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Application-oriented tools based on Open-source  
solutions: New potentialities for CFD integration  
into the Design Process

Introduction

Benchmark and solver requirement

OpenFOAM® adaptations

CAD model based workflow

Conclusion



# DHCAE Tools GmbH, Germany

## CFD-Solutions based on OpenFOAM® -Technology

### **Engineering:**

CFD-Services  
with OpenFOAM

### **Software**

Standard/  
Customized:

GUIs,  
Extensions

### **User Support Training:**

OpenFOAM/our  
Extensions

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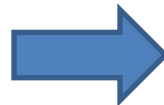
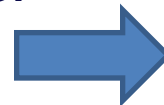


## Why OpenFOAM® based:

- Reliable, stable and established CFD-methods
- Scales excellent in parallel
- Wide variety of physical models for complex CFD applications
- Cost aspects (open-source CFD)
- Most important in this context: Easy to extend by object-orientated C++-structure
- Text-file based: Easy to modify

## **Potential difficulties in particular for target group: Design engineer**

- Available only on Linux
- No GUIs: Editing Text Files
- Many features not seen, keyword needs to be known
- Meshing: STL, script based
- High demands on the CFD knowledge



## Extensions on top:

Support for Linux and Windows ports

GUI solutions with selectable graphical keywords and job control, solution templates

CAD-based solutions

Specific solver adaptation, Training, Support



## Study: extrusion die

### Example for development of modelling environment for extrusion die

Benchmark: Study by Nóbrega et al:

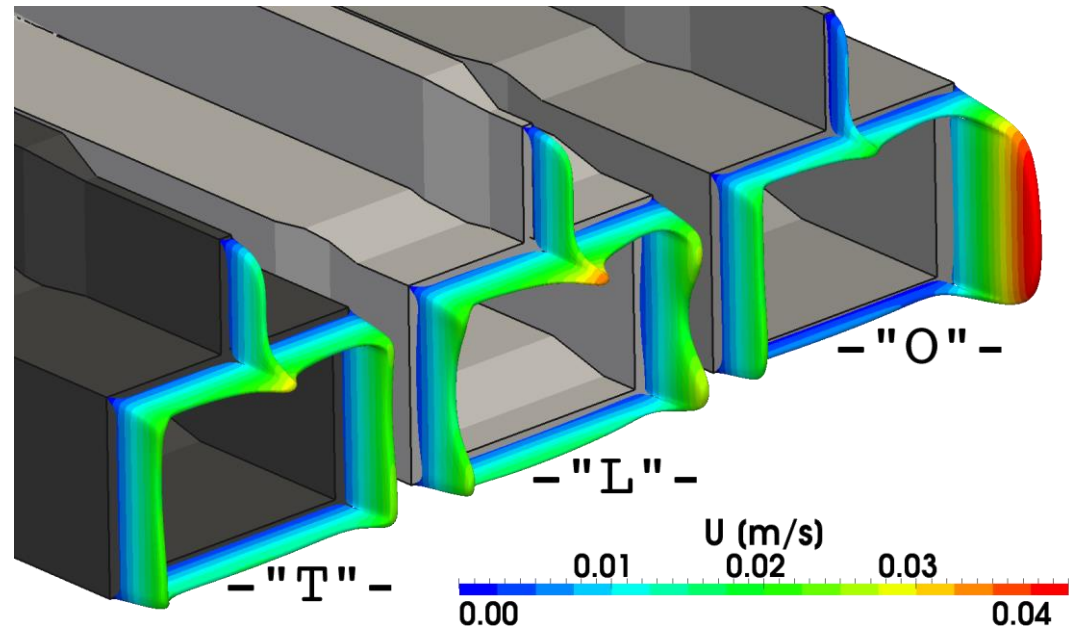
Nóbrega, J.M. and Carneiro, O.S. and Pinho, F.T. and Oliveria, P.J. (2004), Flow Balancing in Extrusion Dies for Thermoplastic Profiles: Part III: Experimental Assessment. *Intern. Polymer Processing XIX (2004)*

