

# Combining the Density-Based Compressible Solver *rhoCentralFoam* with the Reacting Flow Solver *reactingFoam*

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# Introduction

- Compressible flow occurs when fluid density changes significantly due to pressure or temperature variations :
  - High-speed aerodynamics.
  - Propulsion systems.
  - Gas dynamics.
  - Combustion.

Mach number :  $Ma = \frac{U}{c}$

$Ma > 0.3$ , compressibility effects become significant.



U.S Navy F/A-18 transonic pushing into the sound barrier [1]



NASA Mercury capsule [2]

| Aspect               | Pressure-Based                                                       | Density-Based                                                               |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Algorithm            | SIMPLE, PISO                                                         | Godunov methods                                                             |
| Time-Stepping Scheme | Implicit                                                             | Explicit                                                                    |
| Numerical Diffusion  | Introduce numerical diffusion, smearing sharp gradients              | Less numerical diffusion, better for sharp gradients like shocks            |
| High-Order Schemes   | More complex to implement                                            | Easier to implement in explicit frameworks                                  |
| Applications         | Steady-state problems, transient flows with large time steps         | Compressible flows, shocks, and contact discontinuities                     |
| Challenges           | Numerical diffusion, reduced accuracy for convection dominated flows | Strict time step restrictions, less robust for low-speed or transient flows |

- Reacting flow refers to fluid movement that involves chemical reactions, such as combustion, where the transport of species and heat release significantly influence the flow dynamics.
- Role of CFD:
  - Predict performance and optimize processes in industries like aerospace, automotive, and power generation.
  - Critical for analyzing flame stability, pollutant formation and combustion efficiency.
- The most widely used reacting flow solver in OpenFOAM is *reactingFoam*:
  - Employs a pressure-based approach (PIMPLE algorithm).
  - No density-based reacting flow solver exists in the official OpenFOAM release.
- Density-based approach is relevant for combustion :
  - Better handling of high-speed flows and large density variations, such as those encountered in supersonic or hypersonic combustion.
  - Captures acoustic-wave dynamics crucial for capturing interactions between heat release and acoustic phenomena, particularly in combustion systems susceptible to thermoacoustic instabilities.

# Theoretical Background

- Continuity, momentum, species transport and energy equations :

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \rho u_j}{\partial x_j} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial (\rho u_i)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial (\rho u_i u_j)}{\partial x_j} = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial \tau_{ij}}{\partial x_j}$$

$$\frac{\partial (\rho Y_k)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial (\rho u_i Y_k)}{\partial x_i} = -\frac{\partial J_{k,i}}{\partial x_i} + \dot{\omega}_k$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho \left( e_s + \frac{1}{2} u_j u_j \right)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \rho u_i \left( e_s + \frac{1}{2} u_j u_j \right) \right) = -\frac{\partial (u_i p)}{\partial x_i} - \frac{\partial q_i}{\partial x_i} + \dot{\omega}_T$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho \left( h_s + \frac{1}{2} u_j u_j \right)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \rho u_i \left( h_s + \frac{1}{2} u_j u_j \right) \right) = \frac{\partial p}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial q_i}{\partial x_i} + \dot{\omega}_T$$

$$\rho = \frac{W}{RT} p = \psi p$$

- Species  $k$  mass fraction :

$$Y_k = \frac{m_k}{m}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^N Y_k = 1$$

- Diffusive flux, assuming Fick's law :

$$J_{k,i} = \rho D_k \frac{\partial Y_k}{\partial x_i}$$

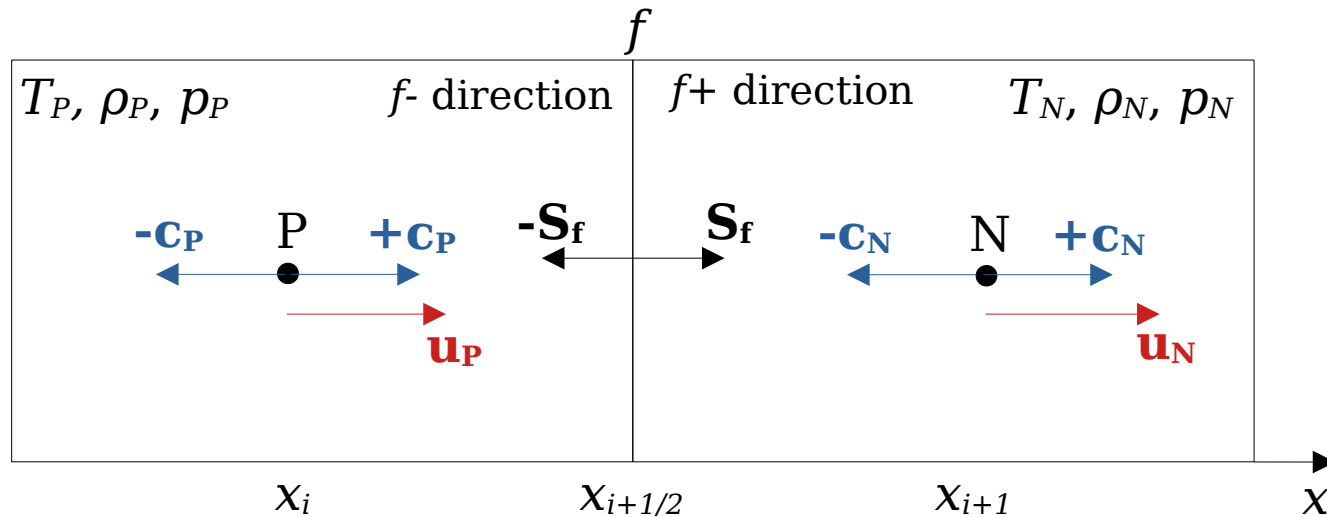
- Unity Lewis and Prandtl numbers :

$$\rho D_k = \mu$$

- Heat flux :

$$q_i = \lambda \frac{\partial T}{\partial x_i}$$

- Central schemes introduced by Kurganov et al. [3], also referred to as Kurganov-Tadmor's scheme (KT) and Kurganov-Noelle-Petrova scheme (KNP).
- Discretization of the convective fluxes  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \Psi$ , taking into account the propagation of waves in any direction.



