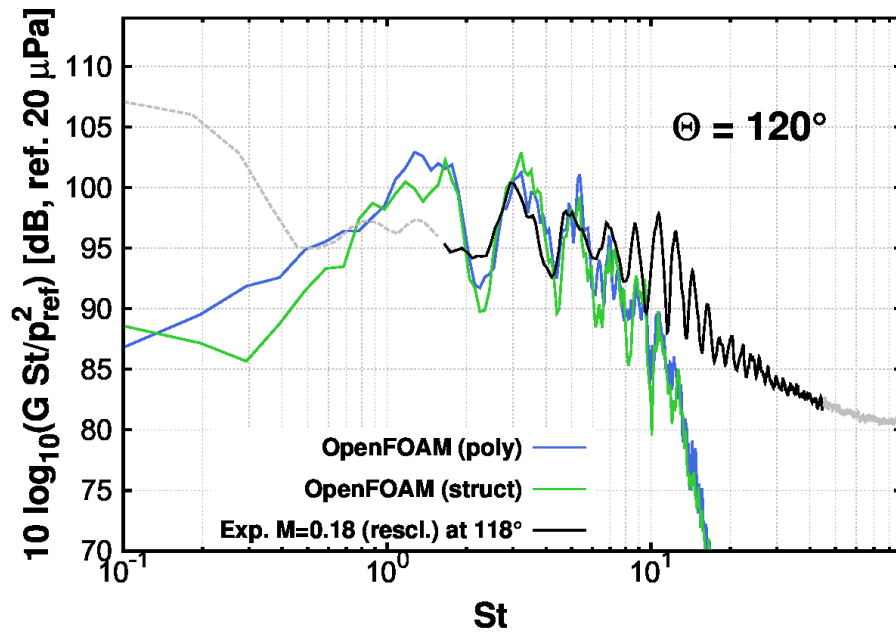
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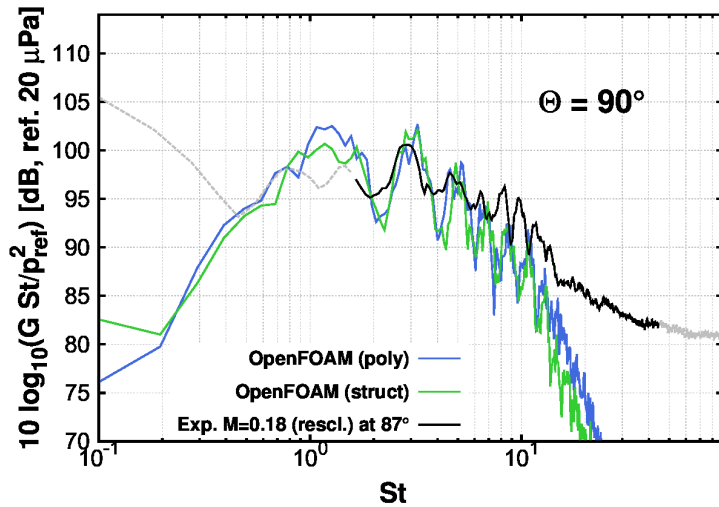


Permeable (FW-H)

Solid (Curle)



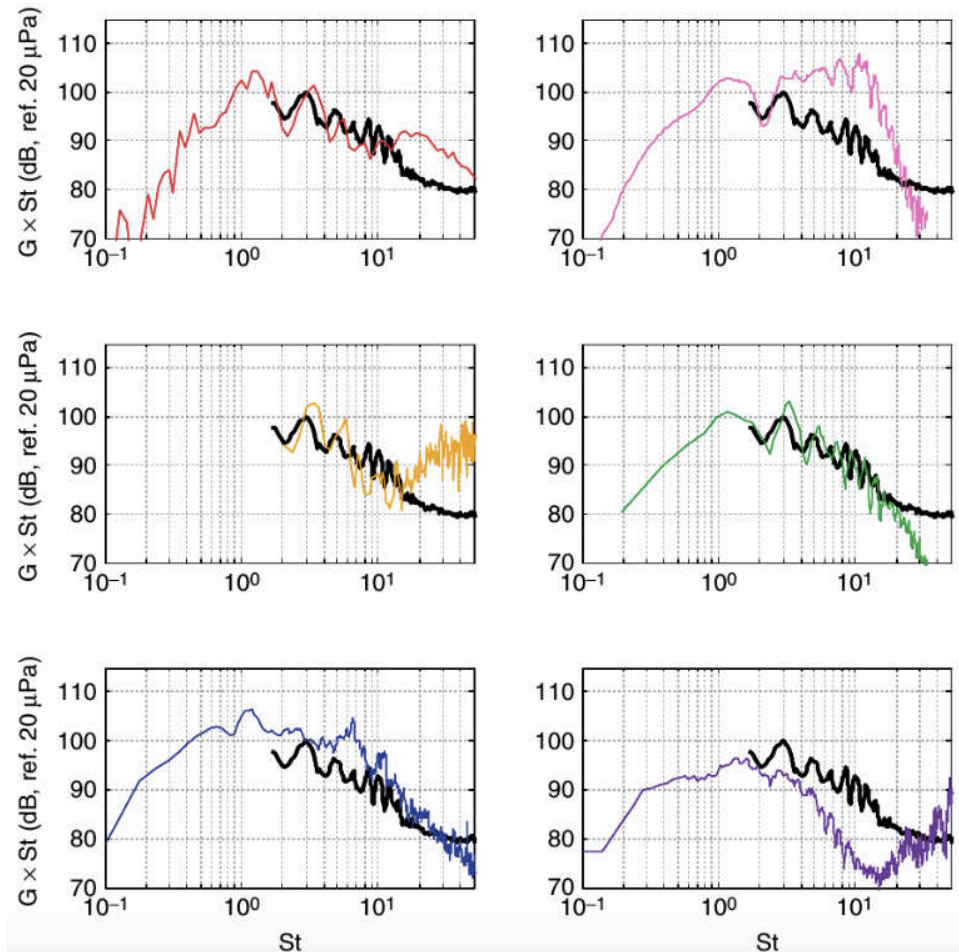
# Comparison with BANC-II results



Improved solver, both meshes

- Very competitive level of agreement
- No spurious noise despite unstructured grid
- Slightly less high-frequency resolution than previous results with in-house code (green data on right)

## Blind partner results from BANC-II workshop



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## Conclusions and next steps



# Conclusions

- Complete process chain for aeroacoustic simulation validated with satisfactory results for a very challenging test case
- Standard OpenFOAM solver returns unreliable aeroacoustic prediction:
  - Physically inconsistent behaviour seen between Curle and FW-H post-processing
- Improved pressure-based acoustics solver shows a very consistent performance for the RLG:
  - Very competitive performance relative to other CFD solvers
  - Faster convergence and therefore 33% lower CPU time relative to standard solver
- First validation also on unstructured meshes:
  - Unstructured mesh resolves finer structures than structured mesh
  - Far-field spectra for unstructured mesh agree slightly better with measurements
  - No spurious acoustic content detected on unstructured mesh
- OpenFOAM results resolve spectra up to  $St \approx 6$  whereas in-house code resolves up to  $St \approx 10$  (same grid and time step)
  - “Cancellation of errors” in previous results?
  - Finer mesh and/or time step?



**Thank you for your attention**

