Programming with PyFoam Automating the boring stuff

Bernhard F.W. Gschaider

HFD Research GesmbH

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The topic

- Most PyFoam-users only use the utilities
 - That is fine
- But more flexibility can be had when programming your own workflows
 - Combining
 - 1 PyFoam
 - 2 with the strengths of the "python scientific computing ecosystem"
- This presentation gives an introduction to the most important concepts of the PyFoam library

- OpenFOAM users
 - especially those who are stuck with large repetitive tasks
- who know a little bit of Python programming
- who think it is a good deal
 - to invest some hours of programming time
 - and in return don't do more hours of repetitive work
- Also: when you program something you can put it under version control
 - then it is documented
 - and it is reproducible
 - and reviewable



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This presentation

On the other hand

- A wise man once said: "Give a man a program and you will frustrate him for a day. Teach him to program and you will frustrate him for a lifetime"
- You were warned



This presentation

Format of the presentation

- There are two parts
 - 1 Theory: an introduction to the PyFoam-library with short examples
 - 2 An example that bind all this information together
 - simulation of something you can build yourself
 - we'll try to optimize it
 - Caution we might get wet



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Bernhard Gschaider

- Working with OPENFOAM™ since it was released
 - Still have to look up things in Doxygen
- I am not a core developer
 - But I don't consider myself to be an Enthusiast
- My involvement in the OPENFOAMTM-community
 - Janitor of the openfoamwiki.net
 - Author of two additions for OPENFOAM™

swak4foam Toolbox to avoid the need for C++-programming PyFoam Python-library to manipulate OPENFOAM™ cases and assist in executing them ansibleFoamInstallation "Universal build script for OpenFOAM"

- Organizing committee for the OPENFOAM Workshop
- The community-activies are not my main work but collateral damage from my real work at ...

4 D > 4 P > 4 P > 4 P >

Heinemann Fluid Dynamics Research GmbH

The company



- Subsidary company of Heinemann Oil
 - Reservoir Engineering
 - Reservoir management

Description

- Located in Leoben and Vienna, Austria
- Works on
 - Fluid simulations
 - OPENFOAM™ and Closed Source
 - Software development for CFD
 - mainly OpenFOAM™
- Industries we worked for
 - Automotive
 - Processing
 - . . .

4 D > 4 A > 4 B > 4 B >

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What are we working with

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What are we working with

What is PyFoam

- PyFoam is a library for
 - Manipulating OpenFOAM-cases
 - Controlling OpenFOAM-runs
- It is written in Python
- Based upon that library there is a number of utilities
 - For case manipulation
 - Running simulations
 - Looking at the results
- All utilities start with pyFoam (so TAB-completion gives you an overview)
 - Each utility has an online help that is shown when using the --help-option
 - Additional information can be found
 - on https://openfoamwiki.net/index.php/Contrib/PyFoam
- An introduction to this (and swak4Foam) was held yesterday



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What are we working with

What is swak4Foam

From https://openfoamwiki.net/index.php/Contrib/swak4Foam

swak4Foam stands for SWiss Army Knife for Foam. Like that knife it rarely is the best tool for any given task, but sometimes it is more convenient to get it out of your pocket than going to the tool-shed to get the chain-saw.

- It is the result of the merge of
 - funkySetFields
 - groovyBC
 - simpleFunctionObjects
 - and has grown since
- The goal of swak4Foam is to make the use of C++ unnecessary
 - Even for complex boundary conditions etc
- We'll use here. But there will be no deeper explanation

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Command line examples

■ In the following presentation we will enter things on the command line. Short examples will be a single line (without output but a ">" to indicate input)

> ls \$HOME

- Long examples will be a grey/white box
 - Input will be prefixed with a > and blue
 - Long lines will be broken up
 - A pair of
ork> and <cont> indicates that this is still the same line in the input/output
 - «snip» in the middle means: "There is more. But it is boring"

Long example

```
> this is an example for a very long command line that does not fit onto one line of the slide 'brk'> <comf>but we have to write it anyway
first line of output (short)
Second line of output which is too long for this slide but we got to read it in all its glory and 'brk'> <comf> will be probably broken
```

Work environment

Refore we start

- You will use two programs
 - A terminal
 - with python
 - A text-editor
- For the text-editor you have the choice (these should be installed):
 - Emacs (king of text-editors)
 - VI
 - Kate with KDE
 - Gedit with Gnome
 - nano
 - jedit
 - geany (this is pre-installed on the Docker images)
 -