- Integrated over a control volume and linearized :

$$\int_V \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u} \Psi) dV = \int_S \mathbf{u} \Psi \cdot d\mathbf{S} \approx \sum_f \mathbf{S}_f \cdot \mathbf{u}_f \Psi_f = \sum_f \phi_f \Psi_f$$

- Interpolation is carried out in both directions :

$$\sum_f \phi_f \Psi_f = \sum_f \alpha \phi_{f+} \Psi_{f+} + (1-\alpha) \phi_{f-} \Psi_{f-} + \omega_f (\Psi_{f-} - \Psi_{f+})$$

- The weighting factor  $\alpha$  :

$$\alpha = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}, & KT \\ \frac{a_{f+}}{a_{f+} - a_{f-}}, & KNP \end{cases}$$

- Volumetric fluxes relative to the speed of propagation :

$$a_{f+} = \max(\phi_{f+} + c_{f+} |S_f|, \phi_{f-} + c_{f-} |S_f|, 0)$$

$$a_{f-} = \min(\phi_{f+} - c_{f+} |S_f|, \phi_{f-} - c_{f-} |S_f|, 0)$$

- Diffusive volumetric flux :

$$\omega_f = \begin{cases} \alpha \max(a_{f+}, a_{f-}), & KT \\ \alpha (1 - \alpha) (a_{f+} + a_{f-}), & KNP \end{cases}$$

# *reactingFoam*

- Construct the thermophysical model *thermo* based on the *constant/thermophysicalProperties* file :

```
Info<< "Reading thermophysical properties\n" << endl;
autoPtr<psiReactionThermo>
pThermo(psiReactionThermo::New(mesh));
psiReactionThermo& thermo = pThermo();
thermo.validate(args.executable(), "h", "e");

basicSpecieMixture& composition = thermo.composition();
PtrList<volScalarField>& Y = composition.Y();
```

reactingFoam/createFields.H

```
const volScalarField& psi = thermo.psi();
const volScalarField& T = thermo.T();
const label inertIndex(composition.species().find(inertSpecie));
```

reactingFoam/createFieldRefs.H

```
thermoType
{
    type                hePsiThermo;
    mixture              reactingMixture;
    transport            sutherland;
    thermo               janaf;
    energy               sensibleEnthalpy;
    equationOfState      perfectGas;
    specie               specie;
}

inertSpecie             N2;
chemistryReader          foamChemistryReader;
foamChemistryFile        "<constant>/reactions";
foamChemistryThermoFile  "<constant>/thermo.compressibleGas";
```

constant/thermophysicalProperties

- Different combination of *thermoType* are possible.
- Sensible enthalpy *h* or sensible energy *e* as energy variable.
- The list of pointers to store the species mass fractions *Y* is initialized, the total number and names of the species will depend on the files *constant/reactions* and *constant/thermo.compressibleGas*.
- The temperature *T*, and compressibility *ψ*, are created as references in the *createFieldRefs.H* file, as well as the *inertIndex* variable read from the *thermophysicalProperties* file.

- Example of *reactions* and *thermo.compressibleGas* files :

```

elements  3(H O Ar);
species   9(H2 O2 H O OH HO2 H2O2 H2O AR);
reactions
{
    un-named-reaction-0
    {
        type      reversibleArrheniusReaction;
        reaction   "H2 + O2 = 2OH";
        A          1.7e+10;
        beta       0;
        Ta         24042.47739;
    }
    ...
}

```

constant/reactions

- reactions* defines the elements and species as well as the chemical reactions involved in the chemistry mechanism.
- thermo* lists the different thermophysical properties for each species.

```

O2
{
    specie
    {
        molWeight 31.9988;
    }
    thermodynamics
    {
        Tlow      200;
        Thigh     3500;
        Tcommon   1000;
        highCpCoeffs (...);
        lowCpCoeffs (...);
    }
    transport
    {
        As        0;
        Ts        0;
    }
    elements
    {
        O         2;
    }
    ...
}

```

constant/thermo.compressibleGas

```
volScalarField rho
(
    IOobject
    (
        "rho",
        runTime.timeName(),
        mesh
    ),
    thermo.rho()
);

Info<< "Reading field U\n" << endl;
volVectorField U
(
    IOobject
    (
        "U",
        runTime.timeName(),
        mesh,
        IOobject::MUST_READ,
        IOobject::AUTO_WRITE
    ),
    mesh
);

volScalarField& p = thermo.p();

#include "compressibleCreatePhi.H"
```

reactingFoam/createFields.H

```
Info<< "Creating reaction model\n" << endl;
autoPtr<CombustionModel<psiReactionThermo>> reaction
(
    CombustionModel<psiReactionThermo>::New(thermo, turbulence())
);

multivariateSurfaceInterpolationScheme<scalar>::fieldTable fields;

forAll(Y, i)
{
    fields.add(Y[i]);
}
fields.add(thermo.he());

volScalarField Qdot
(
    IOobject
    (
        "Qdot",
        runTime.timeName(),
        mesh,
        IOobject::READ_IF_PRESENT,
        IOobject::AUTO_WRITE
    ),
    mesh,
    dimensionedScalar(dimEnergy/dimVolume/dimTime, Zero)
);
```

reactingFoam/createFields.H

- Creation of density, velocity and pressure fields as well as compressible mass fluxes.
- Pointer *reaction* is initialised and the species mass fractions *Y[i]* and energy variable are added to *fields* for interpolation.
- Finally, the heat release rate field *Qdot* is created.

```
#include "rhoEqn.H"

while (pimple.loop())
{
    #include "UEqn.H"
    #include "YEqn.H"
    #include "EEqn.H"

    // --- Pressure corrector loop
    while (pimple.correct())
    {
        [...]

        else
        {
            #include "pEqn.H"
        }
    }

    [...]
}

rho = thermo.rho();

[...]
```