#### Target:

- Judging different designs for optimized flow

#### Design criteria:

- Uniform velocity profile
- Pressure loss





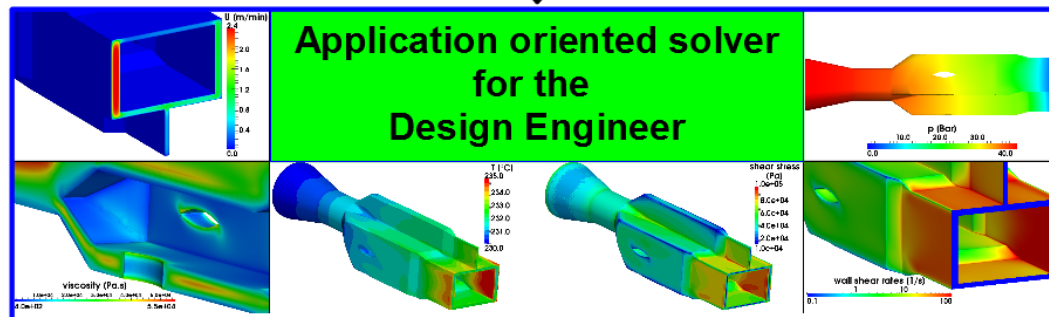
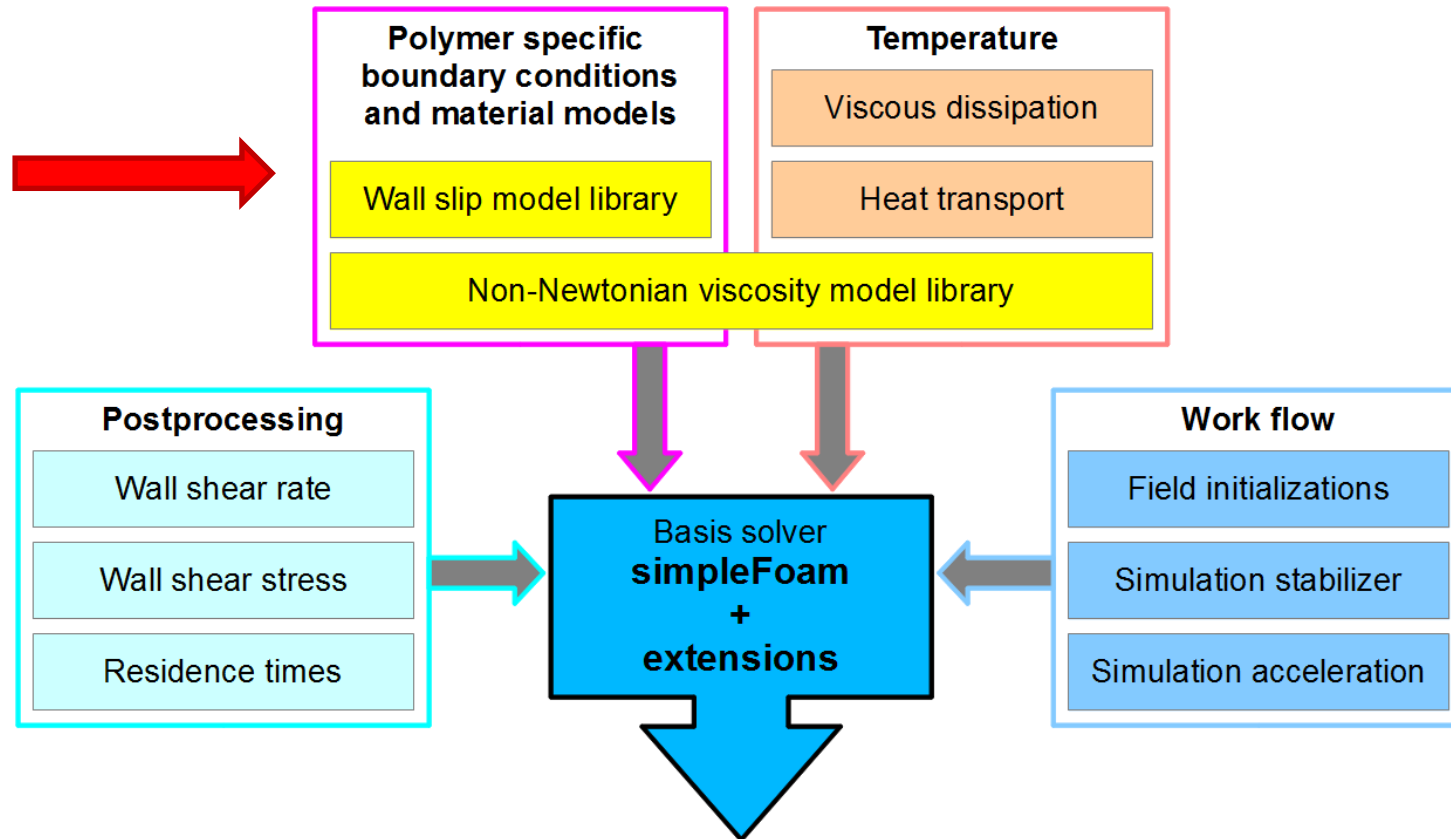
# Flow configuration



- Steady state solver for high viscous flow ( $Re \ll 1$ )
- Non-Newtonian flow model
  - *BirdCarreau*:  $\mu(\dot{\gamma}) = \mu_{\infty} + \frac{\mu_0 - \mu_{\infty}}{(1 + (k \cdot \dot{\gamma})^2)^{\frac{1-n}{2}}}$
- Temperature effects:
  - Heat transfer
  - viscous dissipation
  - Arrhenius-model for viscosity



