

parpp3d++

**A parallel C++ version of the
pp3d module in FEATFLOW**

User guide

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Contents

1 Up to the starting line	1
2 Installation	2
2.1 Configuration	2
2.2 Compilation	3
3 Syntax of parameter files	3
4 Creating a 3D grid file	11
5 Prescription of inflow and boundary conditions	12
5.1 Prescription of inflow	12
5.2 Prescription of boundary conditions	12
6 Boundary projection	13
7 Scattered code changes	15
7.1 Changes to parser routine for parameter files	15
7.2 Different solver routines for mixed and pure boundary conditions	15
7.3 Calculation of drag and lift values	16
8 Output files	16
8.1 Statistical output files	16
8.2 Restart solution files	18
8.3 Visualisation output files	18
9 Known bugs	19
9.1 Not simply connected partitions	19
9.2 More cases of inappropriate partitions	19
9.3 Disadvantage of triangulations with high aspect ratios	20

10 Migrating from <i>pp3d</i>	20
10.1 Equivalent options in parameter files	20
10.2 Changes to coarse grid file	21
10.3 indat3d.f and parq3d.f	21

List of Tables

1	Predefined Makefile settings <i>parpp3d++</i> ships with	1
2	Equivalent options in parameter files of <i>pp3d</i> and <i>parpp3d++</i>	21

List of Figures

1	Sample parameter file <code>samples/unitcube.dat</code>	4
1	Sample parameter file <code>samples/unitcube.dat</code> (continued)	4
1	Sample parameter file <code>samples/unitcube.dat</code> (continued)	5
2	Creating a 3D mesh via extrusion	11
3	Prototypical device used in chemical engineering	13
4	Coarse grid of the geometry (2D cutplane view)	13
5	Sample output file of <i>parpp3d++</i>	16
6	Sample output file of <i>parpp3d++</i> (continued)	17
7	Sample output file of <i>parpp3d++</i> (continued)	17
8	Sample output file of <i>parpp3d++</i> (continued)	18

1 Up to the starting line

What is parpp3d++? *parpp3d++* is a parallel 3D code for the solution of incompressible nonstationary Navier–Stokes equations. It is an adaptation, i.e. parallel implementation, of the existing sequential solver *pp3d* from the FEATFLOW package and, as such, applies the same numerical methods. See [10, 3] for mathematical details.

parpp3d++ is not capable of solving 2D flow problems. According efforts are not ventured either on the basis of the FEAT package. It will not be before the completion of the currently developed, new FEASTFLOW package that parallel 2D simulations will be potentiated. For details about its release date see our website www.featflow.de.

Supported platforms: *parpp3d++* has been successfully compiled, deployed and tested in almost every UNIX environment. It does not run, though, on Windows® 95/98/ME/NT/2K/XP, MacOS® nor OS/2®. Considering the fact that the aim of *parpp3d++* is High Performance Computing, especially using the tremendous computing power of multi-processor workstations, clusters or supercomputers, this restriction to UNIX flavours is quite a matter of course. Thus, to run *parpp3d++*, you need to have a UNIX system.

Prerequisites: For the impatient:

- 30 - 70 MB disk space for sources and object files
- 10 - 5000 MB disk space for visualisation files
- C/C++ compiler (STL support)
- MPI environment (headers + libraries)

The program has only very basic prerequisites. The most important thing is disk space. You will need 20 MB for the compressed and unpacked sources. Depending on your compiler and compile flags (whether or not you are including debug information etc.) an additional amount of up to 50 MB is needed for object files, libraries and the linked program. During run time, large quantities of storage space will be consumed if you choose to have visualisation output. If you choose a small time intervall or a high grid density (i.e. high multigrid output level) hundreds of megabytes can easily be stored on your hard drive in a single program run.

Further on, you will need a reasonably featured C as well as C++ compiler (with at least basic STL support). GNU or KAI Compiler have been well-tested with, others should do, too.

Finally, you will need an MPI 1.x or above environment (including headers and libraries).

parpp3d++ ships with pre-defined makefile settings for the cases shown in table 1. See section 2.1 for how to invoke these settings.

architecture	compiler	MPI environment	comment
Alpha Server	Compaq C/C++ 6.3	MPICH 1.1	OS: Linux
Alpha Server	Compaq C/C++ 6.3	Digital MPI	
Alpha Server	gcc/g++ 2.95.2	LAM/MPI ≥ 6.3.x	OS: True64
Cray T3E	Kai CC 3.3	UNICOS MPT ≥ 1.3.x	
Hitachi SR8000	gcc/g++ 2.95.2	Hitachi MPI2	
Linux	Intel C/C++ 5.01	LAM/MPI ≥ 6.5.x	
Linux	gcc/g++ 2.95.2	MPICH 1.2.1	
Linux	gcc/g++ 2.95.4	Score 4.x	
SGI R8000/10000	gcc/g++ 2.95.2	LAM/MPI ≥ 6.3.x	
Sun UltraSparc	gcc/g++ 2.95.2	LAM/MPI ≥ 6.3.x	
Sun UltraSparc	gcc/g++ 2.95.2	MPICH 1.2.1	
Sun UltraSparc	gcc/g++ 2.95.2	SUN MPI 4.0	

Table 1: Predefined Makefile settings *parpp3d++* ships with

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2 Installation

Unlike most modern free software, *parpp3d++* does not provide a comfortable configure script which determines system type and installed software and automatically generates a makefile. But this does not mean that you are on the point of embarking upon big trouble if you have decided to try out *parpp3d++*. In most cases you will have to make only few changes to the default makefile. Mainly, these will consist of setting up your desired C/C++ compiler as well as the path to your MPI library and MPI header files.

2.1 Configuration

Download `parpp3d++.1.x.x.tar.gz` from our website and unpack it into any directory of your choice. A new subdirectory called `parpp3d++` will be created, containing the source code as well as some exemplary parameter files and corresponding grids.

We will first describe how to set up the makefile for *parpp3d++*. Change to the newly created directory, invoke your favorite editor and open `Makefile.in`.

```
% cd parpp3d++
% vi Makefile.in
```

This file contains all settings that you will have to tune most likely. It is quite improbable that you will encounter the need to edit the actual Makefiles yourself.

For your convenience, a variable called `TARGET` is defined within `Makefile.in` which helps you to distinguish between different platforms and/or compiler/MPI environments (see table 1 for predefined settings). Depending on this variable, different compiler and path settings are used. This way you can keep a single `Makefile.in` for all your different compute platforms and simply activate the appropriate settings by adjusting just this single variable.

The variables you are most likely to adjust are

- `CCC` – indicating the path to your C++ compiler
- `CC` – indicating the path to your C compiler

- `PLATFORMINCLUDES` – indicating any non-default include paths, especially the path where the MPI header files reside
- `SPECIALLIBS` – indicating any non-default library paths

Most MPI environments provide a MPI compile wrapper command like `mpicc` / `mpiccc`. If you have set up `CCC` and `CC` to use these wrapper commands, you may not have to specify the MPI include and library path in `PLATFORMINCLUDES` and `SPECIALLIBS`, respectively.

When you are trying to compile *parpp3d++* for the first time on a new platform, you should inhibit code optimisation by setting `OPTFLAGS` accordingly.¹ Once you have compiled *parpp3d++* successfully, add code optimisation, re-compile by issuing

```
% make clean; make
```

and have an extensive coffee break. :-)

Compilation with full optimisation will take at least minutes, if not hours.²

Program-specific compile options: There are a few compile options which are specific to *parpp3d++* and which can be set using `COPTIONS`.

- If you would like to have **run time statistics** about how much time has been spent in matrix assembly, prolongation and restriction, communication routines etc., specify `-DCLOCK_MEASURE`.
- If you would like to see details about the stop criterions applied within nonlinear and linear solver steps, specify `-DMG_DEBUG`.
- If your MPI environment incorporates **MPI-C++-Bindings** and you experience **severe compile errors**, try specifying `-DMPIPP_H`
- If your compiler complains about an error in function `OutOfMemory` in module `CProcessApp.cc`, specify `-DUSE_KCC`.³

¹The precise option depends on your compiler, but in most cases it will be something like `-O0` or `+O0`.

²Well, I have seen both.

³`OutOfMemory` handles the out-of-memory exception anywhere in the program. Specifying `-DUSE_KCC` disables this feature. Consequence: If your problem size gets too big, *parpp3d++* will just terminate without an eligible error message.

2.2 Compilation

Having set up `Makefile.in` according to your system configuration, type

```
% make
```

This should build the executable `./parpp3d++`.⁴

If you want to run a quick test, take one of the sample parameter files from the subdirectory `samples`, rename it to `parpp3d++.dat`⁵ and invoke the MPI run command. Have a look at the documentation of your MPI environment for the correct syntax. In most cases, however, it will be a statement similar to

```
% mpirun -c 2 ./parpp3d++
```

or

```
% mpirun -np 2 ./parpp3d++
```

⁴If you prefer a different program name, change the according value `PROGNAME` in `Makefile.in`.