Getting onto the same page

- We need a machine with
 - OpenFOAM v1912
 - but older versions work as well
 - and other forks like foam-extend or Foundation v7 (but with that the re-implementation of lumpedWall would be pointless)
 - swak4foam
 - PyFoam
 - Text editors: emacs, vim, gedit

Open a shell and set us up for work

Assuming that you have a machine with those things installed

```
> mkdir pyFoamProgramming
> cd pyFoamProgramming
> . ~/OpenFOAM/OpenFOAM-v1912/etc/bashrc
```

Docker image with pre-installed PyFoam and swak4Foam

- Docker is a technology to run pre-packed containers based on Linux
 - Can be run on Linux, Windoze and Mac OS X
 - Saves the work of installing requirements and compiling software
 - Only docker is needed (see https://www.docker.com/)
 - Image downloads may be rather big
- There is an image prepared for this training
 - Found at

https://hub.docker.com/r/bgschaid/openfoam_by_ansible

- Based on Ubuntu 18.04 LTS
 - OpenFOAM ESI v1912
- Most recent release (2020.05) of PyFoam
- Most recent release (2020.06) of swak4Foam
- has no ParaView. Sorry
- The image was prepared with https:
 - //openfoamwiki.net/index.php/Installation/Ansible

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Before we start Pulling the Docker-Image

Problems here:

- The image is over 3.6 Gig.
 - Depending on your network this might take some time
- You have to have docker installed on your machine

Pulling the

This will download the container the first time around

> docker pull bgschaid/openfoam_by_ansible:training_programming_pyfoam_ofw15

Getting the script

> wget https://bit.ly/ofw15docker -0 runFoamContainer.sh > chmod a+x runFoamContainer.sh

The actual URL for the script is http://hg.code.sf.net/p/openfoam-extend/ansibleFoamInstallation/raw-file/f7b5a1b60e3f/scripts/runFoamContainer.sh

Starting the container

> ./runFoamContainer.sh bgschaid/openfoam by ansible:training programming pyfoam ofy15

After that you're on a shell inside the container

- Without an argument the script lists the locally available containers compatible with the script
- With an image name it starts the image in a new container
- mounts the working directory on the host machine to /foamdata on the container
 - data written to that directory is written to the host machine
 - and can be read during the next start of the machine
- Sets the user id of the user in the container to the id of the user on the host machine
 - Can read and write the same files as the host user



Starting the container

This demonstrates how data written inside the container is written to the host machine (rechenknecht001 is the name of the host. testuser is the name of the user on the host)

Figure: Docker container started and data written to local machine

Getting the Material

With docker

The docker image has the use-case in the directory /Examples

Non-docker

The use case has been archived in an archive

```
> wget https://openfoamwiki.net/images/2/20/PyFoamProgramming_VATech2020_Material.tar.gz
> tar xvzf PyFoamProgramming_VATech2020_Material.tar.gz
PyFoamProg/bottleRocketTemplate/
PyFoamProg/bottleRocketTemplate/system/
PyFoamProg/bottleRocketTemplate/system/setFieldsDict
PyFoamProg/bottleRocketTemplate/system/blockMeshDict
PyFoamProg/bottleRocketTemplate/system/fvSchemes
PyFoamProg/bottleRocketTemplate/system/fvSchemes
PyFoamProg/bottleRocketTemplate/system/fuSchemes
```

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Python 2 vs Python 3

Python versions

- New Python versions are usually backwards-compatible
 - Makes sure that old code doesn't break with new Python versions
 - Problem is that this hinders some extensions
- In 2008 Python 3 was released
 - Has some changes that are incompatible with Python 2
 - Since then people are asked to migrate to Python 3
 - There are tools and libraries to assist developers with this
- Since 2020 Python 2 is no longer supported
 - But in reality it is still widely used
 - Default python in Linux LTS (Long Term Support) distributions like RedHat/CentOS and Ubuntu 18.04
 - LTS us usually used in work and server systems
 - Python 3 can usually by installed in parallel and is available as python3



Which version does PyFoam support

- PyFoam works on Python 2 and 3
 - by avoiding Python 3 features that can not be emulated in Python 2
 - and using the six library
 - a library that "irons out" differences in the version
- Advantage

Python versions

- PyFoam runs on almost every currently used Linux-distro
- Disadvantage
 - Some cool features of newer Python 3 versions can't be used
 - But that might also break compatibility with older Python 3 versions as well
- PyFoam is tested with these Python versions
 - 2.7 Python 2.6 might still work. It is broken for Python 2.5
 - 3.4 and newer Older Python 3 versions are not supposed to be stable



Which Python version should I use?