# Road map for customized solver





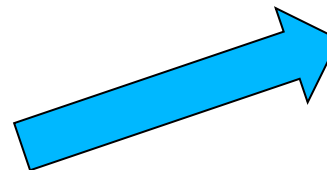
```
dimensionedScalar t_celsius("t_celsius", dimensionSet(0,0,0,1,0,0,0), 273.15);  
const volScalarField& tm = U_.mesh().lookupObject<volScalarField>("T");  
volScalarField shift =
```

```
(  
    exp  
    (  
        (alpha_ - t_celsius)  
        *  
        (  
            scalar(1.0) / (tm - t_celsius)  
            - scalar(1.0) / (T0_ - t_celsius)  
        )  
    )  
);
```



Temperatur dependency  
(Arrhenius shift)

```
return  
    nuInf_  
    + (shift * (nu0_ - nuInf_))  
    *pow(scalar(1)  
        + sqr(k_*strainRate()*shift)  
        , (n_ - scalar(1.0))/scalar(2.0))  
    ;
```



*BirdCarreau*:  $\mu(\dot{\gamma}) = \mu_{\infty} + \frac{\mu_0 - \mu_{\infty}}{(1 + (k \cdot \dot{\gamma})^2)^{\frac{1-n}{2}}}$



- Creeping flow:
- Additional expressions can be added or removed easily:
- Here convection term in momentum equation

```
1 // Momentum predictor
2
3 tmp<fvVectorMatrix> UEqn
4 (
5     // fvm::div(phi, U) // <-- creeping flow assumed
6     + turbulence->divDevReff(U)
7     ==
8     sources(U)
9 );
10 UEqn().relax();
11 sources.constrain(UEqn());
12 solve(UEqn() == -fvc::grad(p));
13
```





## Additional solver/material adoptions



- Further solver adoptions:
- Start from reasonable initial fields                      speed up + stability
- Retarded Non-Newtonian Flow                      stability
- Implementation: Underrelaxation viscosity                      stability
- Pressure extrapolation:                      speed-up
- Residuum smoothing:                      speed-up
- Multi-grid methods :                      speed-up

### Temperature effects in solver:

- Viscous dissipation

### Additional material properties

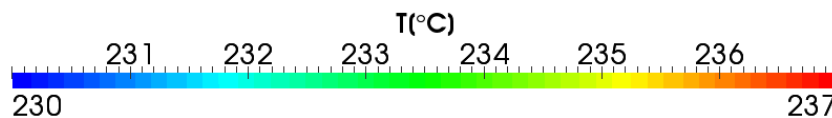
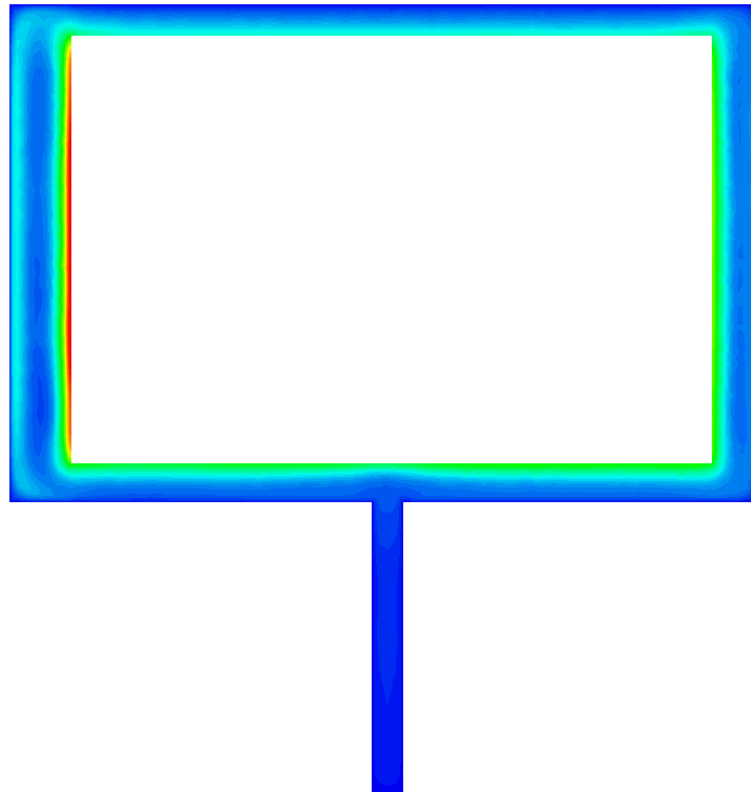
- E.g. pressure dependent viscosity
- WLF (Williams-Landel-Ferry)



