205070 - High Performance Computing Projects for Aerospace Engineering

Coordinating unit: 205 - ESEIAAT - Terrassa School of Industrial, Aerospace and Audiovisual Engineering
Teaching unit: 758 - EPC - Department of Project and Construction Engineering
Academic year: 2018
Degree: MASTER'S DEGREE IN AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2014). (Teaching unit Optional)
ECTS credits: 3

Teaching languages: English

Teaching staff

Coordinator: Manel Soria
Others: Ivette Rodríguez
Josep Maria Bergadà
Daniel Garcia-Almiñana
Silvia Rodríguez-Donaire

Prior skills

The student must have a basic understanding of programming (in C or Fortran), fluid dynamics, Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD), and project management.

Teaching methodology

After a short theoretical introduction, almost all the lessons are developed in a workshop-like format, with students distributed in groups to work in a group project.

Learning objectives of the subject

- Understand what is a high performance computing project for aerospace applications
- Understand the basic aspects of high performance computing aerodynamics, such as turbulence models, mesh generation, post-processing
- Be able to plan a high performance computing project, from its initial proposal to its conclusion, managing correctly the computer time available, as well as the project schedule

Study load

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total learning time: 75h</th>
<th>Hours large group: 27h</th>
<th>36.00%</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Hours medium group: 0h</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Hours small group: 0h</td>
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<td>Guided activities: 0h</td>
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## Content

### Introduction to turbulence modelling for aerodynamic applications

**Learning time:** 18h 45m  
Theory classes: 6h 45m  
Self study: 12h

**Description:**  
The equations governing turbulent flows (the Navier-Stokes equations) are well known since 1820. However, the computational effort needed to solve them is huge and grows with \( \text{Re}^3 \) (Reynolds number to the power of three). Thus, to understand and predict turbulent flows typically found in aerospace applications, with very large Re numbers, turbulence modelling is needed. In this part of the course, the basic turbulence concepts will be reviewed and the main ideas behind LES and RANS models will be outlined.

**Related activities:**  
Theory lessons

**Specific objectives:**  
- Understand the main turbulence concepts and the main ideas behind LES and RANS turbulent models

### Fundamentals of Parallel Computing for CFD

**Learning time:** 18h 45m  
Theory classes: 6h 45m  
Self study: 12h

**Description:**  
The key concepts of parallel computing for CFD will be outlined.

**Related activities:**  
- Theory lessons.  
- Workshops.

**Specific objectives:**  
- Understand the different types of parallel computers  
- Understand the main parallel programming models  
- Understand the distributed memory programming model  
- Understand the standard MPI  
- Be able to program, compile and debug a small MPI program (in C or Fortran)
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Use of CFD software

**Description:**
Using an open-source CFD code, the fundamentals of CFD will be described. The topics to be covered are: mesh generation, selection of a turbulence model, selection of an algorithm, parallel running of the code, post-processing of the results, obtention of mesh-independent results.

**Related activities:**
- Workshops

**Specific objectives:**
- Understand how to generate a mesh
- Be able to select a turbulence model, understanding the implications of the decision in terms of simulation cost and accuracy
- Be able to select the main parameters for a CFD solver: accuracy, algorithm, number of iterations etc
- Understand the concept of mesh independency

**Learning time:** 18h 45m
- Theory classes: 6h 45m
- Self study: 12h

Supercomputing project management

**Description:**
The steps involved in the management of a supercomputing project will be outlined. The main aspects to be discussed will be: estimation of resources needed, proposal submission, project milestones, dealing with uncertainty in computing cost.

**Related activities:**
- Workshops

**Specific objectives:**
- Understand the main aspects associated with the management of a supercomputing project

**Learning time:** 18h 45m
- Theory classes: 6h 45m
- Self study: 12h

Qualification system

- Individual exercises: 30%
- Final group project: 70%

Bibliography

**Basic:**