Depends

On the computation machine

- Be conservative
- Use the Python that is the default on this machine
 - Python 2.7 is currently the default
- It is usually not worth the trouble to install a special Python
 - Library/ABI incompatibilities
 - Administrative red tape if you're not the admin of that machine

On your workstation

- Be adventurous
- Use the newest Python you can get binary packages for on your machines
- Which is usually some Python 3 (usually not the newest)
- If the scripts have to work on a cluster try to install a similar Python version for testing

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Packages

Additional libraries

- PyFoam tries to use as little external libraries as possible
 - The most essential ones it brings in ThirdParty
 - Allows "freezing" the versions that are known to work
 - Slightly adopts them
 - The only external library requirement it has is numpy
- Most PyFoam-utilities are happy with these requirements
- But it uses some external libraries as options
 - Some of these are not available as binary packages for all distros
 - or in outdated form
- So the best thing is to install them by them-self
- PyFoam tries not to replicate existing libraries but leverage them if they're installed



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Installing with pip

■ The de-facto standard for Python package installation is pip

```
Allows searching for packages
> pip search PyFoam
PyFoam (2020.5) - Python Utilities for OpenFOAM
 INSTALLED: 2020.5 (latest)
droneCFD (0.1.3) - A virtual wind tunnel based on OpenFOAM and PyFOAM
And installing them
> pip install PyFoam
Upgrading if there is a new release
> pip install --upgrade PyFoam
Installing for the current user if you haven't root privileges
```

> pip install --user PyFoam

numpy and scipy

- numpy is the foundation for most numerical/scientific Python-libraries
 - implements fast operations on multi-dimensional numerical array
- scipy is a collection of numerical algorithms
 - ODE solving
 - optimization
 - . . .

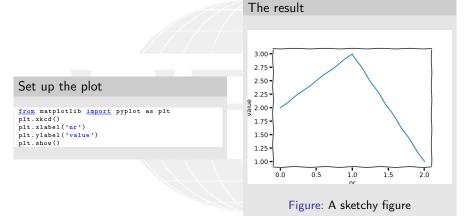
Getting the largest Eigenvalue of a matrix

```
import numpy as np
# matrix with 1000x1000 random numbers between [-1,1]
a=np.random.rand(1000,1000)*2-1
# Largest Eigenvalue (not that we need it)
print(np.linalg.eigvals(a).max())
```



matplotlib

■ Not as fast as Gnuplot but better looking





pandas

Pandas

- A library for table-type data
- Based on numpy and uses matplotlib for plotting
- Easy import and export from/to text files, Excel, CSV, databases, HTML
- Basically Excel for grown-ups
 - A bit harder to use but gives reproducible results

Reading data from the net

Output

	Dyn.	Viscosity	Kin.	Viscosity	Density
Temp.					
2		1.6735		1.6736	0.9999
3		1.6190		1.6191	1.0000
4		1.5673		1.5674	1.0000
5		1.5182		1.5182	1.0000
6		1.4715		1.4716	0.9999
7		1.4271		1.4272	0.9999

ipython

Packages

- python without arguments starts a REPL (Read, Eval, Print, Loop) shell
- ipython is an improved REPL
 - Improved auto-completion with the Tab key
 - even assists for import
 - this includes the file system
 - Improved history of commands
 - Utility functions prefixed with %
 - For instance: %time to get the execution time of a command
 - Interaction with known libraries
 - %pylab loads numpy and matplotlib in such a way that it is similar (as far as possible) to a Matlab environment
 - Most important: it uses color

Getting help in ipython

■ In the pyrthon REPL help on a method can be got like this

```
help(str.rstrip)
```

In ipython only a ? has to be post-fixed

```
str.rstrip?
```

■ For "improved help" (usually the source code - if available) use ??

```
import PyFoam
PyFoam??
```



Packages

Developing a program with ipython

- We're CFD-experts
 - Not pandas / matpoltlib / PyFoam experts
- So the best way is to uses ipython during the development of a script:
 - start up ipython
 - 2 try the first steps interactively in the REPL
 - 3 if it works: copy to the script in the text-editor
 - 4 run the script

ipython -i theScript.py

- (-i starts the REPL at the end of the script)
 - Try the next steps
 - 2 Copy to editor and repeat 4 until finished

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Jupyter notebooks

- this used to be ipython notebook
 - but now is much more
 - and supports other languages
- Instead of the REPL you get a notebook interface in a web-browser
 allows adding documentation via MarkDown cells
- a truly OpenSource alternative to MatLab/Mathematica-notebooks
- but this is beyond the scope of this training



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Virtual environments

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Problem with library dependencies