⁵The executable assumes that the parameter file has the same basename as the executable and bears a `.dat` suffix. In case you have changed the value `PROGNAME` in `Makefile.in` or renamed the executable to, e.g., `'3dsim'`, you ought to have a parameter file called `'3dsim.dat'`.

3 Syntax of parameter files

In order to perform a 3D flow simulation with `parpp3d++`, you need to traverse five to six steps:

- Download the program source files,
- compile the sources,
- set up a working parameter file,
- create a grid (triangulation),
- prescribe inflow and outflow conditions (hard-coded) and, possibly,
- perform boundary projections (hard-coded)

The first two steps have been dealt with in previous sections, now we will discuss the syntax of the program's parameter file. If you are familiar with the parameter files belonging to the sequential programs from the FEATFLOW package, you will assert that the options are quite acquainted.⁶ The subdirectory `samples` contains a few ready-to-run configurations, e.g. flow through a unit cube, flow through a channel around an obstacle, lid-driven cavity, flow within a steel mould.

As with its sequential predecessors from the FEATFLOW package the main purpose of the parameter file is to control the numerical solution process: time stepping schemes to be applied, stabilisation methods, stop criterions, number of multigrid levels etc. But it is used as well to prescribe path and file name of the grid file, Reynolds number, restart information and – this is new in parallel – partitioning information.

On startup, the executable searches the current directory for a parameter file with the same name as the executable and a `.dat` suffix. This parameter file is assumed to be an ordinary ASCII file. If you choose to keep the default program name, a parameter file called `parpp3d++.dat` will be searched for.

Options are specified one per line. White spaces are ignored as well as everything behind the standard C++ comment delimiter (`//`). The **order** in which key words are specified **does matter**, unfortunately. But, the length of strings does not matter. This is especially true for path and file names.⁷

⁶The key words are just slightly less cryptic! See chapter 10.1 for equivalent key words.

⁷A note for those of you who know the sequential FEATFLOW programs: There, you have a limit of 15 characters for path and file names. This definitely had to change, had it not?

```
// Value      // program variable  // description
// -----
1           // TestLoops          // number of subsequent configurations in this file

// --- Simulation and grid -----
0           // Func               // simulation type:
// 0: unit cube
// 2: ASMO
// 3: driven cavity (pursuant to Deville et al.)
// 4: channel flow with two consecutive cylinders
// 5: channel flow with one cylinder (DFG Benchmark 3D-2Z)
// 8: Cast flow (ABB project)
// 9: BMBF project with Agar

Grids/UnitCube/Triaq512
// GridFile      // file name of coarse grid

// --- Restart section -----
0           // Restart           // restart flag:
// 0: no restart
// 1: restart on same level
// 2: restart coarser level
1           // RestartITE        // starting number for iterations and files
./comp/     // RestartBaseDir    // base directory for solution files
none.r1     // RestartSolFile     // prefix for the file family that actually
// contain the data for your restart
10          // SolFileFrequency   // write solution file every xx iteration
3           // SolFileNumber     // number of different solution files to keep
restart.lev3 // SolFilePrefix     // prefix for solution files (for restart purposes)

// --- Partition section -----
1           // PartitionTool     // third party partition tool:
// 0: party
// 1: metis - variant 1
// 2: metis - variant 2
0           // PartitionCR       // switch whether to
// 0: create or to
// 1: read partition information
./comp/     // PartitionBaseDir  // base directory for partition files
benchmark   // PartitionFile     // partition file

// --- equation parameters and some for discretization -----
1.0e3      // EpsEq             // viscosity parameter 1/nu
// - 1.0e3 for simulation type 4 & 5
// - 1.0e5 for simulation type 2
// - 3.2e3 for simulation type 3
// - 1.0e6 for simulation type 8
3           // NFine            // maximum mg-level
7           // ICUB             // cubature formula for calculation of matrices
7           // ICUB RHS         // cubature formula for calculation of right hand side
0           // Lump             // toggle mass matrix lumping (0: yes, 1: no)
1.0         // UpSam            // Samarski upwind parameter

// --- parameters for solving burgers equation -----
2           // MinFixpItU       // min. number of fixpoint iterations (nonlinear)
5           // MaxFixpItU       // max. number of fixpoint iterations (nonlinear)
1.0         // OmgIni           // initial relaxation parameter (nonlinear)
```

(continued on next page)

Figure 1: Sample parameter file samples/unitcube.dat

```
1           // MinItU           // min. number of it. in inner (linear) iteration
5           // MaxItU           // max. number of it. in inner (linear) iteration
1e-1        // EpsUChange       // limit for U-changes
1e-8        // EpsUDefect       // limit for U-defects
1e-1        // DampUMG          // limit for U-defect improvement
0.0         // AMinU            // lower limit for optimal U-alpha
2.0         // AMaxU            // upper limit for optimal U-alpha
1           // PreSteps_burg    // number of presmoothing steps solving burgers-eq.
1           // PostSteps_burg   // number of postsmoothing steps solving burgers-eq.
3           // Smoother_burg  // type of smoother for burgers-equation:
// 1: jacobi / 2: SOR / 3: ILU / 4: CG
1.0         // MGOmega_burg    // omega value used in smoothing process
2           // Solver_burg    // exact solver on coarse grid:
// 1: jacobi / 2: SOR / 3: GS / 4: CG (ILU)
100         // SolverMaxIt_burg // max. number of iterations in coarse grid solver
// approved values:
// jacobi: 200 / SOR / GS,CG: 100
0           // Cycle_burg     // multigrid cycle used: 0:F 1:V 2:W

// --- parameters for solving pressure poisson equation -----
2           // MinItP           // min. number of it. in inner (linear) iteration
100         // MaxItP           // max. number of it. in inner (linear) iteration
1e+10       // EpsPChange       // limit for P-changes
1e-8        // EpsDivergence    // limit for divergence(u)
// (is equal to P-defects * current time step)
1e-1        // DampPMG          // limit for P-defect improvement
0.0         // AMinP            // lower limit for optimal P-alpha
2.0         // AMaxP            // upper limit for optimal P-alpha
2           // PreSteps_press  // number of presmoothing steps solving pressure-eq.
2           // PostSteps_press // number of postsmoothing steps solving pressure-eq.
1           // Smoother_press  // type of smoother for pressure-equation:
// 1: jacobi / 2: SOR / 3: ILU
1.0         // MGOmega_press    // omega value used in smoothing process
3           // SolverType_press // type of multigrid solver used:
// 1: conventional multigrid
// 2: cg method preconditioned with one
// additive multigrid step
// 3: cg method preconditioned with one
// multiplicative multigrid step
4           // Solver_press    // exact solver on coarse grid:
// 1: jacobi / 2: SOR / 3: GS / 4: CG (ILU)
10          // SolverMaxIt_press // max. number of iterations in coarse grid solver
// approved values:
// jacobi: 200 / SOR: 500 / GS: 50 / CG: 100
0           // Cycle_press     // multigrid cycle used: 0-F 1-V 2-W
2           // ProlType_press  // type of pressure prolongation:
// 1: constant prolongation
// 2: linear prolongation

// --- Time iteration parameter -----
-4          // Method           // time step scheme used:
// 1: Chorin (1st order)
// 2: VanKan (2nd order)
// -x: VanKan with |x| initial Chorin steps
1000        // MaxTimeIterations // maximum number of iterations in time
5.0         // TEnd             // endpoint in time
```

(continued on next page)

Figure 1: Sample parameter file samples/unitcube.dat (continued)

```

1e-4      // EpsNS           // lower limit for time derivative
0.001000 // DtStart          // time step to start with (not macro time step!)
1         // TStepControlITE // number of iterations between next time step control
0.001     // DtMin           // minimum time step
4.0       // DtMax           // maximum time step
1.0       // TInitPhase      // duration of start phase
0.001     // EPSADI         // parameter for time error limit in start phase
0.0001    // EPSADL         // parameter for time error limit after start phase

// --- Output format, location and frequency ----- //
./postprocess/ // OutputBaseDir // base directory for all output files
0              // AVSOutputLevel // level of refinement that is used for avs output
// ('0' means no avs output)
benchmark.grid.13 // AVSGridFile // path and prefix for avs grid output file name
benchmark.13 // AVSSolutionFile // path and prefix for avs output files
0.0          // DtAVS // time difference for avs output
3           // GMVOutputLevel // level of refinement that is used for gmv output
// ('0' means no gmv output)
benchmark.grid.13 // GMVGridFile // path and prefix for gmv grid output file name
benchmark.13 // GMVSolutionFile // path and prefix for gmv output files
0.1          // DtGMV // time difference for gmv output

// --- Debug section ----- //
0 // Debug // toggle "function call tracing"

```

Figure 1: Sample parameter file samples/unitcube.dat (continued)

Let's have a look at an exemplary parameter file, `unitcube.dat` from the subdirectory `samples` (see previous page). To increase readability for humans, a three-columns format has been used. The first column contains the option value, either numeric or string. The second column specifies the programs variable (which is, in fact, a kind of key word) this value is assigned to. The last column has some explanatory comments on the key word.

If you prefer a more Spartan parameter file, just omit all comments. Because everything apart from the options in the first column is placed in comments, the first five lines of `unitcube.dat` in figure 1 could be equivalently reduced to as less as

```

1
0
Grids/UnitCube/Triaq512
0
1

```

which is, however, a nightmare to maintain.

