

Efficient handling of CFD results through compression

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physics on screen

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• Increase in computing power density – models of several hundred million elements

• DES simulations – files require several hundred gigabytes

• Enormous file sizes render model manipulation a real challenge



- META allows results compression in native metadb format
 - Smaller file sizes
 - Faster loading times
 - > No loss of detail

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- META allows results compression in native metadb format
 - Smaller file sizes
 - Faster loading times
 - > No loss of detail
- Fully customizable options
- Smaller storage requirements and easier file sharing

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Case characteristics

- DrivAer model of TU Munich, DES in OpenFOAM
- 2.5 million shells 37 million solids



• Geometry and results (7 total – binary uncompressed): 8.5 GB

Geometry loading time	0:00:35
Results loading time	0:02:08
Additional results calculation time	0:07:50
Total time	0:10:33

Total RAM after loading: 14.23 GB

• Case provided by FORD USA

Compression options

- Uncompressed Reference case
- Lossless No loss in accuracy (gz compression)
- Lossy Reduced accuracy controlled as:
 - Percentage
 - Percentage with Sets Different compression level on Sets of PIDs/Parts

Percentage and solids Simplification – Mesh coarsened



▶ Round off |Uncompressed - Compressed| ≤ 0.001





20%

Compression options – Naming conventions

• Percentage











Compression methodology

Percentage



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Percentage – Results comparison $U_{mean,mag}/U_{\infty}$ at y=0





Percentage – Mean Q criterion isosurface

Uncompressed/Lossless	0.001/0.01	0.01/0.01
	0.01/0.1	0.01/1
<-6.0 -5.4 -5.0 -4.6 -4.2 -3.7 -3.3 W _X [-]	-2.9 -2.4 -2.0 -1.6 -1.2 -0.7 -0.3 0.1 0.5 0.9 1.4	1.8 2.2 2.6 3.0 3.4 3.9 4.3 4.7 5.1 5.5 >6.

Percentage – Cumulative drag coefficient



Percentage – File comparison



File size [GB]

RAM consumption [GB]





250



Saving time [s]



Percentage – Conclusion

- Best cases 0.001/0.01 and 0.01/0.1
 - > 0.001/0.01 is 75% (4.2 GB) smaller
 - > 0.01/0.1 is 81% (4.5 GB) smaller but introduces "waves" in isofunctions
- Due to big range of Q criterion ($\sim 10^6$) detail is lost
 - More accuracy for Q criterion required

Compression methodology

Percentage with Set



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Percentage with Set – Results comparison





• In volume, deviation same as in Percentage 0.01/0.1



Percentage with Set – Cumulative drag coefficient



Percentage with Set – File comparison

File size [GB] 6.00 5.00 4.00 3.00 2.00 1.00 0.00 Uncompressed Lossless 0.01/0.1/Set

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Percentage with Set – Conclusion

- 0.01/0.1/Set is 80% (4.5 GB) less
- High accuracy on model surface, reduced accuracy in volume
 - "Waves" on isosurfaces

Compression methodology

Percentage and Simplification









Percentage and Simplification – Results comparison

• Simplification does not affect surfaces – same accuracy as in 0.001/0.01



Percentage and Simplification – Mean $C_{p,tot}$ isosurface

Uncompressed/Lossless	0.001/0.01/80
0.001/0.01/50	0.001/0.01/30

Percentage and Simplification – Cumulative drag coefficient



Percentage and Simplification – File comparison



File size [GB]

RAM consumption [GB]





Total reading time [s]

Saving time [s]



Percentage and Simplification – Conclusion

- Simplification greatly reduces file size
 - > 0.001/0.01/30 is 92% (5.1 GB) less
- Shell mesh remains unaffected good accuracy on surface results
- Noticeable deviation on volume results
 - Original mesh lost
 - Volume boundaries not respected
 - Boundary layer simplified
- Isosurfaces not properly generated

Compression methodology

Round Off

$|Uncompressed - Compressed| \le 0.001$

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Round Off – Results comparison



Round Off – Mean Q criterion isosurface



Round Off – Cumulative drag coefficient



Round Off – File comparison



Round Off – Conclusion

- Best case Low/Medium option
 - Low/Medium is 76% (4.2 GB) less
- Careful round off digit selection small file size, no accuracy loss

Final Conclusion

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File comparison



File size [GB]

RAM consumption [GB]



Total reading time [s]



Saving time [s]



Conclusion

- Saving metadb <u>without compression</u> required 5.5 GB
- <u>Lossless</u> is 46% (2.5 GB) less



- <u>Percentage</u>: 0.001/0.01 is 75% (4.2 GB) less
 - Q criterion required higher accuracy
- <u>Percentage with Set</u>: 0.01/0.1/Set is 80% (4.5 GB) less
 - High accuracy on model surface, lower accuracy in volume
 - "Waves" on isosurfaces
- <u>Round Off</u>: Low/Medium is 76% (4.2 GB) less





20%

Conclusion

• Compression by Percentage easier to setup

Some results may need more accuracy

• Round Off compression, high accuracy

Need to know precision for each result

- Compression by Simplification smaller size, less accuracy
 - Recommended for usage in a presentation





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