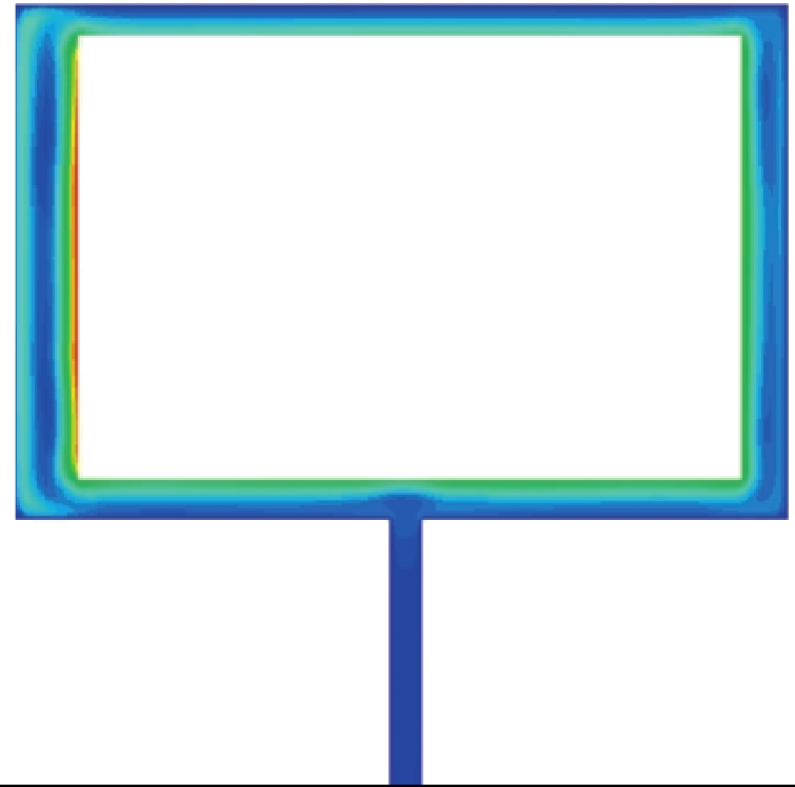
## Results comparison



Results from customized OpenFOAM solver



DieINI



Outlet temperature from Fig.14 from Paper  
"Flow Balancing in Extrusion Dies for  
Thermoplastic Profiles, Part III"