reactingFoam/reactingFoam.C, main lines

- The density field is calculated by solving the continuity equation by including the *rhoEqn.H* header file.
- The momentum equation is solved in order to compute the velocity field in the *UEqn.H* header file.
- The reacting species transport equations are solved in the *YEqn.H* header file.
- The energy equation is solved in the *EEqn.H* header file.
- At this point, we entered the *while (pimple.correct())* loop or the inner corrector loop, where the PISO algorithm is executed. This is the main difference with density-based solvers. The pressure-velocity-density coupling is solved through the SIMPLE and PISO algorithms instead of calculating the pressure from an equation of state.

```

reaction->correct();
Qdot = reaction->Qdot();
volScalarField Yt(0.0*Y[0]);

forAll(Y, i)
{
    if (i != inertIndex && composition.active(i))
    {
        volScalarField& Yi = Y[i];

        fvScalarMatrix YiEqn
        (
            fvm::ddt(rho, Yi)
            + mvConvection->fvmDiv(phi, Yi)
            - fvm::laplacian(turbulence->muEff(), Yi)
            ==
            reaction->R(Yi)
            + fvOptions(rho, Yi)
        );

        YiEqn.relax();

        fvOptions.constrain(YiEqn);

        YiEqn.solve("Yi");

        fvOptions.correct(Yi);

        Yi.clamp_min(0);
        Yt += Yi;
    }
}

Y[inertIndex] = scalar(1) - Yt;
Y[inertIndex].clamp_min(0);

```

reactingFoam/TEqn.H

- The lines `reaction->correct();` and `Qdot = reaction->Qdot();` compute all species reaction rates, and retrieves the updated heat release rate per unit volume, `Qdot`, from the turbulence-chemistry interaction model.
- One transport equation for each reacting species is solved (`forAll(Y, i)` loop).
- We find all the terms presented in slide 7:
  - Temporal derivative: `fvm::ddt(rho, Yi)`.
  - Advection term: `mvConvection->fvmDiv(phi, Yi)`.
  - Diffusion term: `fvm::laplacian(turbulence->muEff(), Yi)`, the diffusion coefficient is the effective kinematic viscosity `muEff`, which is the sum of the turbulent and laminar kinematic viscosity and depends on the chosen turbulence and thermophysical models.
- The term `reaction->R(Yi)` is the species production rate and corresponds to  $\dot{\omega}_k$ .
- Negative mass fractions avoided with `Yi.clamp_min(0);` and added to `sum Yt += Yi;`.
- Mass fraction of the inert species computed `Y[inertIndex] = scalar(1) - Yt;`.

## *rhoCentralFoam*

- Similarly, a *createFieldRefs.H* and a *createField.H* files are present :

```
volScalarField& p = thermo.p();
const volScalarField& T = thermo.T();
const volScalarField& psi = thermo.psi();

bool inviscid(true);
if (max(thermo.mu().cref().primitiveField()) > 0.0)
{
    inviscid = false;
}
```

rhoCentralFoam/createFieldRefs.H

```
Info<< "Reading thermophysical properties\n" << endl;

autoPtr<psiThermo> pThermo
(
    psiThermo::New(mesh)
);
psiThermo& thermo = pThermo();

volScalarField& e = thermo.he();
```

rhoCentralFoam/createField.H

- A boolean variable, *inviscid*, is created as *true* and then determined based on the viscosity *mu*.
- Like in *reactingFoam*, the *thermo* reference is created from the *constant/thermophysicalProperties* file to access and update the thermophysical properties.
- Also based on compressibility *psi* but the thermodynamic class is *psiThermo* and not *psiReactionThermo*.
- The energy variable here is called *e* instead of *he*, in *rhoCentralFoam* we should only choose the sensible internal energy as energy variable.

- The solver solves the conservative variables or density weighted fields,  $\rho$  (*rho*),  $\hat{u} = \rho u$  (*rhoU*),  $\hat{E} = \rho E$  (*rhoE*) :

```
volVectorField rhoU
(
    IOobject
    (
        "rhoU",
        runTime.timeName(),
        mesh,
        IOobject::NO_READ,
        IOobject::NO_WRITE
    ),
    rho*U
);

volScalarField rhoE
(
    IOobject
    (
        "rhoE",
        runTime.timeName(),
        mesh,
        IOobject::NO_READ,
        IOobject::NO_WRITE
    ),
    rho*(e + 0.5*magSqr(U))
);
```

rhoCentralFoam/createFields.H

- Created using the *rho*, *U*, *e* fields and the formula for the total energy  $E = e + 0.5\|u^2\|$ .

- Creation of fields *pos* and *neg*, as *surfaceScalarField* variables :

```
surfaceScalarField pos
(
    IOobject
    (
        "pos",
        runTime.timeName(),
        mesh
    ),
    mesh,
    dimensionedScalar("pos", dimless, 1.0)
);

surfaceScalarField neg
(
    IOobject
    (
        "neg",
        runTime.timeName(),
        mesh
    ),
    mesh,
    dimensionedScalar("neg", dimless, -1.0)
);
```

rhoCentralFoam/createFields.H

- Used in the solver as part of the central discretization process to take into account the propagation of waves in any direction, previously introduced as *f+* and *f-*.