On the next pages, you will find a complete reference list of key words. You don't need to know exactly what each item does. The most vital

key words are as follows: `EpsEqu`, `Func`, `GMVSolutionFile`, `GridFile`, `MaxTimeIterations`, `NFine`, `OutputBaseDir`, `Partition*`, `Restart*`, `TEnd`.

Complete list of parameter file key words:

AMaxP float value

Sets an upper bound for the adaptively chosen relaxation parameter used to update pressure solution in multigrid's prolongation step.

AMaxU float value

Sets an upper bound for the adaptively chosen relaxation parameter used to update velocity solution in multigrid's prolongation step.

AMinP float value

Sets a lower bound for the adaptively chosen relaxation parameter used to update pressure solution in multigrid's prolongation step.

AMinU float value

Sets a lower bound for the adaptively chosen relaxation parameter used to update velocity solution in multigrid's prolongation step.

AVSGridFile string

Specifies the file name that will contain the grid on level `AVSOutputLevel` in AVS format.

AVSOutputLevel integer value

Sets the grid density (grid refinement level) for the visualisation output in AVS format.

Specifying numbers bigger than 5 will easily lead to an exceeded disk quota or hard disk capacity. The critical value is depending on the number of elements of your coarse grid. A level leading to roughly 50.000 to 100.000 elements is sufficient for most visualisation purposes.

Values bigger than `NFine` are automatically reduced to the value given for `NFine`.

AVSSolutionFile string

Specifies the base file name of visualisation output on level `AVSOutputLevel` in AVS format. Information on the current time step and the process number will be appended as well as a suffix `.avs` (see section 8.3).

Example: Specifying `unitcube` will lead to files named `unitcube.t###.p###.avs`

Cycle_burg *integer value*

Specifies the type of multigrid cycle to be used for solving linearised Burgers equations.
0 enables F-cycle, 1 uses V-cycle, 2 invokes W-cycle.

Cycle_press *integer value*

Specifies the type of multigrid cycle to be used for solving Pressure Poisson equations.
0 enables F-cycle, 1 uses V-cycle, 2 invokes W-cycle.

DampPMG *float value*

Specifies the minimal factor the initial pressure defect has to be reduced. The same remark applies as for EpsPChange.

DampUMG *float value*

Specifies the minimal factor the initial velocity defect has to be reduced. DampUMG is one of the stop criterions applied in fixpoint iteration to solve Burgers equation.

Debug *integer value*

A switch for debugging purposes only.
If the program terminates unexpectedly, set this option to 1. You will get a message each time the program enters and leaves important functions. This way you can roughly determine the erroneous routine.

DtAVS *float value*

Sets the minimum amount of time between to subsequent output files in AVS format. Please read section 8.3 (page 18) about the time difference in subsequent visualisation output files.
If you want a visualisation file for every single time step, set this value to 0.0.

DtGMV *float value*

Sets the minimum amount of time between to subsequent output files in GMV format. Please read section 8.3 (page 18) about the time difference in subsequent visualisation output files.
If you want a visualisation file for every single time step, set this value to 0.0.

DtMax *float value*

Sets an upper bound for the time step size.

DtMin *float value*

Sets a lower bound for the time step size.

DtStart *float value*

Sets the initial time step.
By setting TStepControlITE to an exceptional high value, you can use DtStart even to prescribe a global uniform time step.
Example: Set TStepControlITE to 10000 and you will have equidistant time steps of size DtStart.

EPSADI *float value*

Sets the tolerable error for the time derivative during start phase.

EPSADL *float value*

Sets the tolerable error for the time derivative after start phase.

EpsDivergence *float value*

Specifies an upper limit for the divergence of the velocity solution. The reason for this parameter being part of the pressure parameter section is quite easy to explain: Keep in mind that in our discrete projection approach the pressure defect can be controlled by EpsDivergence divided by the current time step (see [10], page 66) and vice versa.

EpsEqu *float value*

Specifies the reciprocal of the viscosity parameter ϵ in the Navier–Stokes–equations.
Warning: This value is **not just the viscosity parameter** for the medium you are simulating. So, there is more to do than simply looking this value up in a table. Instead, you will need characteristic velocity U and characteristic length L for your configuration as well as the Reynolds number Re . Then calculate the viscosity yourself using the formula

$$\text{EpsEqu} = U \cdot L / Re$$

This is because, in science, one usually uses metre as standard unit, but it would be inappropriate to express dimensions and distances (and in a way viscosity) in metres if simulating a configuration that is several orders of magnitude larger or smaller than 1 metre.
So, instead of using kinematic viscosity's value for ϵ in the Navier–Stokes–equations directly, calculate ϵ by applying the formula above according to the units that hold for your grid dimensions and inflow conditions.

EpsPChange *float value*

Specifies the minimum relative change between initial and acceptable

pressure solution.

This parameter has hardly any effect on solution accuracy or iteration count if EpsDivergence is set reasonably, i.e. to something like 10^{-6} – 10^{-10} .

EpsNS *float value*

Specifies the lower limit for the time derivate of the velocity solution. In case it turns out that the simulation has a stationary limit, this value controls when to terminate the program.

EpsUChange *float value*

Specifies the minimum relative change between initial and acceptable velocity solution. EpsUChange is one of the stop criterions applied in fixpoint iteration to solve Burgers equation.

EpsUDefect *float value*

Specifies the maximum tolerable value for the velocity defect, measured in l2 norm. EpsUDefect is used as stop criterion in fixpoint iteration to solve the non-linear Burgers equation in every time step as well as in multigrid routines to solve linearised Burgers equations.

Func *integer value*

If you choose to incorporate all your different flow configurations in a single version of *parpp3d++* and not to have multiple version of the program lingering around – one for each different flow configuration –, this multiswitch activates the hard-coded inflow and outflow conditions as well as additional configuration-specific tasks like boundary projections, computation of lift and drag values, pressure differences etc. We will learn later which parts of the program have to be at least adjusted to create a new flow configuration (see chapter 5 - 7).

GMVGridFile *string*

Specifies the file name that will contain the grid on level GMVOutputLevel in GMV format.

GMVOutputLevel *integer value*

Sets the grid density (grid refinement level) for the visualisation output in GMV format. Specifying numbers bigger than 5 will easily lead to an exceeded disk quota or hard disk capacity. The critical value is depending on the number of elements of your coarse grid. A level leading to roughly 50.000

to 100.000 elements is sufficient for most visualisation purposes. Values bigger than NFine are automatically reduced to the value given for NFine.

GMVSolutionFile *string*

Specifies the base file name of visualisation output on level AVSOutputLevel in GMV format. Information on the current time step and the process number will be appended as well as a suffix .gmv (see section 8.3).

Example: Specifying unitcube will lead to files named unitcube.t###.p###.gmv

GridFile *string*

Path and file name of the triangulation file to be used. If not absolute, the path will be treated as relative to the programs path.

ICUB RHS *integer value*

Specifies the internal (FEAT) number for the cubature formula to be used to calculate right hand side vectors. The same remarks apply as for ICUB.

ICUB *integer value*

Specifies the internal (FEAT) number for the cubature formula to be used to assemble matrices. See the FEATFLOW manual, if you want to learn more about possible settings. Unless you really know what you are doing, leave this value unchanged.

Lump *integer value (boolean)*

Switch to control whether lumping of mass matrix should be enabled (0) or disabled (1).

MaxFixpItU *integer value*

Sets an upper limit for the number of fixpoint iterations to be performed to solve nonlinear Burgers equation in each time step. Values greater than 10 should be prevented.

MaxIItP *integer value*

Sets an upper limit for the number of multigrid iterations to be performed to solve Pressure Poisson problems.

MaxIItU *integer value*

Sets an upper limit for the number of multigrid iterations to be performed to solve linearised Burgers problems.

MaxTimeIterations *integer value*

Specifies the maximum number of (macro) time steps. This value is one of the main normal program termination controls. If either the endpoint in time or the maximum number of time steps is reached, the program will terminate. So, be especially careful when setting this value. It will be quite annoying and in most cases even rather expensive in terms of waste of CPU and quota, if your simulation terminates unmeantly because of a poorly chosen maximum number of time iterations.

Method *integer value*

Specifies the time stepping scheme. 1 will use the Chorin scheme (first order), 2 will invoke Van Kan scheme (second order). Negative values are possible, too. In this case, the absolute value gives the number of initial time steps using Chorin's method, afterwards the simulation continues with applying Van Kan's scheme. This procedere is especially useful if no restart information is available and a simulation has to be started from scratch. Usually 4-5 initial Chorin steps give a sufficient approximation to continue with Van Kan's scheme. If a restart is done, the value is ignored and Van Kan's scheme is used.

MGOmega_burg *float value*

Sets the relaxation parameter ω to be used by the smoothing algorithm in multigrid to solve linearised Burgers equations. See [10] for a detailed study on the influence of this relaxation parameter for different smoothing algorithms. Simplistically speaking, a setting of 0.8 for Jacobi method, 1.3 for SOR method, 0.9 for ILU and 1.3 for CG method should show satisfying results in most cases.