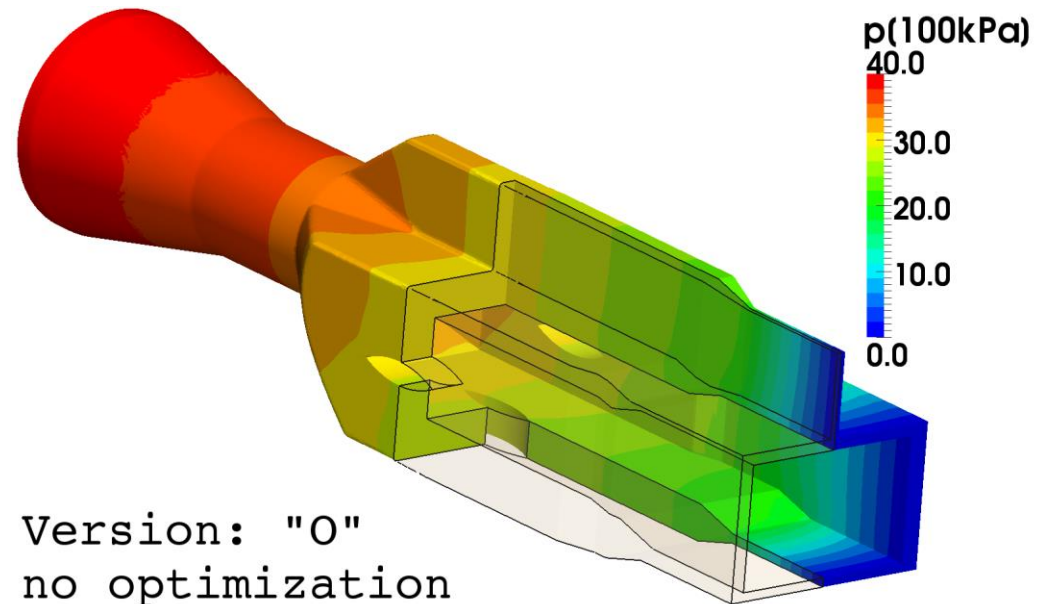


## Results comparison

### Final solver comparison:

Good agreement is found for

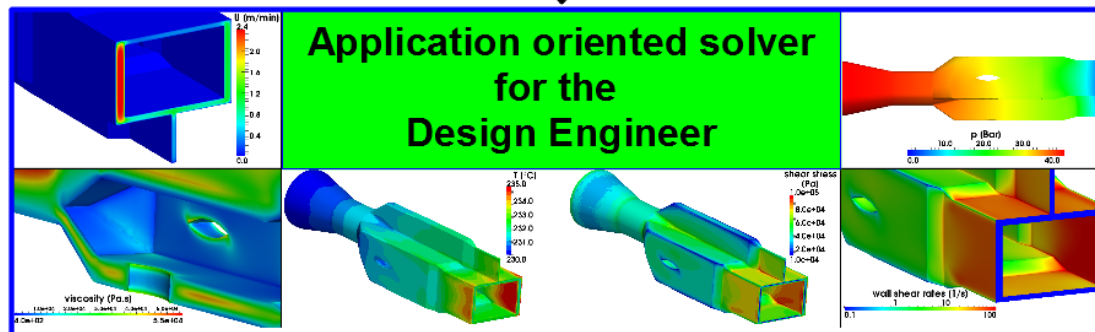
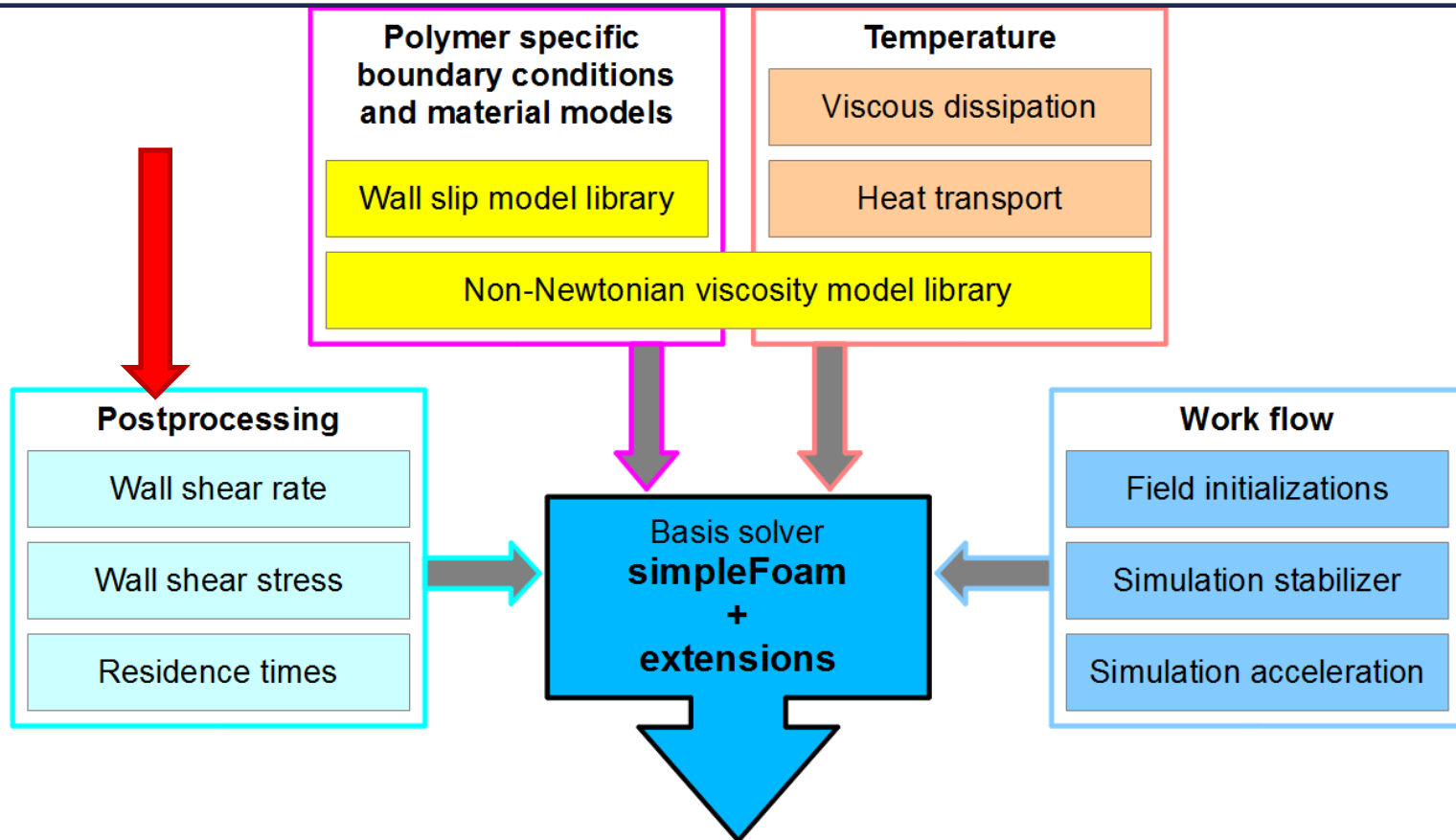
- temperature distribution compared to other numerical results (can't be measured easily)
- measurable design parameters:  
E.g. pressure loss.