Virtual environments

- All theses nice libraries bring problems
 - "There are no official binaries"
 - "The admin doesn't want me to pollute the system with all this stuff"
 - "I need to re-use this script. What are the required libraries?"
 - "An update of the library broke my script"
 - "Project A needs version X, project B version Y of this library"
- Virtual environments are the solution to these problems



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Virtual environments

The venv module

- Is part of Python since 3.3
 - Some distros (looking at you Ubuntu) require you to install it separately
- It creates a Virtual environment which basically is
 - Symbolic links to the "real" python and other utilities (pip for instance)
 - no libraries
- To use the Virtual environment it has to be activated
 - and afterwards it can be deactivated
- Install the necessary libraries into the environment
- Start working



Creating a new environment

■ In the project directory

```
> python3 -m venv venv
> ls venv
bin include lib lib64 pyvenv.cfg share
> ls venv/bin
activate activate.csh activate.fish easy_install easy_install-3.6
pip pip3 pip3.6 python python3
```

- Make sure that the python-binary is the version of Python you want to use
- The second veny is the name of the virtual environment.
 - Choose a different one if necessary

Activating and deactivating

- To use the environment has to be activated
 - This means that python is now the python from the environment
 - and the libraries are the ones from the environment
 - this is only for the current shell
- It can be deactivated as well
 - but not necessarily: when the shell ends it ends

```
> which python
/usr/bin/python
> source ./venv/bin/activate
> which python
/path/to/the/project/venv/bin/python
> deactivate
> which python
/usr/bin/python
```

Usually (venv) on the shell prompt indicates that venv is activated

Creating a requirements.txt file

In an activated environment packages can be installed

```
> pip install pandas
```

- Then a list of all installed libraries can be generated
 - this includes the version numbers

```
> pip freeze >requirements.txt
```

- Put requirements.txt under version control
 - And make sure to exclude venv from version control
- Afterwards you can remove the environment completely

```
> deactivate
> rm -r venv
```

Later you can reproduce the environment on a different machine

```
> python3 -m venv venv
> source ./venv/bin/activate
> pip install -r requirements.txt
```

Activating the environment in the docker image

On the docker image the necessary venv is already activated

```
> runFoamContainer.sh bgschaid/openfoam_by_ansible:training_programming_pyfoam_ofw15
User dockeruser with UID: 2000 and GID: 2000
(venv) (OF:vi912-Opt) dockeruser@3cf5c10effd1:/foamdata$ which python
(venv/bin/python
(venv) (OF:vi912-Opt) dockeruser@3cf5c10effd1:/foamdata$ ipython
Python 3.6.9 (default, Apr 18 2020, 01:56:04)
Type 'copyright', 'credits' or 'license' for more information
IPython 7.14.0 -- An enhanced Interactive Python. Type '?' for help.
```



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The basic sub-modules

The PyFoam library is structured into some sub-modules

Basics basic classes used by other modules

Execution executes and controls a running OpenFOAM-application

RunDictionary representing OpenFOAM-data on disk

LogAnalysis analyzing the output of OpenFOAM applications

Wrappers adapters for other libraries

Infrastructure classes that let PyFoam interact with the outside world

Applications concrete implementations of the utilities

Paraview interacting with the famous post-processor

ThirdParty libraries from other developers that are included to ease deployment







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Unit-tests

- The directory unittests has the unit-tests of PyFoam
- Unit-tests ensure that the basic functionality of a library is not broken by changes
- These unit-tests are run on different Python versions before each release
 - Sadly only a fraction of the library is covered by the tests
- The unit tests are run by py.test

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To zip or not to zip

File handling by PyFoam

- OpenFOAM transparently zips and unzips files
 - when OpenFOAM tries to access a file T it needs one of two files

T.gz the zipped version of the file

T the plain text version

- This might be problematic for scripts: looks for T but there is only T.gz
- PyFoam tries to transparently handle files in the same way

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File handling by PyFoam

The File-basis class

- The class FileBasis is in charge of reading and writing a file (or its .gz-brother)
 - The variant FileBasisBackup automatically creates a backup of the file if something goes wrong
- Reading of the file has to be initiated with readFile()
- The member content of the object is a string with the content
 - This can be manipulated
- writeFile() writes content back
 - zipped if the original was zipped
 - writeFileAs() writes to a different file



File handling by PyFoam

Example: Reading a file

```
Adding to a file

from PyFoam.RunDictionary.FileBasis import FileBasis
f=FileBasisBackup("pitzDaily/system/controlDict",backup=True)
f.readFile()
f.content+="\n/\_This_file_uwas_utouched_uby_uPyFoam\n"
f.writeFile()
```

```
The result
```

```
> tail -1 pitzDaily/system/controlDict
// This file was touched by PyFoam
> tail -1 pitzDaily/system/controlDict.backup
//
```