- Central flux scheme implementation in *rhoCentralFoam.C* :

```

surfaceScalarField rho_pos(interpolate(rho, pos));
surfaceScalarField rho_neg(interpolate(rho, neg));

surfaceVectorField rhoU_pos(interpolate(rhoU, pos, U.name()));
surfaceVectorField rhoU_neg(interpolate(rhoU, neg, U.name()));

volScalarField rPsi("rPsi", 1.0/psi);
surfaceScalarField rPsi_pos(interpolate(rPsi, pos, T.name()));
surfaceScalarField rPsi_neg(interpolate(rPsi, neg, T.name()));

surfaceScalarField e_pos(interpolate(e, pos, T.name()));
surfaceScalarField e_neg(interpolate(e, neg, T.name()));

surfaceVectorField U_pos("U_pos", rhoU_pos/rho_pos);
surfaceVectorField U_neg("U_neg", rhoU_neg/rho_neg);

surfaceScalarField p_pos("p_pos", rho_pos*rPsi_pos);
surfaceScalarField p_neg("p_neg", rho_neg*rPsi_neg);

surfaceScalarField phiv_pos("phiv_pos", U_pos & mesh.Sf());
// Note: extracted out the orientation so becomes unoriented
phiv_pos.setOriented(false);
surfaceScalarField phiv_neg("phiv_neg", U_neg & mesh.Sf());
phiv_neg.setOriented(false);

```

rhoCentralFoam/rhoCentralFoam.C

- At the beginning of the time loop, the code interpolates primitive variables  $\Psi_{f\pm}$  (e.g., density, velocity, and energy) from cell centers to face centers in the positive (*pos*) and negative (*neg*) directions and the outward and inward fluxes at the face  $\varphi_{f\pm}$ .
- The interpolation is performed using the *interpolate* function declared in the *rhoCentralFoam/directionInterpolate.H* header file.
- The interpolation is performed using the discretization scheme specified in the *fvSchemes* dictionary, for example :

```

interpolationSchemes
{
    default      linear;

    reconstruct(rho) vanLeer;
    reconstruct(U)  vanLeerV;
    reconstruct(T)  vanLeer;
}

```

fvSchemes

- Central flux scheme implementation in *rhoCentralFoam.C* :

```

volScalarField c("c", sqrt(thermo.Cp()/thermo.Cv()*rPsi));
surfaceScalarField cSf_pos
(
    "cSf_pos",
    interpolate(c, pos, T.name())*mesh.magSf()
);

surfaceScalarField cSf_neg
(
    "cSf_neg",
    interpolate(c, neg, T.name())*mesh.magSf()
);

surfaceScalarField ap
(
    "ap",
    max(max(phiv_pos + cSf_pos, phiv_neg + cSf_neg),
    v_zero)
);

surfaceScalarField am
(
    "am",
    min(min(phiv_pos - cSf_pos, phiv_neg - cSf_neg), v_zero)
);

```

rhoCentralFoam/rhoCentralFoam.C

- The local speed of sound is first calculated with :

$$c = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{\psi}}$$

- Then interpolated in the positive and negative direction and multiplied by the surface area of the cell face to obtain the associated volumetric fluxes *cSf\_pos* and *cSf\_neg*.
- ap* and *am* correspond to  $a_{f+}$  and  $a_{f-}$  defined previously as :

$$a_{f+} = \max(\phi_{f+} + c_{f+}|S_f|, \phi_{f-} + c_{f-}|S_f|, 0)$$

$$a_{f-} = \min(\phi_{f+} - c_{f+}|S_f|, \phi_{f-} - c_{f-}|S_f|, 0)$$

- Central flux scheme implementation in *rhoCentralFoam.C* :

```

surfaceScalarField a_pos("a_pos", ap/(ap - am));
surfaceScalarField amaxSf("amaxSf", max(mag(am), mag(ap)));
surfaceScalarField aSf("aSf", am*a_pos);
if (fluxScheme == "Tadmor")
{
    aSf = -0.5*amaxSf;
    a_pos = 0.5;
}
// Reuse amaxSf for the maximum positive and negative fluxes
// estimated by the central scheme
amaxSf = max(mag(aphiv_pos), mag(aphiv_neg));
#include "centralCourantNo.H"

```

$$\alpha = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}, & KT \\ \frac{a_{f+}}{a_{f+} - a_{f-}}, & KNP \end{cases}$$

rhoCentralFoam/rhoCentralFoam.C

- The weighting factors *a\_pos* and *a\_neg* for  $\alpha$  and  $1-\alpha$  are calculated.
- The diffusive volumetric flux *aSf* for  $\omega_f$  is then computed.
- They are updated according to the chosen scheme (Kurganov for KNP, and Tadmor for KT).
- Finally *aphiv\_pos* and *aphiv\_neg* are calculated as:

$$\sum_f \phi_f \Psi_f = \sum_f \alpha \phi_{f+} \Psi_{f+} + (1-\alpha) \phi_{f-} \Psi_{f-} + \omega_f (\Psi_{f-} - \Psi_{f+})$$

$$\sum_f \phi_f \Psi_f = \sum_f (\alpha \phi_{f+} - \omega_f) \Psi_{f+} + ((1-\alpha) \phi_{f-} + \omega_f) \Psi_{f-}$$

- We can now compute the different convective terms of the governing equations  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \Psi$ , for example  $\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u}(\rho \mathbf{u}))$ :

```
surfaceVectorField phiU(aphiv_pos*rhoU_pos + aphiv_neg*rhoU_neg)
```

- Solve the governing equations :

```
// --- Solve density
solve(fvm::ddt(rho) + fvc::div(phi));

// --- Solve momentum
solve(fvm::ddt(rhoU) + fvc::div(phiUp));

U.ref() =
    rhoU()
    /rho();
U.correctBoundaryConditions();
rhoU.boundaryFieldRef() ==
rho.boundaryField()*U.boundaryField();

if (!inviscid)
{
    solve
    (
        fvm::ddt(rho, U) - fvc::ddt(rho, U)
        - fvm::laplacian(muEff, U)
        - fvc::div(tauMC)
    );
    rhoU = rho*U;
}
```

rhoCentralFoam/rhoCentralFoam.C

- The continuity equation is solved explicitly to update the density.
- Momentum equation to compute the velocity field is solved in two steps :
  - The inviscid equation for  $\rho U$  is first solved explicitly without viscous contribution.
  - After updating the velocity field  $U$ , the diffusiveterms are applied as implicit corrections to the inviscid equation if the viscosity is non-zero.
- A similar procedure is applied for the energy equation.
- Finally the pressure is computed from the ideal gas law :