MGOmega_press *float value*

Sets the relaxation parameter ω to be used by the smoothing algorithm in multigrid to solve Pressure Poisson equations. See [10] for a detailed study on the influence of this relaxation parameter for different smoothing algorithms. Simplistically speaking, a setting of 0.8 for Jacobi method, 1.3 for SOR method and 0.9 for ILU should show satisfying results in most cases.

MinFixpItU *integer value*

Specifies the minimum number of fixpoint iterations to be performed to solve nonlinear Burgers equation in each time step.

MinIITP *integer value*

Specifies the minimum number of multigrid iterations to be performed to solve Pressure Poisson problems.

MinIITU *integer value*

Specifies the minimum number of multigrid iterations to be performed to solve linearised Burgers problems.

NFine *integer value*

Specifies the highest multigrid level number. A value of 1 means the coarse grid is **not** refined, 2 means the coarse grid is refined once and so forth. (Note: Each increment will lead to an increase in problem size by a factor of 8.)

OmgIni *float value*

Specifies the initial value for the relaxation parameter ω in nonlinear iteration. A value of 1.0 should do in most cases.

OutputBaseDir *string*

Specifies the path where visualisation output files are stored. A trailing slash can be omitted.

PartitionBaseDir *string*

Specifies the path where to look for partition information files and where to write them to. A trailing slash can be omitted.

PartitionCR *integer value (boolean)*

Specifies whether partition information should be generated or read from disk. If set to 0, partition information will be generated and written to disk using PartitionBaseDir and PartitionFile. If set to 1, the value of PartitionTool will be ignored and partition information is read from disk using PartitionBaseDir and PartitionFile.

PartitionFile *string*

Specifies the file name that contains partition information.

PartitionTool *integer value*

Specifies which algorithm to be used for partitioning the coarse grid. 0 for the (non-deterministic) PARTy [8] algorithm, 1 for the (deterministic) METIS [6] algorithm PartGraphRecursive,

2 for the (deterministic) METIS algorithm `PartGraphVKway`.

The PARTY algorithm relies on a given number of processes that is a power of 2. As does METIS it uses graph theory to distribute coarse grid's elements onto the different processes as uniformly as possible. There is no guaranty, though, that the resulting PARTY partition will be identical each time you invoke the library. Every partition will be valid, but most of the time you will end up with a bunch of different partitions, not a single one. This especially holds for coarse grids with several dozens or even hundreds of elements.

Contrary to this, both algorithms from the METIS library will generate definite partitions if applied under the same conditions.⁸ Unlike PARTY both algorithms work for all given (positive) number of processes.

See also section 9.1 and 9.2.

`PostSteps_burg` *integer value*

Specifies the number of post-smoothing steps used in multigrid to solve linearised Burgers equations.

`PostSteps_press` *integer value*

Specifies the number of post-smoothing steps used in multigrid to solve Pressure Poisson equations.

`PreSteps_burg` *integer value*

Specifies the number of pre-smoothing steps used in multigrid to solve linearised Burgers equations.

`PreSteps_press` *integer value*

Specifies the number of pre-smoothing steps used in multigrid to solve Pressure Poisson equations.

`Pro1Type_press` *integer value*

Sets the prolongation method in multigrid for solving for Pressure Poisson equations.

1 enables constant prolongation, 2 means linear prolongation. Linear prolongation for a Q_0 ansatz means interpolating the values in the midpoints of the elements of the coarser grid to the vertices, prolongating them (linear) to the finer grid and re-interpolating the new values to the elements' midpoints.

`RestartBaseDir` *string*

Specifies the path where to look for solution files to use for restart initialisation. A trailing slash can be omitted.

`RestartITE` *integer value*

If continuing a simulation, it is rather convenient to initialise the iteration counter appropriately by adjusting this value.

`RestartSolFile` *string*

Specifies the basename of the solution files to use for restart initialisation.

Remark: These files can be arbitrarily exchanged between different platforms. Just ensure that all platforms use the same partition (for instance by reading from the same file specified as `PartitionFile`). This implicitly means that the same number of processes is used, too.

Example: You have got a set of solution files from a 4-processor-run named `c3d0.r3.p000.sol`, `c3d0.r3.p001.sol`, `c3d0.r3.p002.sol` and `c3d0.r3.p003.sol`. The value for `RestartSolFile` would be `c3d0.r3`

See also section 8.2.

`Restart` *integer value*

This switch indicates whether you want to start from scratch (0) or with an (approximate) solution from a previous run.

You can continue a simulation with a solution from the same grid refinement level (1) or use a solution that is **one** level coarser (2). In this case, it will automatically be prolonged to the current grid refinement level.

`Smoother_burg` *integer value*

Selects the smoother to be used in multigrid to solve linearised Burgers equations.

1 means Jacobi method, 2 utilizes SOR method, 3 stands for ILU method, 4 will invoke CG method.

`Smoother_press` *integer value*

Selects the smoother to be used in multigrid to solve Pressure Poisson equations.

1 means Jacobi method, 2 utilizes SOR method, 3 stands for ILU method.

`SolFileFrequency` *integer value*

Specifies how many time step iterations have to be done before the next solution file will be written.

`SolFileNumber` *integer value*

Specifies how many different solutions should be kept.

⁸This explains the above terms "deterministic" and "non-deterministic".

If SolFileNumber is reached, the first set of files will be overwritten. Usually, a number between 1 and 5 should do. Larger values should be chosen very carefully: Having large grid densities you can easily end up with an exceeded disk quota or hard disk capacity.

SolFilePrefix *string*

Specifies the basename for solution files to be written to the directory RestartBaseDir.

SolverMaxIt_burg *integer value*

Sets an upper limit for the number of iterations performed by the coarse grid solver used in multigrid to solve linearised Burgers equations.

SolverMaxIt_press *integer value*

Sets an upper limit for the number of iterations performed by the coarse grid solver used in multigrid to solve Pressure Poisson equations.

SolverType_press *integer value*

Controls which solver scheme is used to solve Pressure Poisson equations.

1 means ordinary multigrid method, 2 utilises CG method with exactly one iteration of additive multigrid method as preconditioning step, 3 stands for CG method with multiplicative multigrid preconditioner.

For low degrees of parallelism you will hardly notice significant run time differences from either setting. The performance depends on the mean aspect ratio of your grid as well as the number of processors. Best results are generally achieved with multiplicative preconditioned CG method.

Solver_burg *integer value*

Specifies the solver scheme to be used on the coarse grid when solving linearised Burgers equations with multigrid method.

1 means Jacobi method, 2 will utilise SOR method, 3 stands for ILU method, 4 will invoke CG method with ILU pre-conditioning.

Solver_press *integer value*

Specifies the solver scheme to be used on the coarse grid when solving Pressure Poisson equations.

1 means Jacobi method, 2 will utilise SOR method, 3 stands for ILU method, 4 will invoke CG method with ILU pre-conditioning.

TEnd *float value*

Specifies the endpoint in time.

Conjointly with EpsNS and MaxTimeIterations this option controls when to end the program.

TestLoops *integer value*

The number of configuration sets within the current file.

Most data processing centers give access to their parallel computing facilities via a queuing mechanism. You have to enqueue your job, specifying the minimum and/or maximum resources your job will need. Depending on attendant circumstances you will have to wait hours or days before your job is given the permission to run.

By increasing TestLoops you will be able to test different configurations within a single enqueued job. This comes in quite handy whenever you are investigating the influence of varying settings for smoothings steps or stop criterions.

TInitPhase *float value*

Specifies the duration of the start phase.

Due to the projection method we apply, the solution of the Navier-Stokes equation gained is not accurate for the very first time steps. A small initialisation phase, a start phase, is needed in order to tune the flow. During this phase, a weaker time error limit can and usually will be used.

TStepControlITE *integer value*

Gives the number of (macro) time steps which have to be performed before adaptive time step control is invoked.

UpSam *float value*

Specifies the parameter α for weighted Samarskij-Upwinding.

The value usually ranges between 0.1 and 2, see page 10 in [3] or [9].

4 Creating a 3D grid file

The geometry and a first coarse triangulation of the domain is prescribed by a grid file. This file contains the coordinates of all coarse grid's (inner and boundary) nodes and the manner in which they are connected to form hexahedrons which triangulate the domain.

In case of curved surfaces the grid file will only contain a rough polynomial approximation of this surface, though (see remark 1). Up to now, there is no convenient way to create 3D grid files directly, e.g. there is no tool to transform given CAD information into a grid file in FEATFLOW format.⁹

One option is to create a grid file manually (from scratch). This will require a reasonable amount of time and spatial imagination. You will have to determine all nodes and their interconnection. The complexity to perform such a job manually is not merely trivial and will limit the spectrum of domains to rather simple cases, e.g. domains of (unit) cube or channel type, possibly with additional obstacles in the interior of these types.