Result for "DieINI"	Paper Nóbrega (2004)	Customized OpenFOAM solver result
Average T @ outlet	231.4°C	231.4°C
Maximum T @ outlet	237°C	237°C
Pressure drop	4.00 MPa measured value	4.02 MPa



# Solver-Modification: Postprocessing





Calculation of relevant post-processing data by the solver or post processing tools:

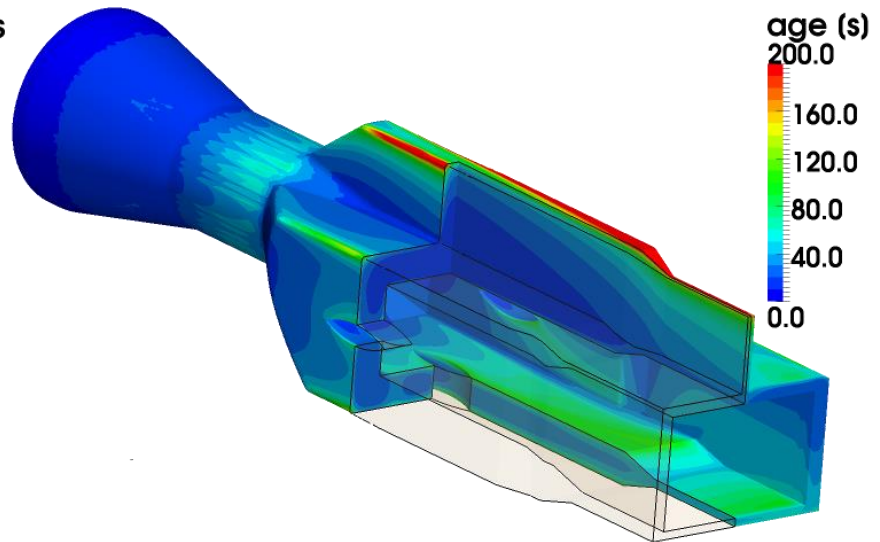
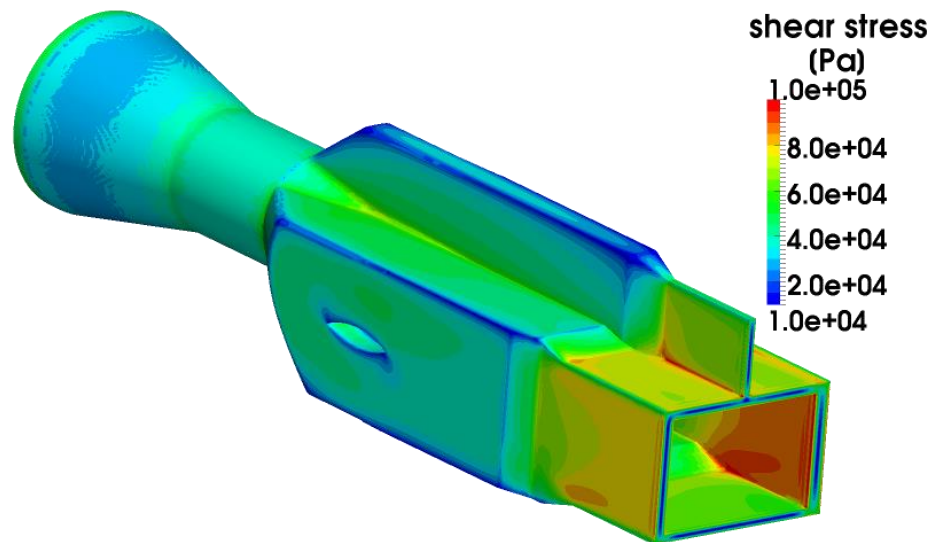
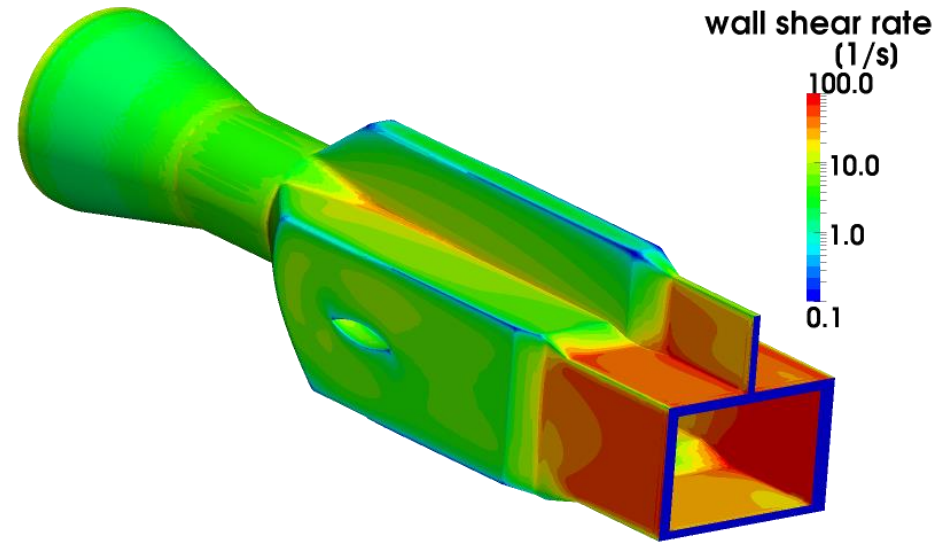
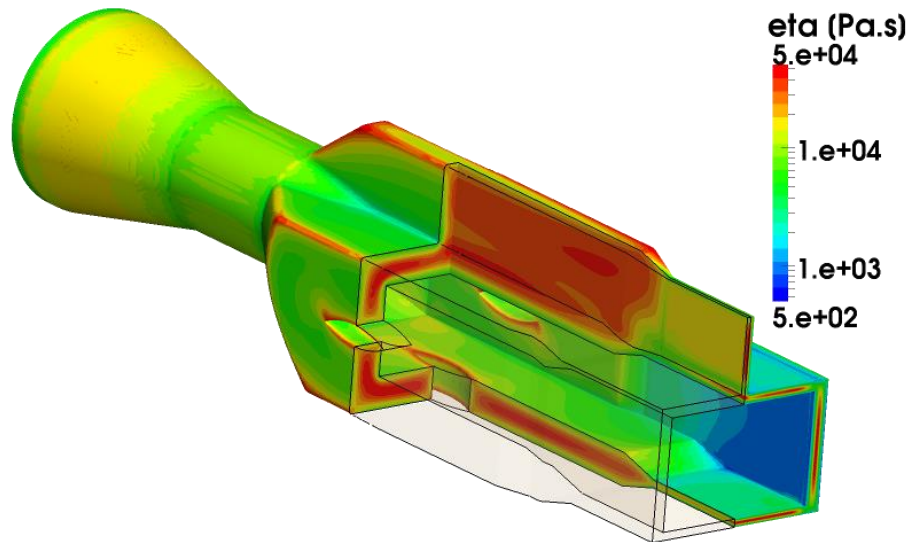
- Viscosity
- Wall shear rate and wall shear stresses
- Residence time
- Conversion to industry standard units (m / min, bar, ° C, Pa s)