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SolutionDirectory

- The class SolutionDirectory represents a OpenFOAM-directory
 - Has methods to access the important sub-directories
 - and the controlDict
 - and time directories
 - gives info about processor-directories
 - manipulates the directory
 - clear time-steps
 - clones the directory
 - etc
- It is important and. But we won't talk about it today

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Data structures in Python and OpenFOAM

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Comment on the OpenFOAM file-format

- That format was conceived in the 90s
 - Before everyone and his dog used XML in their projects
- It is less rigid than XML
 - ... but not as "type safe"
- It is basically equivalent to "modern" ASCII file formats
 - JSON
 - YAML
- None of these formats would solve the problems with the OpenFOAM file format
- So the question: "why not use JSON/YAML/blah" is pointless



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Dictionaries

Data structures in Python and OpenFOAM

```
In OpenFOAM
a 1;
b nix
c {
   d 3.1415:
   e "Thisuisuaustring";
```

```
In Python
  "a" : 1,
  "b" : "nix",
    "d" : 3.1415,
    "e" : "Thisuisuaustring",
```

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Lists and tuples

Difference: lists are homogeneous in OpenFOAM

```
In OpenFOAM

a (1 2 3 4);
b (x y z);
c foo 2;
```

```
In Python

{
   "a" : [1, 2, 3, 4],
   "b" : ["x", "y", "z"],
   "c" : ("foo", 2),
   "d" : ["a", 2, 2.3] # not possible
```

Data structures in Python and OpenFOAM

Problem: Ambiguities of the file format

Is it a vector

a (1 2 3);

could be

- a list of label (integer)
- a list of floating point numbers (that happens to be 3 elements long)
- a vector

How OpenFOAM resolves this

- Only the OpenFOAM-program that reads this knows what it expects here
 - Because it calls the C++-functions to construct a value
- Everyone else has to guess
 - That includes other OpenFOAM-programs
- Guessing leads to misunderstandings



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Parsing and writing OpenFOAM dictionaries

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ParsedParameterFile

- This class does the heavy lifting in PyFoam
 - Reads an OpenFOAM-file and transforms it into Python-data structures
 - Understands extensions of the OpenFOAM file format like Macro expansions and regular expressions as dictionary keys
 - Tries to resolve ambiguities in a sensible way
 - After reading can be treated like a regular dictionary
 - items can be read, added and modified
 - The result can be written to disk
 - Messes up the formatting (nothing that couldn't be fixed with 2 weeks of programming and the funding for it)
- It is implemented using the ply parser generator
 - A python library modeled after the yacc / bison utility
 - The library is included in ThirdParty
- It is not good for parsing huge data files: too slow

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Parsing and writing OpenFOAM dictionaries

Resolution of ambiguities

- If ParsedParameterFile encounters a list with 3 numbers it assumes it is a vector
 - 9 numbers is a tensor
 - 6 numbers is a symmTensor
- And stores them in a special data structure



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Parsing and writing OpenFOAM dictionaries

Different starting points

- In the standard form ParsedParameterFile assumes that the file is a dictionary with a header
 - this is not always the case:
 - some files have no header
 - in some files the content is a list
 - in such cases a different "starting point" has to be specified by an option to the constructor
- There are other options to the constructor that change the behaviour
 - avoid macro expansion
 - don't "guess" that a 3 element list is a vector
 - etc



Parsing and writing OpenFOAM dictionaries

Example: Reading and writing controlDict

```
Only 10 writes

from PyFoam.RunDictionary.ParsedParameterFile import ParsedParameterFile cd = ParsedParameterFile("pitzDaily/system/controlDict") cd["uriteInterval"] = int(cd["endTime"] / 10) cd.writeFile()
```

```
// -*- C++ -*-
// File generated by PyFoam - sorry for the ugliness
FoamFile
{
    version 2.0;
    format ascii;
    class dictionary;
    location "system";
    object controlDict;
}
...
endTime 2000;
...
writeInterval 200;
```

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Parsing and writing OpenFOAM dictionaries

FoamFileGenerator

- This class transforms Python structures into OpenFOAM-format
 - usually there is no need to use it directly as ParsedParameterFile does it
- If it has to be used the easies way is through the makeString-utility function

```
Wrting Python data as OpenFOAM
```

```
In [1]: <a href="mailto:from">from</a> PyFoam.Basics.FoamFileGenerator <a href="mailto:import">import</a> makeString (("a":2, "b": [2.3, 4,5]))
Out [2]: <a href="mailto:">au_2; <a href="mailto:hbu_(2.3,4u5); <a href="mailto:hbu_(2.3,4u5)">hbu_(2.3,4u5)</a>; <a href="mailto:hbu_(2.3,4u5)">hbu_(2
```