The second option you have is to extrude a given 2D grid file, i.e. create multiple copies of the 2D grid file, arrange them in layers with differing coordinates with respect to the third dimension and triangulate neighbouring layers (see figure 2). Most likely, this will be your usual way to create a 3D grid file. The 2D grid file has to be created using a conventional grid generator like GiD [5] and exported or converted into FEATFLOW's twodimensional grid format [1] (parametrisation file plus triangulation file). For the extrusion process you will then rely on a small tool from the FEATFLOW package called *tr2to3*. See [4] or [11] for documentation on the use of *tr2to3*.

Both possibilities to create a 3D grid are explained in full detail in [4].

Remark 1: Usually, curved surfaces within your domain are merely approximated in a very rough way by the coarse grid triangulation. The grid refinement algorithm uses the idea of bisection and refines a given grid uniformly. Without additional (hard-coded) node adjustments refined grids will not resolve more details of your geometry than the coarse grid.

So, in case of curved surfaces node adjustments or, to state it more precisely, boundary projections are necessary. How to do this is explained in section 6.

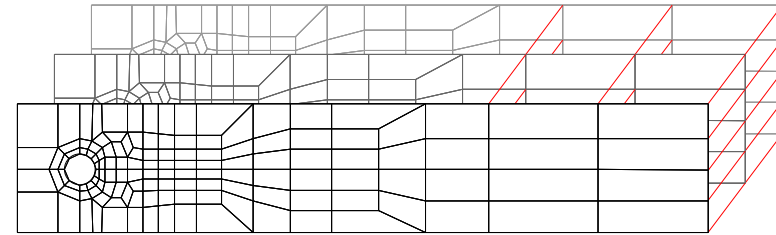


Figure 2: Creating a 3D mesh via extrusion

Remark 2: Most of the time, a postprocessing step is needed if you have created a 3D grid with *tr2to3*. Most coordinates within the grid are exported by *tr2to3* in floating point notation. Unfortunately, in Fortran – the programming language *tr2to3* is written in – there are two manners to code numbers in floating point notation: with a capital 'E' (for exponent) or 'D' (for exponent with double precision). All sequential programs from the FEATFLOW package are written in Fortran. Thus, they can handle grid files both with 'D' or 'E' syntax. *parpp3d++* is written in C++ and C++, or more precisely my parser routine, can't handle the 'D' syntax.

This means, if you create a 3D grid with FEATFLOW's *tr2to3*, you will have to open it with your favourite editor and perform a global search and replace operation on all capital 'D' to turn them into 'E' (turning '2.50D0' into '2.50E0').

⁹All programs from the FEATFLOW package, including *parpp3d++* use this grid format.

5 Prescription of inflow and boundary conditions

So far, we have gone through the first four of those six steps listed at the beginning of chapter 3 that are necessary to set up *parpp3d++* for a new simulation. Next on our itinerary is how to prescribe inflow velocities and profiles and how to distinguish between Dirichlet and Neumann boundaries.

5.1 Prescription of inflow

All those forces that propel the flow, whether it be a tangential force at a boundary surface like, for instance, a lid-driven cavity flow or a configuration with a distinct inflow and outflow boundary with a medium running through the domain, are prescribed in a method called `Solution` of class `ParGrid` in the file named `Bound.cc` in the main directory of *parpp3d++*.

The method takes four (floating point number) arguments, the three coordinate values of a (velocity) node as well as the current simulated point in time. Freshly extracted from the distribution tarball, it consists of several dozens of code lines. But this is just because of eight different configurations already been set up. These can be used as a starting point to become familiar with the program and the manner in which inflow is prescribed. In fact, the method consists merely of a single if-clause to distinguish between the three (spatial) components of the inflow profile¹⁰: inflow in x-, y- and z-direction. The x component is handled first, the y component second and finally the z component. Comment lines within the code clearly indicate each section.

Within each section there is a switch-case-environment to determine inflows for different configurations. It is quite convenient to have, once compiled, a single binary that contains all your recent configurations ready-to-run and be able to switch between them by changing an option in a parameter file (see description of `FUNC`, page 7). Besides, it happens rather often that the inflow pattern of a new configuration is very similar to one of the already set up inflows and hardly needs more than a copy-and-paste operation.

To add a new configuration insert an additional case statement, calculate the inflow velocity depending on the point in space and time and return this value. Let us assume you want to have inflow in x direction with a mean velocity of 1, a parabolic profile and no inflow in the remaining spatial

components. Furthermore, the width and height of the inflow surface (y- and z-direction) is assumed to be 1. Then, the inflow function looks like

$$U(0, y, z, t) = 16yz(1 - y)(1 - z), \quad V = W = 0$$

The following minimum definition of `ParGrid::Solution` is sufficient:

```
double ParGrid::Solution(double X, double Y, double Z, double T)
{
    if (CoeffRhs == COEFF_RHSV1 || CoeffRhs == COEFF_L2V1) {
        // Prescribe inflow in x direction
        if (X < 1e-8) // no (X==0) if you can help it!
                    // think of rounding errors
            return 16.0 * Y * (1-Y) * Z * (1-Z);
    }
    return 0.0;
}
```

5.2 Prescription of boundary conditions

Boundary conditions are defined in the same file as inflow conditions and, as with those, the definition is based on coordinates. You can choose to keep the boundary conditions for all of your configurations in a single file, too. Just activate one of them by specifying the appropriate value for `FUNC` (see page 7) in your parameter file.

So, in your sample file `Bound.cc` from the distribution tarball you will find a method called `SquareGrid_3D::BoundaryCondition`. It takes an unsigned integer as a flag for the boundary conditions to apply (same value as `FUNC`) as well as four floating point numbers (three coordinates plus point in time) as arguments. Return value is an integer which indicates whether a node (given by its coordinates) belongs for a given point in time to a Dirichlet (1) or Neumann (0) boundary.

Example: Let us start with the simplest possible case: a box of arbitrary width and height, but fixed length of 1. It does not matter here where the actual inflow (sub-)surface is located, just assume that the outflow surface will be the rear end of the box, at $x=1$. Then, the following definition will do:

¹⁰Time dependency is treated in each of the spatial branches.


```

int SquareGrid_3D::BoundaryCondition(unsigned int Func, double X,
                                     double Y, double Z, double T)
{
    const int neumann = 0;
    const int dirichlet = 1;
    double dist = 0.001;
    if (X > 1.0 - dist) // avoid '==' statements with coordinates
        return neumann;
    return dirichlet;
}

```

One marginal note on this definition: Any obstacle in the interior of the domain (which, as an obstacle, has obviously Dirichlet boundary condition) is implicitly treated already! You are free, though, to explicitly define boundary conditions for them, too. Have a look at the definition of boundary conditions for the DFG Benchmark 3D-2Z configuration (Func = 5), for instance, which consists of a channel flow around a cylinder.

6 Boundary projection

Apart from the creation process of a coarse grid and, sometimes, finding optimal run-time parameters for a configuration¹¹, boundary projections is the most annoying part of preparing the code for a new simulation. As mentioned earlier, the coarse grid not always already resolves all details of a given geometry. Especially in the case of curved structures within a domain, special precautions have to be taken to guarantee that refined grids approximate a given geometry more thoroughly. This is done by defining an algorithm that projects boundary points (within your grid) to the real boundary (of your domain). To explain the mechanism, let us examine the boundary projections for one of the sample configurations *parpp3d++* ships with: a small device used in chemical engineering to mix different species. The domain consists of a stretched hexagon, extruded in z-direction and additional cylinders at the left and right end. In the interior, nine cylindrical obstacles are to be found (see figure 3). The coarse grid used (Grids/BMBF_CE/9shifted.round.tri) approximates all of these curved surfaces polygonally (see figure 4).

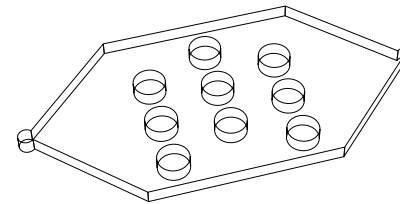


Figure 3: Prototypical device used in chemical engineering

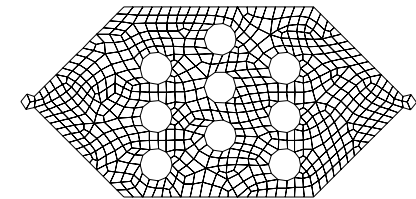


Figure 4: Coarse grid of the geometry (2D cutplane view)

More or less cylindrical structures are created using the definition of the method `Task::BoundaryProjection` listed below which takes no arguments and is called only once for every grid refinement level during the initialising phase of *parpp3d++*. In fact, nothing else is done but defining the midpoint and radius of each cylinder and assuring that each boundary point resides on the edge of its corresponding cylinder. (In this listing, the code lines that actually perform the projection have been omitted for the inner cylinders 2 to 9. They are identical to the projection used for the upper cylinder in the first column.)