Local parameters if required:

- Local residuals (convergence control)
- Cell-Re, Pr-cell, cell-Pe, Pe thermal flow type, etc.



# Post-processing





## Process workflow integration:

- Independent from the CFD-solution workflow
- Depends on:
  - Preferred case setup procedure: Typically GUI based for design engineers
  - CAD environment
  - CFD-knowledge: More or less options/ Template usage
  - IT infrastructure: Linux or Windows

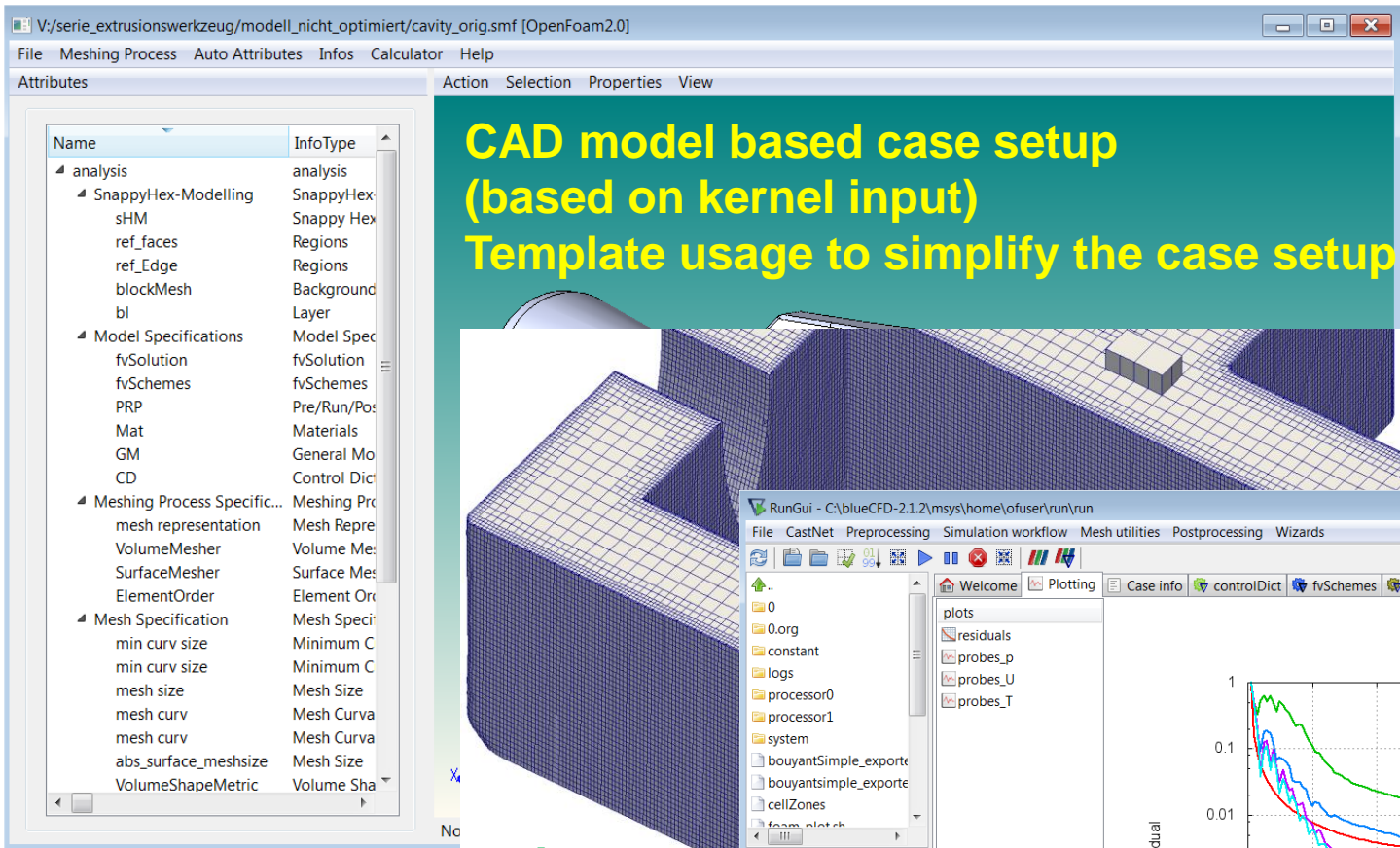
## Typically:

- Text file based work process workflow based on STL geometry input can be established with OpenFOAM Tools alone (complete open-source)
- GUI based working needs additional proprietary tools





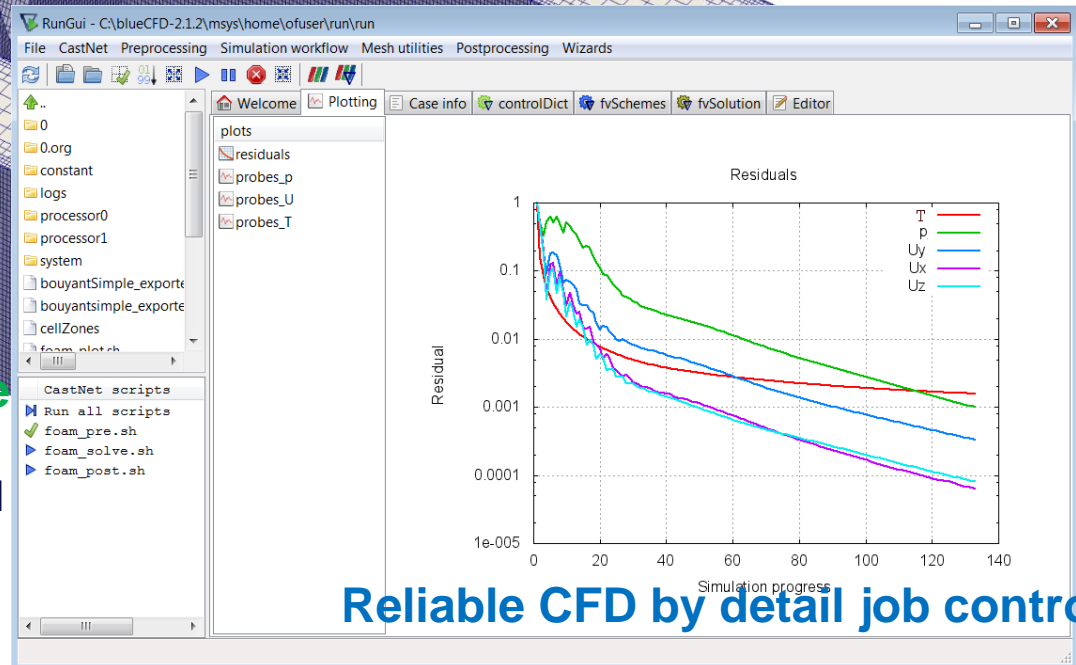
# Process workflow integration



**Automate**

## Note:

- GUIs are not part of the OpenFOAM package and not open-source
- Provided by DHCAE Tools based on proprietary CAD-import technology







OpenFOAM® : very good solutions and calculation capabilities for a wide range of challenging CFD analyses

### **Base for application-specific calculation tools:**

- Defined solving skills of a "solver"
- Availability of source code
- Object-oriented structure
- Adaptability
- Communication based on file

### **According needs: Integration into process workflow:**

- Complete Open Source Solutions: Text file based, Stl-Input
- CAD based with GUIs: proprietary add-on tools available