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Recycling PyFoam data

The pickle format

- This is a binary format that "pickles" Python data
 - and allows unpickling this data later in almost the same form
- PyFoam uses it to store data in the *.analyzed directories
 to be re-used by other programs
- to read the data use the pickle library directly
- Utilities that use that data are

pyFoamEchoPickledApplicationData.py prints that information pyFoamRedoPlot.py reads stored plot data and re-generates the plot

but also allows using the plot data with pandas



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Data written by PyFoam

- Usually there are 4 files found in the analyzed-directory pickledData data about the run pickledUnfinishedData written at regular intervals so that a killed process leaves some data pickledStartData written at the start pickledPlots data that would usually be plotted
- in the pickledData are things like
 - when the run was started and how long it ran
 - solver used and which OpenFOAM-version
 - number of time-steps
 - whether the run ended OK
 - the last value of analyzed data (from the customRegexp)
 - uniqueid: a id for the run. Calculated in such a way that no two runs in the universe should have the same id
 -



Example: Average time spent on each timestep

Read Data

Recycling PyFoam data

```
import pickle
data = pickle.load(open("PyFoamRunner.simpleFoam.analyzed/pickledData", "rb"))
print(data["wallTime"] / data["time"])
```

Note: because it is a binary format the b in "rb" is necessary



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What is post-processing data?

My definition:

■ Text file data that was written to the directory postProcessing by function objects

Not anything in the time-directories

- Typically that data is
 - Timelines: time dependent values typically written by
 - probes
 - swak4Foam
 -
 - Profiles: spatially distributed data written at certain time-steps
 - sampledSet
- PyFoam has classes for handling those

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Timelines

- TimelineDirectory is in charge of handling those
 - Constructed with the parameters
 - 1 Case name
 - 2 Sub-directory
 - Maintains a hierarchy of data
 - Time-Directory. Necessary if there have been restarts of the simulation (0 is used by default)
 - 2 Files in these (called positions)
 - 3 The values in this form
- Operator [] gives back the data at one position as a SpreadsheetData-object
 - a wrapper around a numpy array
 - method getData() returns a pandas DataFrame
- This will be used later in the example



Profiles and Lagrangian data

- SampleDirectory is a similar class for profiles
 - Here the time-directory is important because
- LagrangianCloudData reads lagrangian particle data and makes it available as a DataFrame
 - Possibly broken in some OF-versions because of different file formats
- LagrangianPatchData reads data from a function object that records incidences on a patch



PyFoamDataFrame

- This is a wrapper around the DataFrame in pandas
 - Assumes that the index is a monotonically rising row of numbers
 - \blacksquare this is certainly true for time, often for x, y or z
- Adds some functionality
 - weightedAverage() averages curves values weighted by their time-steps
 - integrate() integrates values over time using the trapezoid-rule
 - this and weightedAverage are included in the output of describe()
 - extends the sub-script operator [] to make the table behave like a continuous function
 - if the argument is a number it interpolates on the *index*
 - if it gets a list of numbers it returns a list with the values interpolated for these indizes
 - otherwise it defaults to the [] operator of the regular DataFrame

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Developer options

Every PyFoam-utility has some options that are of interest for programmers (see --help in the Debugging-section)

- -traceback-on-error prints a complete traceback if there is an error
- -interactive-debugger drops the user to an interactive REPL for debugging if there is an error
 - based on ipython if that is installed
- -i-am-a-developer switches on these and a number of other related options
- -interactive-after-execution if utility runs ok drops the user to an interactive REPL
 - just like the regular -i option of python
 - allows

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PyFoam-utilities for developers

Result data

- When dropped to the REPL with -interactive-after-execution the variable self is the application class
 - See below on that
- self can be inspected
 - theoretically all methods coul be used
- self.getData() returns a dictionary with data "that might interest you"
 - for the Runner-utilities this is the data that would be written to pickledData
 - the analyzed sub-dictionary has the last values from things you see in plots
 - some utilities (for instant pyFoamRedoPlot.py) have instructions like --pandas-data who make sure that the data that usually would be plotted is found as a DataFrame there