¹¹In the meaning of resulting in fastest run times.


```

void Task::BoundaryProjection()
{
    int    INPR, IEL;
    double PX, PY, PZ, PXM, PYM, RAD;
    double DISTXY = 0;

    for (int IVT=1; IVT <= NumVertices; IVT++) {
        INPR=(*InfoVertEdge)(IVT);
        // 0: inner point
        // >0: point on boundary component with this very number

        if (INPR != 0) {
            // For all boundary points ...
            IEL = (*ElemVert)(3,IVT);
            PX = (*VertCoord)(1,IVT);
            PY = (*VertCoord)(2,IVT);
            PZ = (*VertCoord)(3,IVT);

            // left cylindrical inflow area
            PXM = -2.952;
            PYM = 2.952;
            RAD = 0.25;
            DISTXY = sqrt( pow(PX-PXM, 2) + pow(PY-PYM, 2) );
            if (fabs(PZ - 0) > 1e-3    && fabs(PZ - 0.1) > 1e-3    &&
                PX <= -2.77522 && fabs(PY - 2.952) <= 0.25 &&
                DISTXY <= RAD) {
                (*VertCoord)(1, IVT) = PXM + RAD/DISTXY * (PX-PXM);
                (*VertCoord)(2, IVT) = PYM + RAD/DISTXY * (PY-PYM);
            }

            if ((fabs(PZ - 0) <= 1e-3    || fabs(PZ - 0.1) <= 1e-3) &&
                PX <= -2.77522 && fabs(PY - 2.952) <= 0.25 &&
                DISTXY <= RAD    && IEL == 0) {
                (*VertCoord)(1, IVT) = PXM + RAD/DISTXY * (PX-PXM);
                (*VertCoord)(2, IVT) = PYM + RAD/DISTXY * (PY-PYM);
            }

            // Upper hole, 1st column
            PXM = 1.0;
            PYM = 4.0;
            RAD = 0.5;
            DISTXY = sqrt( pow(PX-PXM, 2) + pow(PY-PYM, 2) );
            if (fabs(PZ - 0) > 1e-3    && fabs(PZ - 0.1) > 1e-3    &&
                fabs(PX - PXM) <= 1.5 * RAD && fabs(PY - PYM) <= 1.5 * RAD &&
                DISTXY <= RAD) {
                (*VertCoord)(1, IVT) = PXM + RAD/DISTXY * (PX-PXM);
                (*VertCoord)(2, IVT) = PYM + RAD/DISTXY * (PY-PYM);
            }

            if ((fabs(PZ - 0) <= 1e-3    || fabs(PZ - 0.1) <= 1e-3)    &&
                fabs(PX - PXM) <= 1.5 * RAD && fabs(PY - PYM) <= 1.5 * RAD &&
                DISTXY <= RAD    && IEL == 0) {
                (*VertCoord)(1, IVT) = PXM + RAD/DISTXY * (PX-PXM);
                (*VertCoord)(2, IVT) = PYM + RAD/DISTXY * (PY-PYM);
            }

            // mid hole, 1st column
            PXM = 1.0;
            PYM = 2.5;
            RAD = 0.5;
            [...]

            // lower hole, 1st column
            PXM = 1.0;
            PYM = 1.0;
            RAD = 0.5;
            [...]

            // Upper hole, 2nd column
            PXM = 3.0;
            PYM = 4.904;
            RAD = 0.5;
            [...]

            // mid hole, 2nd column
            PXM = 3.0;
            PYM = 3.404;
            RAD = 0.5;
            [...]

            // lower hole, 2nd column
            PXM = 3.0;
            PYM = 1.904;
            RAD = 0.5;
            [...]

            // Upper hole, 3rd column
            PXM = 5.0;
            PYM = 4.0;
            RAD = 0.5;
            [...]

            // mid hole, 3rd column
            PXM = 5.0;
            PYM = 2.5;
            RAD = 0.5;
            [...]

            // lower hole, 3rd column
            PXM = 5.0;
        }
    }
}

```

```

PYM = 1.0;
RAD = 0.5;
[...]

// right cylindrical outflow area
PXM = 8.856;
PYM = 2.952;
RAD = 0.25;
DISTXY = sqrt( pow(PX-PXM, 2) + pow(PY-PYM, 2) );
if (fabs(PZ - 0) > 1e-3      && fabs(PZ - 0.1) > 1e-3 &&
    PX >= 8.67922      && fabs(PY - 2.952) <= 0.25 &&
        DISTXY <= RAD) {
    (*VertCoord)(1, IVT) = PXM + RAD/DISTXY * (PX-PXM);
    (*VertCoord)(2, IVT) = PYM + RAD/DISTXY * (PY-PYM);
}

if ((fabs(PZ - 0) <= 1e-3      || fabs(PZ - 0.1) <= 1e-3) &&
    PX >= 8.67922      && fabs(PY - 2.952) <= 0.25 &&
        DISTXY <= RAD      && IEL == 0) {
    (*VertCoord)(1, IVT) = PXM + RAD/DISTXY * (PX-PXM);
    (*VertCoord)(2, IVT) = PYM + RAD/DISTXY * (PY-PYM);
}
} // end if INPR condition
} // end for IVT-loop
return;
}

```

7 Scattered code changes

Chapter 5 and 6 dealt with changes to the code that are mandatory for every new configuration. Let us now have a closer look at more voluntary exercises.

7.1 Changes to parser routine for parameter files

The file `CProcessApp.cc` in the main directory of *parpp3d++* contains a method called `CProcessApp::ReadData`. This method is a parser routine for parameter files. If you add a new configuration, you should add a new case statement within the first `switch` environment. For the user's convenience, the number this configuration has been assigned to (see option `FUNC`, page 7) and that is used internally by *parpp3d++* can be mapped here to whatever descriptive text you like. For an example investigate the line starting with "type of hand-coded simulation" in the head section of the sample output file of *parpp3d++* in figure 5.

7.2 Different solver routines for mixed and pure boundary conditions

In most cases, there exists a distinct inflow and an outflow area within your geometry. So, the emerging velocity problem has mixed boundary conditions. This is the normal case. If there is no flow through the geometry, however, the velocity problem bears pure Dirichlet boundary conditions (a driven cavity for instance, pre-set up configuration no. 3). The pressure is not uniquely defined, then – only up to a constant. In order to come to a properly defined problem in such a case, the mean value of the pressure at the outflow boundary is set to zero.

A simple `switch` statement in the methods `Task::Chorin`, `Task::Fractional` and `Task::CrankNicolson` (file `TimeStep.cc`) selects the solver routines depending on the configuration number `FUNC`. Add a new case for your configuration where appropriate.

7.3 Calculation of drag and lift values

There may be cases where there are some obstacles within the geometry and you might want to calculate drag and lift values for them. This has already been done with *parpp3d++* before, so you do not have to start from scratch for getting this feature.

The procedure is as follows: Edit the method `Task::SetDragLiftInfo` in `Bound.cc` and pinpoint those faces that make up the obstacle. As with inflow prescription and boundary projections a coordinate-oriented approach is used. Three configurations are already set up. Each of these uses a minimal hexahedral box surrounding the obstacle. The computed solution for those boundary faces that lay inside this box will be drawn on to calculate drag and lift values in each time step.

If only drag and lift values for one obstacle are of interest, all that is left to do is printing the calculated values. Modify the section dealing with the printing of drag and lift values in method `Task::DiscreteProjection`, to be found in the file `TimeStep.cc`.

If there is more than one obstacle and you want drag and lift values to be calculated for all of them, you need to introduce new data structures (of the same type as `MDragBound [MaxLevel]` and `MElemDragBound [MaxLevel]` and an additional counter (`NumDragBound`) for every obstacle. Scrutinize the code lines for the channel configuration with two consecutive cylinders in method `Task::SetCoeffInfo` in file `Bound.cc` and use them as a guideline.

8 Output files

8.1 Statistical output files

During a normal program run quite a few output files are generated. There will be at least a set of files containing statistics about the calculations being performed. Each of the parallel processes has its own output file. Their file names are created according to the following rules: They will consist of the program's file name followed by a ".out.p###". Herein, the '#' will be replaced by the process numbers, possibly prepended by zeros. So, a 4-node-run with *parpp3d++* will lead to output files named `parpp3d++.out.p000`, `parpp3d++.out.p001`, `parpp3d++.out.p002`, `parpp3d++.out.p003`. Each of them will list the options from the parameter file. Further, each will contain the number of elements, vertices and faces on each grid refinement level the corresponding process has been assigned by the partitioning algorithm. Progress and timing statistics about the assemblation of all matrices needed are included, too. As soon as the initialisation phase has been completed, all but the first process cease printing statistics. Only `parpp3d++.out.p000` shows from this point on information on the program's progress. Figure 5 contains a sample listing:

```
-----
SIMULATION No.1
-----
INPUT DATA SECTION
-----
number of parallel processes      : 4
type of hard-coded simulation    : project chemical engineering
coarse grid file                 : Grids/BMBF_CE/9shifted.round.tri
-----
base directory for restart files : ./comp/
write restart file every         : 10 iteration(s)
number of restart files to keep  : 3
prefix restart files             : 9shifted.round.lev3
partition information is         : created by 3rd party library <party>
base directory for partition files : ./comp/
partition file                    : 9shifted.round.procs4
-----
viscosity parameter nu, given in 1/nu: 100.0
maximum mg-level                 : 3
element type                      : non-parametric, mean value,
                                   rotated tri-linear finite element
boundary condition                : 1
cubature formula for matrix assembl. : 7
cubature formula for right hand side : 7
enable mass matrix lumping        : yes
method of stabilisation            : upwind
samarski upwind parameter         : 1.00
parameter for velocity computation
- min. number of fixpoint iterations : 1
- max. number of fixpoint iterations : 2
- value for opt. omega               : 1.0
```