$$\rho = \frac{W}{RT} p = \psi p$$

```
p.ref() =
    rho()
    /psi();
p.correctBoundaryConditions();
rho.boundaryFieldRef() ==
psi.boundaryField()*p.boundaryField();
```

rhoCentralFoam/rhoCentralFoam.C

## Implementation of *reactingRhoCentralFoam*

- *thermo* Object and species mass fraction:

```
Info<< "Reading thermophysical properties\n" << endl;
autoPtr<psiReactionThermo> pThermo(psiReactionThermo::New(mesh));
psiReactionThermo& thermo = pThermo();
volScalarField& e = thermo.he();

basicSpecieMixture& composition = thermo.composition();
PtrList<volScalarField>& Y = composition.Y();
PtrList<volScalarField> rhoY(Y.size());

const word inertSpecie(thermo.get<word>("inertSpecie"));
if (!composition.species().found(inertSpecie))
{
    FatalIOErrorIn(args.executable().c_str(), thermo)
        << "Inert specie " << inertSpecie << " not found in available species "
        << composition.species() << exit(FatalIOError);
}
```

reactingRhoCentralFoam/createFields.H

- First modification, we change the thermophysical model from *psiThermo* to *psiReactionThermo* to take into account chemical reactions and the species mass fractions fields.
- Identical as *reactingFoam*, with the exception of the new line *PtrList<volScalarField> rhoY(Y.size());* which declares the list of pointers to the density weighted species mass fractions

$$\hat{Y}_k = \rho Y_k$$

needed for the implementation of central convective fluxes in the species mass fractions equations.

- *thermo* Object and species mass fraction:

```
multivariateSurfaceInterpolationScheme<scalar>::fieldTable fields;

forAll(Y, i)
{
    volScalarField& Yi = Y[i];
    fields.add(Yi);

    const word Yiname = Yi.name();
    rhoY.set
    (
        i,
        new volScalarField
        (
            IOobject
            (
                "rho"+Yiname,
                runTime.timeName(),
                mesh,
                IOobject::NO_READ,
                IOobject::NO_WRITE
            ),
            rho*Yi
        )
    );
}
fields.add(thermo.he());
```

reactingRhoCentralFoam/createFields.H

- The block *rhoY.set(i, new volScalarField(...))* creates a new field for the density-weighted species mass fraction *rhoY[i]* and assigns it to the *rhoY* field list.
- The value of *rhoY[i]* is computed as the product of the density field *rho* and the corresponding species mass fraction field *Yi*.
- Similarly as in *reactingFoam*, the variables *Yi* and *he* are added to the *fields* table for interpolation.
- The *IOobject::NO\_READ* and *IOobject::NO\_WRITE* flags ensure that the field is not read from or written to disk automatically.

- Species transport equation:

```
// --- Solve species
#include "rhoYEqn.H"
```

```
forAll(Y, i)
{
    if (i != inertIndex && composition.active(i))
    {
        volScalarField& rhoYi = rhoY[i];
        volScalarField& Yi = Y[i];

        surfaceScalarField rhoYi_pos(interpolate(rhoYi, pos, "Yi"));
        surfaceScalarField rhoYi_neg(interpolate(rhoYi, neg, "Yi"));

        surfaceScalarField phiYi(aphiv_pos*rhoYi_pos + aphiv_neg*rhoYi_neg);

        // --- Solve Yi
        solve(fvm::ddt(rhoYi) + fvc::div(phiYi));
        rhoYi.clamp_min(0);
        Yi.ref() = rhoYi()/rho();
        Yi.correctBoundaryConditions();
        rhoYi.boundaryFieldRef() == rho.boundaryField()*Yi.boundaryField();

        ...
    }
}
```

reactingRhoCentralFoam/rhoYEqn.H, part 1

- We create a new header file *rhoYEqn.H*, that we include after solving the momentum equation.
- Modified version of the *YEqn.H* of *reactingFoam* to include the central scheme discretization of the advective fluxes  $\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u}(\rho Y_k))$  using *aphiv\_pos* and *aphiv\_neg*.
- Inviscid transport equation is solved without the chemical source term. The species mass fraction *Yi* is updated and its boundary conditions corrected.

- Species transport equation:

```
// --- Solve species
#include "rhoYEqn.H"
```

```
forAll(Y, i)
{
    if (i != inertIndex && composition.active(i))
    {
        ...

        if (!inviscid)
        {
            fvScalarMatrix YiEqn
            (
                fvm::ddt(rho, Yi) - fvc::ddt(rho, Yi)
                - fvm::laplacian(muEff, Yi)
                ==
                reaction->R(Yi)
            );
            YiEqn.solve("Yi");
        }

        ....
    }
}
```

reactingRhoCentralFoam/rhoYEqn.H, part 2

- We create a new header file *rhoYEqn.H*, that we include after solving the momentum equation.
- Modified version of the YEqn.H of *reactingFoam* to include the central scheme discretization of the advective fluxes  $\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u}(\rho Y_k))$  using *aphiv\_pos* and *aphiv\_neg*.
- Inviscid transport equation is solved without the chemical source term. The species mass fraction *Yi* is updated and its boundary conditions corrected.
- The diffusive term is applied as implicit correction to the inviscid equation if the viscosity is non-zero.
- Like in reactingFoam, we add the species production rate *reaction->R(Yi)* to the transport equation in both inviscid and viscous formulations.