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Example: examining data after the run

```
Inside the pitzDaily case
> pyFoamRunner.py --progress --interactive-after-execution auto
t. =
           280
Dropping to interactive shell ... found IPython ...up-to-date IPython
```

```
On the REPI.
In [1]: self.getData()
Out [1]:
{'lines': 2887,
 'uniqueid': '00af2198-b59a-11ea-984e-0242ac110002'.
 'logfile': './PyFoamRunner.simpleFoam.logfile',
 'casefullname': '/tmp/pitzDaily',
 'casename': 'pitzDaily',
 'solver': 'simpleFoam',
 'solverFull': 'simpleFoam',
 'commandLine': 'simpleFoam',
 'hostname': 'fd719ea531f7',
In [2]: d=self.getData()
In [3]: d["wallTime"]/d["stepNr"]
Out [3]: 0.03570623823574611
In [4]: d["analyzed"]["Iterations"]
Out[4]: {'Ux': 5.0, 'Uy': 6.0, 'p': 5.0, 'epsilon': 3.0, 'k': 4.0}
```

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 The PyFoamApplication-class

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The PyFoamApplication-class

One class to implement them all

- Almost all PyFoam-utilities are based on the PyFoamApplication-class
- This ensures a consistent behavior
 - error handling
 - similar initialization
 - common command line options
- all these classes are found in the Applications sub-module
 - classes that start with Common implement functionality that is the same for 2 or more classes
 - for instance common options for pyFoamPlotRunner.py and pyFoamPlotWatcher.py
- when constructed the application immediately executes its run()-method
- an object of that class is the self we see with
 --interactive-after-execution



The boilerplate script

- Most utilities are implemented in the same way:
 - 1 import the application class
 - 2 construct an object of that class
 - which implicitly executes self.run()

```
pyFoamPlotRunner.py
```

#!/venv/bin/python3

<u>from</u> PyFoam.Applications.PlotRunner <u>import</u> PlotRunner

PlotRunner()



Using the application class

Using an application class in a program is almost the same as in the utility

- Import the application class
- Construct it
 - give the constructor an args-argument
 - otherwise it would use arguments from the command line this is a list of strings
 - each string is an option from the command line options of that utility
- this immediately runs it
 - including side-effects like printing
- afterwards results can be collected with getData()

```
What you say on the command line
```

```
> pyFoamRunner.py --clear --progress auto
```

```
What to say in the program
```

```
from PyFoam.Applications.Runner import Runner
theSolver = "simpleFoam"
result = Runner(args["--progress", "--clear", theSolver).getData()
```

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Python in Paraview

Paraview

- Paraview uses python as a scripting language
 - including Programmable Filter and Programmable Source
- So PyFoam can be easily integrated
 - Tricky part is that the python in ParaView finds it
 - Either point the PYTHONPATH environment variable on the shell where you call paraview to it
 - Manipulate sys.path (not very portable)



Paraview support in PyFoam

- Paraview support in PyFoam is of varying quality
 - Some of the code was developed with Paraview 3.x
- All is found in the module Paraview
 - Submodules are

SimpleSources, SimpleFilters filters and sources that were developed before the *Programmable Sources/Filters*StateFile manipulates the .pvsm files (used in pyFoamPVSnapshot.py

Data reads timeline and profile data and makes it available as vtkTable

- Under the hood most of them use a function caseDirectory() that
 - searches the internal data structures of ParaView for the OpenFOAM-reader
 - returns the location of the case on disk
- With that function scripts can find all other info

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Examples of using PyFoam.Paraview.Data

These can be found in rocketWithScripts.pvsm in the /Examples

```
A Programmable Source that returns a vtkTable
```

```
import PyFoam.Paraview.Data as pfData
pfData.setTimelineData(output,"swakExpression_thrustCoeff")
```

Can be directly visualized in a line-plot view

```
A Programmable filter that returns the location of the highest velocity
```

Resulting vtkTabl needs to go through a TableToPoint and then into Glyph



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SQLite

- SQLite as a serverless SQL database
- Used in many products as a safe way to store data
 - old *iPods* use it to store data
 - Android phones often use it to store application data
 -
- Python has support for it in its standard-library

So PyFoam uses it too



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SQLite support in PyFoam

Database

- There is a class RunDatabase that stores data that usually is in pickledData into a SQLite database
 - "flattens" dictionaries to fit into the table format
 - creates new columns "on demand"
- most important method is db.modify(id,dict) that modifies the data of the case with ID id with the data in dict
- based on this there are two utilities
 - pyFoamAddCaseDataToDatabase.py that adds pickledData to a database
 - creates the database if needed
 - pyFoamDumRunDatabaseToCSV.py dumps the run database into a format that Excel can understand
- With these utilities you can consistently collect data and analyze it later with well known tools
 - or with pandas. See below