(continued on next page)

Figure 5: Sample output file of *parpp3d++*

```

- min. number of multigrid/cg steps : 1
- max. number of multigrid/cg steps : 5
- limit for changes : 1.00e-01
- limit for defects : 1.00e-06
- limit for defect improvement : 1.00e-01
- lower limit for opt. alpha : -1.0
- upper limit for opt. alpha : 1.0
- number of pre-smoothing steps : 2
- number of post-smoothing steps : 2
- smoother used : ilu
- omega for smoother : 8.00e-01
- coarse grid solver used : cg
- max. iterations coarse grid solver : 250
- multigrid cycle used : f-cycle
parameter for pressure computation
- min. number of multigrid/cg steps : 2
- max. number of multigrid/cg steps : 25
- limit for changes : 1.00e+10
- limit for divergence of velocity : 1.00e-10
- limit for defect improvement : 1.00e-01
- lower limit for opt. alpha : 0.0
- upper limit for opt. alpha : 1.0
- number of pre-smoothing steps : 8
- number of post-smoothing steps : 8
- smoother used : ilu
- omega for smoother : 8.00e-01
- solver scheme used : cg method preconditioned with one
multiplicative multigrid step
- coarse grid solver used : cg
- max. iterations coarse grid solver : 150
- multigrid cycle used : f-cycle
- pressure prolongation is performed : linear
-----
projection scheme used : Van Kan with 4 initial Chorin steps
number of time iterations : 1
simulation length : 25.00 sec
lower limit for time derivate : 2.00e-04
time step to start with : 8.33e-04 sec
iterations between time step control : 1
minimum time step : 1.00e-06 sec
maximum time step : 1.00e+00 sec
duration of starting time : 0.10 sec
accuracy for acceptance in start : 1.00e-03
accuracy for acceptance after start : 1.00e-04
-----
base directory for output files : ./postprocess/
write solution in avs format : no
write solution in gmw format : no
-----
OUTPUT DATA SECTION
-----
Reading grid file from disk. Done.
Computing partition information. Done.
Writing partition information to disk. Done.

Information on the grid process no. 0 uses in multi grid:

level | #elements | #vertices | #faces
-----+-----+-----+-----
1 | 188 | 360 | 708
2 | 1504 | 2135 | 5088
3 | 12032 | 14445 | 38400

Time needed for grid refining: 0h 00m 01.6s
Time needed for pure refining: 0h 00m 00.6s

Assembling laplace matrix. Done.
Assembling mass matrix. Done.
Calculating projection matrix. Done.

Time needed for assembling matrices: 8.92576s

```

(continued on next page)

Figure 6: Sample output file of parpp3d++ (continued)

```

Calculating anisotropy degree:
level | ar_max | sv_max | kv_max | ar_mean | sv_mean | kv_mean
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
1 | 1.39e+01 | 3.04e+00 | 3.04e+00 | 7.77e+00 | 1.21e+00 | 1.11e+00
2 | 1.41e+01 | 1.91e+00 | 1.91e+00 | 7.84e+00 | 1.09e+00 | 1.05e+00
3 | 1.44e+01 | 1.41e+00 | 1.41e+00 | 7.86e+00 | 1.04e+00 | 1.02e+00

Calculating anisotropy variation (while calculating volumes):
level | av_max | av_min | av_mean
-----+-----+-----+-----
1 | 3.15e+00 | 1.00e+00 | 1.31e+00
2 | 3.09e+00 | 1.00e+00 | 1.16e+00
3 | 3.06e+00 | 1.00e+00 | 1.08e+00

Creating structures containing information about
Dirichlet, Neumann and artificial boundaries. Done.

Degrees of freedom for
* burgers equation : 451488
* pressure poisson equation : 47360
Total number of unknowns in space: 498848

Elapsed computing time: 0h 00m 15.9s

Computing progress:
* Time iteration no. 1 at 0.000833333 sec:
Performing step with Chorin method.
Current macro time step: 8.3333e-04
it. | relative change | defect in velocity | conv.rate in multigrid | mg-steps | nonlinear
| u1 u2 u3 | u1 u2 u3 | u1 u2 u3 | u1 u2 u3 | conv.rate
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
1 | 0.00e+00 0.00e+00 3.53e-01 | 0.00e+00 0.00e+00 2.46e-07 | 0.00e+00 0.00e+00 1.03e-04 | 1 1 1 | 9.31e-02
(Stop criterion for burgers equation has been fulfilled.)

Time needed for solving burgers equation: 0h 00m 17.4s

Projection step using cg method preconditioned with 1 multiplicative multigrid step:
divergence (12) | conv.rate in mg | mg-steps
-----+-----+-----
5.53e-11 | 4.01e-01 | 16
(Stop criterion for pressure poisson equation has been fulfilled.)

Time needed for solving pressure poisson equation: 0h 00m 13.4s
Time needed for current time step: 0h 00m 30.9s

Time needed for current macro time step: 0h 00m 30.9s

Time derivate of u (l2norm, problem size scaled): 4.6310e+02

Writing solution (in raw format for restart purposes) to disk. Done.

Elapsed simulated time: 0h 00m 00.0s ( 8.3333e-04s)
Elapsed computing time: 0h 00m 47.2s
-----
Time statistics:
=====
Computational time so far: 0h 00m 47.2s

Time needed to solve the non-linear momentum and the pressure poisson problem:
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
| cpu time | % of time solving equations | % of total time
momentum equations | 0h 00m 17.4s | 56.53 % | 36.92 %
pressure poisson equations | 0h 00m 13.4s | 43.47 % | 28.40 %

```

(continued on next page)

Figure 7: Sample output file of parpp3d++ (continued)

```

Time distribution during this computation:
-----
| total time | comm. time
-----
grid refining      | 0h 00m 00.6s | 0.00 %
matrix assemblation | 0h 00m 22.2s | 0.00 %
equation solving   | 0h 00m 17.1s | n.a.
other (i/o etc.)  | 0h 00m 07.1s |
-----
matrix-vector multipl. | 0h 00m 09.6s | 76.04 %
computing norms    | 0h 00m 00.5s | 22.36 %
-----
smoothing         | 0h 00m 11.1s | 19.32 %
computing defects | 0h 00m 02.0s | 66.31 %
restriction       | 0h 00m 00.0s | 47.99 %
prolongation      | 0h 00m 00.2s | 6.37 %
solve coarse problem | 0h 00m 00.0s | 17.57 %
-----
SIMULATION No.1 COMPLETED
-----

```

Figure 8: Sample output file of *parpp3d++* (continued)

8.2 Restart solution files

At the end of each program run *parpp3d++* automatically stores restart information on your hard disk. Additionally, every few time steps intermediate restart information is saved as well. You can control this frequency by setting `SOLFILEFREQUENCY` accordingly.

Each process creates a file where that part of the velocity and pressure solution¹² is stored that resides in the memory space of this process. That means, **restart information can only be successfully used** (for a continuation on the same grid refinement level or a restart on a one level finer grid) **if the same partitioning is guaranteed!**¹³

The restart solution file names are created according to the following rule: They will consist of the string given as `SOLFILEPREFIX` in the parameter file followed by a `".r#.p###.sol"`. The first `'#'` represents the counter for restart solution files. This counter is incremented every `SOLFILEFREQUENCY` (macro) time steps, modulo the value given as `SOLFILENUMBER`.

The trailing three `'#'` are replaced by the process number, possibly prepended by zeros – as with the statistical output files.

¹²Plus point in time and current time step information.

¹³This is the reason why partitioning information is always stored to a file.

It has to be stated here, though, that partitions for a fixed number of processes are always identical, if created by the third party library METIS. This, however, holds not for PARTY partitions. The algorithm seems not deterministic, resulting in more or less different partitions at each invocation.

If you want to actually restart from a set of restart solution files – let us assume they are named `restart.lev2.r2.p###.sol` – then just set `RESTARTSOLFILE` to `restart.lev2.r2`. The program will determine the correct names for each process.

8.3 Visualisation output files

Finally, *parpp3d++* can produce output to be used in a postprocessing step as input data for a visualisation program. *parpp3d++* ships with standard support for the data formats of AVS [2] and GMV [7]. Considering the huge amounts of disk space that can easily be consumed by exporting visualisation data, *parpp3d++* does not export any by default. Unless `AVSOUTPUTLEVEL` or `GMVOUTPUTLEVEL` is set to a value greater than zero, no output file in AVS or GMV format, respectively, is created.

If you have opted for any of these two formats (by setting `AVSOUTPUTLEVEL` or `GMVOUTPUTLEVEL` to a positive integer), a set of output files is created every `DTAVS` or `DTGMV` seconds, respectively. This time difference, however, is not strictly kept. It is just a lower limit for the creation of visualisation output files. The reason is quite simple: A typical time-dependent 3D flow simulation requires (at a typical problem size of 10^6 - 10^8 unknowns) at least a hundred, if not several hundred time steps. To not waste any resources, time steps are chosen adaptively and are increased to the limit while maintaining numerical accuracy.¹⁴ As soon as the simulated time exceeds the time difference limit stated by `DTAVS` or `DTGMV`, respectively, the next set of visualisation output files is generated.