- Species transport equation:

```
// --- Solve species
#include "rhoYEqn.H"
```

```
forAll(Y, i)
{
    if (i != inertIndex && composition.active(i))
    {
        ...

    else
    {
        fvScalarMatrix YiEqn
        (
            fvm::ddt(rho, Yi) - fvc::ddt(rho, Yi)
            ==
            reaction->R(Yi)
        );
        YiEqn.solve("Yi");
    }

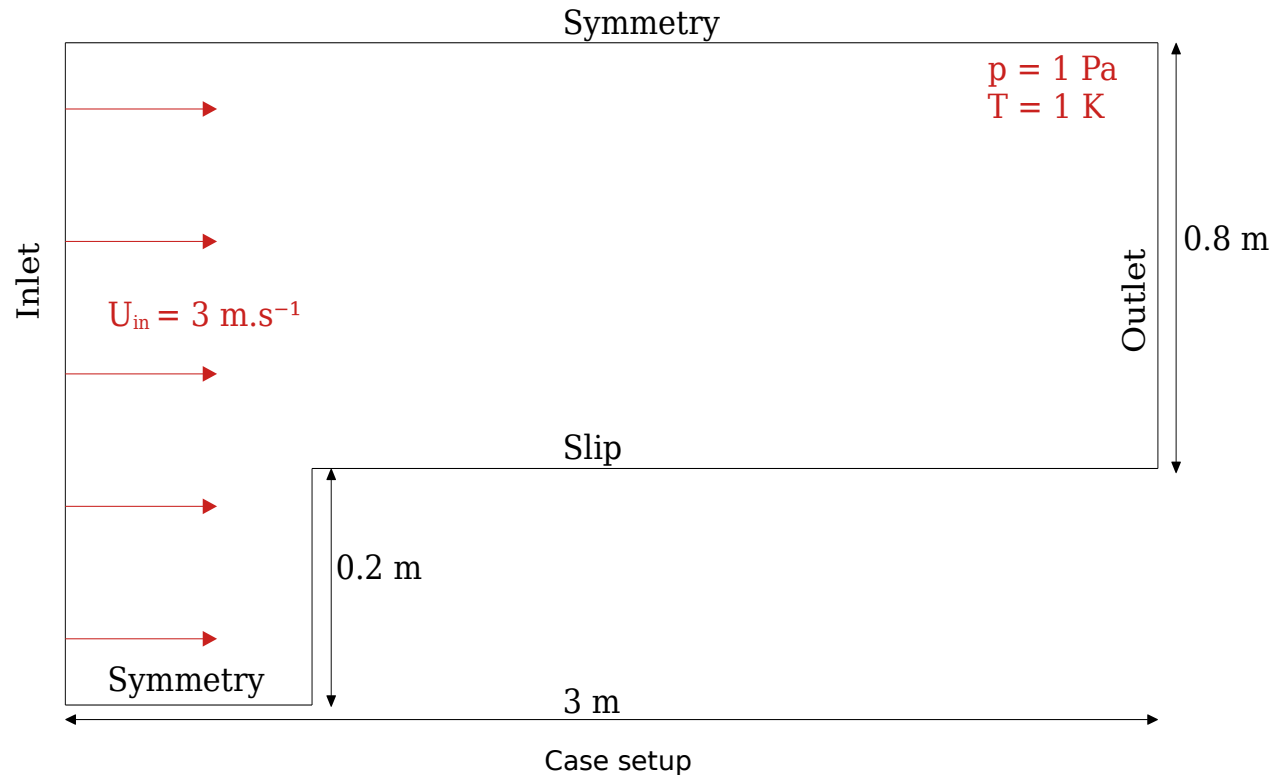
    Yi.clamp_min(0);
    rhoYi = rho*Yi;
    Yt += Yi;
}
```

reactingRhoCentralFoam/rhoYEqn.H, part 3

- We create a new header file *rhoYEqn.H*, that we include after solving the momentum equation.
- Modified version of the YEqn.H of *reactingFoam* to include the central scheme discretization of the advective fluxes  $\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u}(\rho Y_k))$  using *aphiv\_pos* and *aphiv\_neg*.
- Inviscid transport equation is solved without the chemical source term. The species mass fraction *Yi* is updated and its boundary conditions corrected.
- The diffusive term is applied as implicit correction to the inviscid equation if the viscosity is non-zero.
- Like in *reactingFoam*, we add the species production rate *reaction->R(Yi)* to the transport equation in both inviscid and viscous formulations.
- The rest of the code is similar to *reactingFoam*, with the mass fractions minimum limited to zero and the inert species solved as *Y[inertIndex] = scalar(1) - Yt*.

## Test Cases and Results

- Non-reacting case, adapted from *\$FOAM\_TUTORIALS/compressible/rhoCentralFoam/forwardStep* :



- Uniform *Mach 3* flow in a wind tunnel containing a forward-facing step introduced as a test for numerical schemes.
- The properties are set such that this is an inviscid gas for which the speed of sound is *1 m/s* at a temperature of *1 K*.
- Structured uniform mesh with the cell length equal to *1.25 cm*, and we ran the simulation at a CFL number of 0.2 for a duration of *4 s*.
- This is a first check of the implementation without reacting species and check if it gives the same results as *rhoCentralFoam*.

- Non-reacting case, adapted from *\$FOAM\_TUTORIALS/compressible/rhoCentralFoam/forwardStep* :

```
thermoType
{
    type            hePsiThermo;
    mixture          reactingMixture;
    transport        const;
    thermo            eConst;
    equationOfState perfectGas;
    specie            specie;
    energy            sensibleInternalEnergy;
}

inertSpecie        N2;

chemistryReader     foamChemistryReader;

foamChemistryFile   "<constant>/reactions";

foamChemistryThermoFile "<constant>/thermo.compressibleGas";
```