What does this mean, a set of visualisation output files? Is there no single visualisation output file for each point in time? No, there is not! On most supercomputers, computing time is limited (mostly, to several hours of continuously running a program). Transferring all data to a single process and subsequently exporting it to a single file (in each time step) would leave most of the processes idle for an unreasonable amount of time. Instead each process writes his part of the solution to the (local) hard disk – as with statistics and restart solution files.

The merging of the visualisation output files is done in a postprocessing step. Two command line tools ship with *parpp3d++* that will do the

¹⁴In order to accomplish this, implicit time stepping schemes are used. These allow larger time steps than explicit schemes at the same numerical accuracy. (The price are systems of (non-)linear equations which are more difficult to solve.)

job: `mergeavsfiles` and `mergegmfiles` (residing in a subdirectory called `Tools`.) Both are quite simple programs that only require a C++ compiler with STL support – very much the same requirements as for `parpp3d++`. You should be able to compile them with minor changes to the Makefile, if any.

The syntax of both program's invocation is identical. The first argument is the base name of a set of visualisation output files. If you have a set of files named `unitcube.t###.p###.avs` just specify `unitcube`.

As second argument they take the starting t-number of your sequence, i.e. the number behind the `.t` and before `.p` of a valid set of files. In most cases this will be 1.¹⁵

The third argument is the number of different time steps and the last argument tells the number of processes you have used, i.e. the number of fragments an output file consists of after a program run of `parpp3d++`.

Example: You have done a 4-node-run which ended up in visualisation output files at 10 different times:

```
unitcube.t001.p000.gmv, ... unitcube.t001.p003.gmv,
      ⋮
unitcube.t010.p000.gmv, ... unitcube.t010.p003.gmv
```

To merge these files, invoke the following:

```
% mergegmfiles unitcube 1 10 4
```

A sequence of files called `unitcube.t001.gmv`, ..., `unitcube.t010.gmv` will be generated. The input files can then be safely removed.

(Visualisation output files in AVS format are treated in the same way.)

¹⁵You can start at an arbitrary number of your sequence. Even traversing your sequence reversely is possible.

9 Known bugs

9.1 Not simply connected partitions

`parpp3d++` needs simply connected partitions, i.e. if you select two arbitrary elements that have been assigned to the same process, there must always exist a sequence of face-neighbouring elements in between that all reside on the same process.

If the degree of parallelism is very high or, alternatively, the coarse grid consists only of very few elements such that the number of elements that is assigned to each process adds up to 5–6 or less, then there is a (moderate) risk that METIS [6] partitions will **not** be **simply connected**. You will notice some weird convergence problems when `parpp3d++` tries to solve the Burgers problem of the first time step or possibly a dead lock of the program. Use a PARTy [8] partition instead in these cases.

9.2 More cases of inappropriate partitions

Closely connected is another problem with some partitions. Parallel jobs with more than 64 processes may show similar convergence problems when solving Burgers equations. Possibly, you will not encounter any problems within the first few time steps, but, suddenly, (in fact with slightly increasing time step) the linearised subproblems of Burgers type will diverge. In these cases, the coarse grid features too high aspect ratios. It will depend on the partition (mainly the degree of decomposition, i.e. the number of parallel processes, but even on the specific manner of dividing the coarse grid into parallel blocks of elements) whether the core components of the solver engine, namely multi grid's smoothing algorithm and the coarse grid's problem solver, will or will not be able to handle the high aspect ratios. Use better shaped elements instead or experiment with different partitions and varying degree of parallelism in these cases.

9.3 Disadvantage of triangulations with high aspect ratios

Grids with a high mean aspect ratio¹⁶ have additional disadvantages. Not only is there a chance that the partitioning libraries PARTY and METIS will return partitions that are inappropriate for *parpp3d++* (see previous section). Moreover, the multigrid methods used to solve the differing subproblems of high dimensional systems of linear equations highly depend on the “smoothing property” of the iterative solvers that are applied internally. These solvers of blocksolving type do not appreciate high aspect ratios. With increasing degree of parallelism the iteration counter with deflect more and more before a given accuracy for the solution is reached. Especially the solver engine for Pressure Poisson equations reacts very sensitively on an increasing amount of “distorted” elements [3]. Stepping from one to 64 processes, for instance, can lead to 5-10 times more mean iteration steps solving the Pressure Poisson equations. Because this part of the simulation accounts for at least half of overall run times, this effect has a significant influence on run times. The numerical deterioration of the solving algorithm with increasing number of parallel processes gives unpleasant parallel efficiencies and gets worse the higher mean aspect ratios are.

So, if possible avoid grids with mean aspect ratios higher than 15–20.

10 Migrating from *pp3d*

10.1 Equivalent options in parameter files

For those users who are familiar with the sequential programs from the FEAT-FLOW package and the abbreviated keywords used in their parameter files we supply the (conversion) table 2.

<i>pp3d</i>	<i>parpp3d++</i>
AMAXP	AMaxP
AMAXU	AMaxU
AMINP	AMinP
AMINU	AMinU
CMESH	GridFile
CSTART	RestartSolFile
DMPPMG	DampPMG
DMPUD	DampUMG
DTAVS	DtAVS
DTGMV	DtGMV
DTMAX	DtMax
DTMIN	DtMin
EPSADI	EPSADI
EPSADL	EPSADL
EPSNS	EpsNS
EPSP	EpsDivergence
EPSUD	EpsUDefect
EPSUR	EpsUChange
IAVS	AVSOutputLevel
ICYCP	Cycle_press
ICYCU	Cycle_burg
IGMV	GMVOutputLevel
ILMAXP	MaxItP
ILMAXU	MaxItU
ILMINP	MinItP
ILMINU	MinItU
IMASS	Lump

continued on next page

¹⁶The ratio of element height to width or breadth, respectively.

<i>pp3d</i>	<i>parpp3d++</i>
INLMAX	MaxFixpltU
INLMIN	MinFixpltU
INSAV	SolFileFrequency
INSAVN	SolFileNumber
ISLP	Solver_press
ISLU	Solver_burg
ISMV	Smoother_press
ISMU	Smoother_burg
NITNS	MaxTimeIterations
NLMAX	NFine
NSLP	SolverMaxIt_press
NSLU	SolverMaxIt_burg
NSMP	PreSteps_press / PostSteps_press
NSMU	PreSteps_burg / PostSteps_burg
OMGINI	OmgIni
RE	EpsEqu
RLXSMP	MGOmega_press
RLXSMU	MGOmega_burg
TIMEIN	TInitPhase
TIMEMX	TEnd
TSTEP	DtStart
UPSAM	UpSam

Table 2: Equivalent options in parameter files of *pp3d* and *parpp3d++*

Remark: The relaxation parameters for the iterative solvers used when dealing with the coarse grid problem (RLXSLU and RLXSLP in FEATFLOW syntax) are hard-coded within the methods `CCoarseGrid::SolveExact` and `CCoarseGrid::SolveConstExact`, respectively.

10.2 Changes to coarse grid file

pp3d and *parpp3d++* can handle the same coarse grid files - with one exception: If any floating point number within a coarse grid file is given in floating point notation, make sure you use only an 'E' for the exponent. Fortran can handle a 'D' as well (which stands for double precision), C++ or more precisely my parser routine can't (as already stated in remark 2 on page 11). So instead of '2.50D0', please use '2.50E0'.

This means, if you create a 3D grid with FEATFLOW's *tr2to3*, you will have to open it with your favourite editor and perform a global search and replace operation on all capital 'D' to turn them into 'E'.

10.3 indat3d.f and parq3d.f

In *pp3d* inflow and boundary conditions are prescribed in the files *indat3d.f* and *parq3d.f*. As explained in chapter 5 and 6 these necessary code adjustments have been merged within the file *Bound.cc* in *parpp3d++*.

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Index

- aspect ratio, 19
 - disadvantages, 20
- AVS, 5, 6
- GMV, 6, 7
- grid file, 3
 - differences with respect to pp3d, 21
- grid generation, 11
- installation, 2
- invocation, 3
- makefile
 - Makefile.in, 2
 - predefined settings, 1
 - settings, 2
- mergeavsfiles, 19
- mergegmvfiles, 19
- METIS, 8, 9, 18–20
- parameter file
 - equivalent options to pp3d, 20
 - reference list of key words, 5
 - syntax, 3
- partitioning, 8, 19
 - algorithms, 8
 - METIS, 8
 - PARTy, 8
 - possible problems, 19
- PARTy, 8, 9, 18–20
- pp3d, 20
 - changes, 20
 - equivalent parameters, 20
 - migrating from, 20
- prerequisites, 1
- program invocation, 3
- restart, 9, 18
 - files, 9

supported platforms, 1

tr2to3, 11, 21

triangulation file, 3

 differences with respect to pp3d, 21

visualisation

 output files, 18

 with AVS Express, 5, 6

 with GMV, 6, 7