thermophysicalProperties

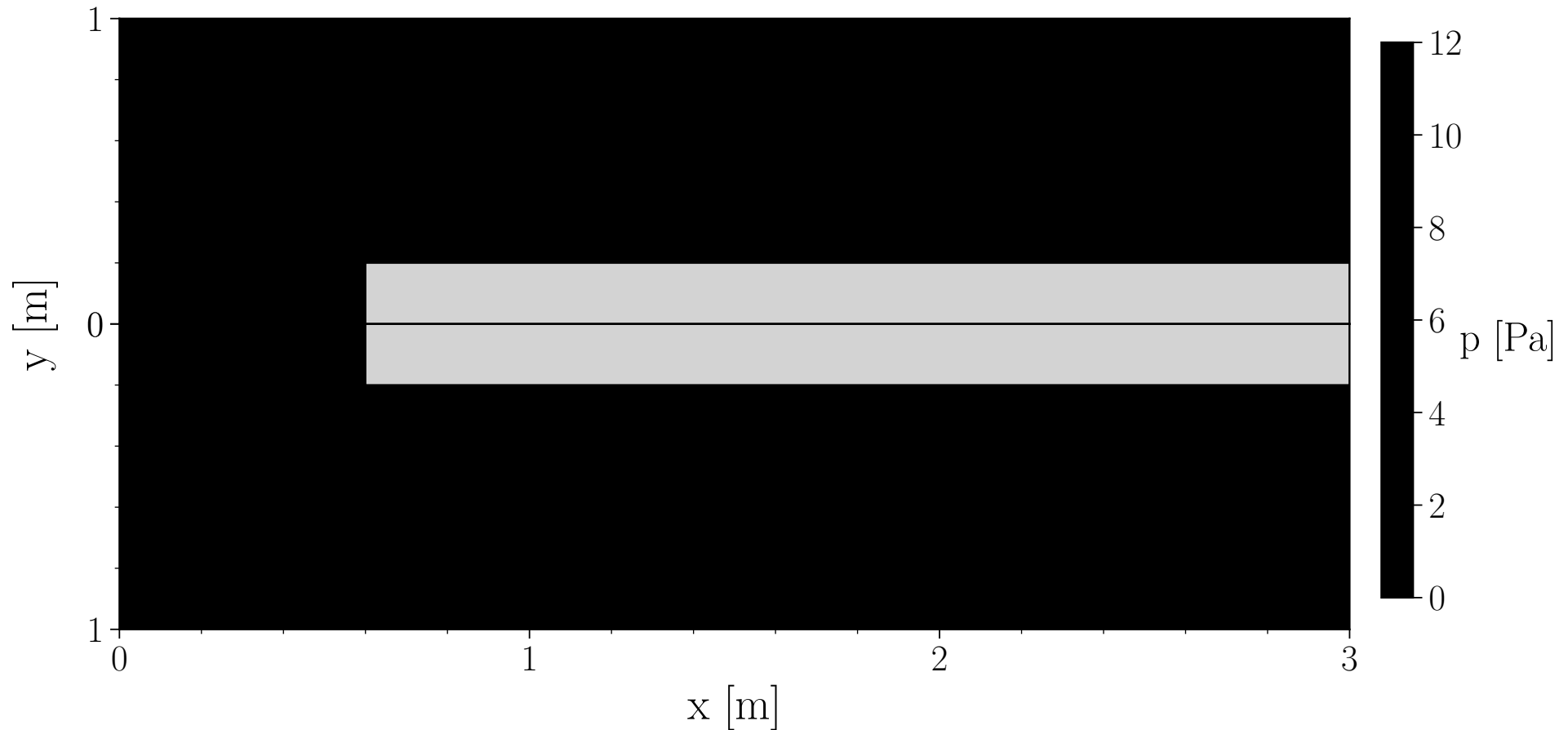
```
N2
{
    specie
    {
        molWeight    11640.3;
    }
    elements
    {
        N            2;
    }
    thermodynamics
    {
        Cv            1.7857;
        Hf            0;
    }
    transport
    {
        mu            0;
        Pr            1;
    }
}
```

thermo.compressibleGas

$$c = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{\psi}}, \quad \psi = \frac{1}{RT}$$

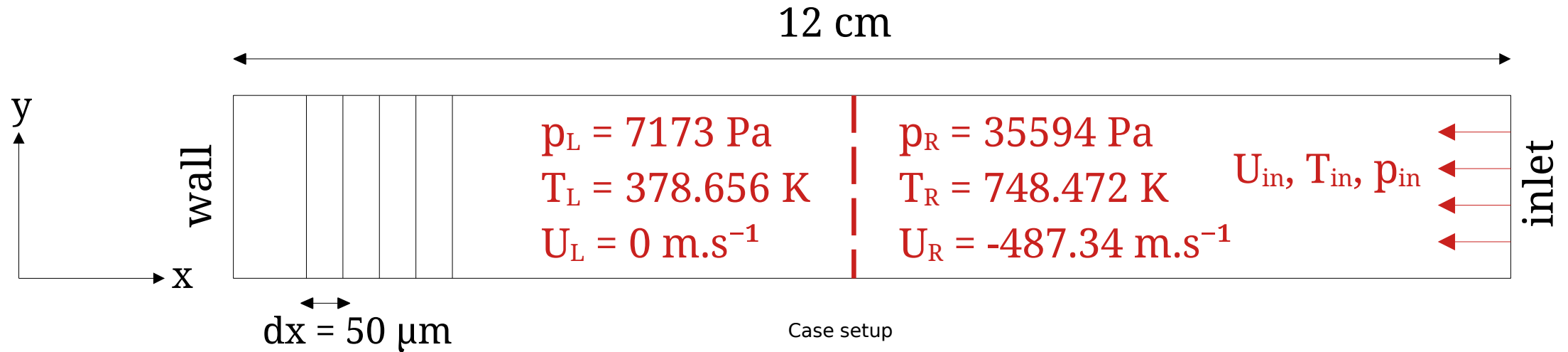
$$\gamma = \frac{C_p}{C_v}, \quad C_p = C_v + \frac{R}{W} \Rightarrow c = 1 \text{ m/s}$$

- Non-reacting case, adapted from *\$FOAM\_TUTORIALS/compressible/rhoCentralFoam/forwardStep* :



*forwardStep* case results comparison between *rhoCentralFoam* (Top) and mirrored *reactingRhoCentralFoam* (Bottom).

- Reacting case, One-Dimensional Reacting Shock Tube :



- We validate the implementation of the transport equation of the reacting species.
- It involves an inviscid reactive mixture in a closed tube, where a shock reflects off a solid boundary, triggering a reaction wave that grows and merges with the shock structure.
- The mixture consists of a 2:1:7 molar ratio of  $\text{H}_2$  :  $\text{O}_2$  : Ar.
- The domain is discretized with 2400 uniform grid points and the convective CFL number is set to 0.1.

- Reacting case, One-Dimensional Reacting Shock Tube :

```
thermoType
{
    type            hePsiThermo;
    mixture         reactingMixture;
    transport       sutherland;
    thermo          janaf;
    energy          sensibleInternalEnergy;
    equationOfState perfectGas;
    specie          specie;
}

inertSpecie      AR;

chemistryReader  foamChemistryReader;

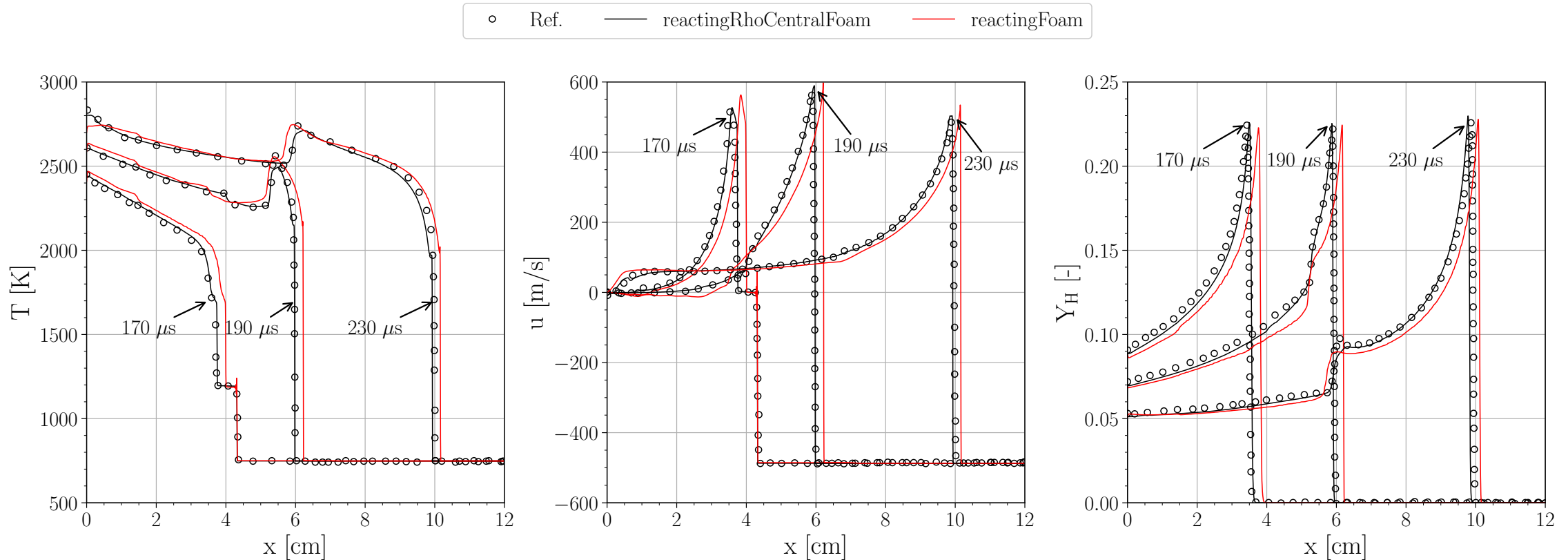
foamChemistryFile "<constant>/reactions";

foamChemistryThermoFile "<constant>/thermo";
```

thermophysicalProperties

- Unlike the previous non-reacting case, this simulation involves chemical reactions of combustion, requiring a proper chemistry mechanism for hydrogen combustion.
- We obtained the CHEMKIN files from Li et al. [3] and converted them using the *chemkinToFoam* utility to make them readable for the OpenFOAM-native chemistry reader.
- Those files are created as *reactions* and *thermo* in the *constant* folder.

- Reacting case, One-Dimensional Reacting Shock Tube :



- reactingRhoCentralFoam* demonstrates superior agreement with the reference solution across all three fields.
- reactingFoam* schemes introduce higher numerical diffusion, which smears gradients and limits its ability to accurately resolve shocks.
- More outer and inner loops improved accuracy but increased computational time.

## Conclusion and Future Work

- Developed *reactingRhoCentralFoam*, an extension of the density-based solver *rhoCentralFoam* to include reacting flow capabilities.
- Validated the solver against well-established test cases, including both non-reacting and reacting flows, demonstrating excellent agreement with reference solutions.
- Outperformed *reactingFoam* in the supersonic reacting case by accurately capturing sharp gradients and shocks.
- Provides a robust tool for simulating high-speed compressible flows with chemical reactions.
- Future Work:
  - Optimize the solver for low-speed flows.
  - Explicit nature facilitates the implementation of advanced spatial and temporal schemes.
  - Integrate more complex transport and turbulence-chemistry interaction models for more precise results.

Thank You!

## References

- [1]: Nemiroff, R., & Bonnell, J. (1995). Astronomy picture of the day. Exploration of the Universe Division (EUD), Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), NASA.
- [2]: A model of a Mercury capsule captured by high-speed cameras, showing the forward pressure shockwave and the wake. (Image is taken from NASA's web site: <http://www.nasa.gov>.)
- A. Kurganov, S. Noelle, and G. Petrova, “Semidiscrete central-upwind schemes for hyperbolic conservation laws and hamilton-jacobi equations,” SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing, vol. 23, no. 3, pp. 707–740, 2001.
- [4]: J. Li, Z. Zhao, A. Kazakov, and F. L. Dryer, “An updated comprehensive kinetic model of hydrogen combustion,” International journal of chemical kinetics, vol. 36, no. 10, pp. 566–575, 2004.