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Overview

- We'll try a simple fun-project
- Use as many parts of PyFoam as possible
- Get plausible results
 - but wouldn't publish it



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The DLR water rocket

- This is a toy-project specified by DLR (German Aerospace Center) for pupil science education
 - http://bit.ly/1hUIP91 (sorry: didn't find an English version)

Principle

- Plastic bottle
 - Valve attached at the neck of the button
- Bottle is partially filled with water
- Bicycle pump is attached to the valve
 - Air in bottle is pressurized
- Valve is opened
 - Pressurized air pushes the water out
 - Water pushes the bottle high into the air

Example



The question we're asking

What we simulate

- There are two parameters we have
 - 1 Amount of water
 - more water: more possible force
 - but less air "stores" less energy
 - Pressure of the air
 - Higher pressure stores "more energy"
 - but there are limits (because of the material)
- The questions are:
 - 1 What is the optimum amount of water
 - energy "stored" by the air vs momentum of the water
 - 2 Do high pressure have a diminishing return
 - Does higher pressure result in proportionally bigger heights?



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Geometry, Solver and boundary conditions

- Axial-symmetric mesh for fast calculations
 - evenly spaced mesh inside the bottle
 - extended mesh region outside the bottle-neck to avoid effect of the boundary
- Solver: compressibleInterFoam
 - VOF with a compressible phase
- Boundary conditions on the bottle wall are trivial: "Thou shall not pass"
 - Far-field boundary everywhere else
- Initial conditions
 - 0 velocity everywhere
 - higher pressure in the bottle
 - bottle partially filled with liquid
- We don't open a valve. We just start the simulation

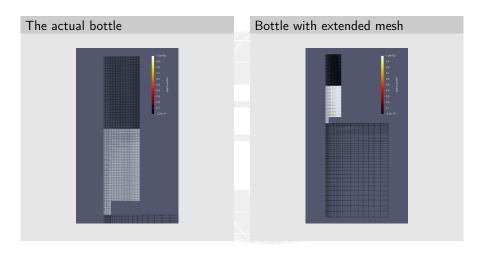
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Meshes

Setting up and running

Introduction

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Preparing and running the case

Setting up and running

- Python-script with two parameters
 - 1 height of water in bottle (in cm)
 - 2 initial pressure (in Pa)
- What the script does
 - Clones a template case
 - 2 manipulates setFieldsDict with the initial conditions
 - 3 manipulate precision in controlDict to avoid a problem with collapseEdges
 - 4 runs pyFoamPrepareCase.py
 - could run all utilities by hand as well
 - 5 reset controlDict
 - 6 run the solver

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Administrative part of the script

Setting up and running

```
Start of runRocket.py
#! /usr/bin/env pvthon3
import sys
from os import path
from PyFoam.Applications.PrepareCase import PrepareCase
from PvFoam.Applications.CloneCase import CloneCase
from PyFoam. Applications. Runner import Runner
from PyFoam.RunDictionary.ParsedParameterFile import ParsedParameterFile
if len(sys.argv) != 3:
    print("Script,needs,2,argument:,..<initial,height>,and,,<initial,pressure>")
    sys.exit(1)
initHeight = float(sys.argv[1])
initPressure = float(sys.argv[2])
if initHeight < 0:
    print("Initial, height, should, be, bigger, than, 0")
    sys.exit(1)
if initPressure < 0:</pre>
    print("Initial pressure should be bigger than 0")
    sys.exit(1)
caseName = "bottleRocket_h={:.1f}cm_p={:.2f}bar".format(100*initHeight,
                                                         initPressure/1e5)
CloneCase(args=["bottleRocketTemplate",
                caseNamel)
```

Preparing for setFields

```
runPocket.py continued

setFields = ParsedParameterFile(path.join(caseName,"system","setFieldsDict"))
setFields["initPressure"] = initPressure
setFields["initHeight"] = initHeight
setFields.writeFile()
```

system/setFieldsDict

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Parameterized Geometry

```
constant/bottleParameters
bottleRadiusCm 5;
bottleHeightCm 20;
bottleWeightGram 32;
```

```
system/blockMeshDict
```

(\$bottleRadiusCm 0 0.1)

```
#include "../constant/bottleParameters"
scale 0.01:
vertices
    (0 -2 -0.1)
    (1 - 2 - 0.1)
    (1 \ 0 \ -0.1)
    (0 0 -0.1)
    (0 -2 0.1)
    (1 -2 0.1)
    (1 \ 0 \ 0.1)
    (0 0 0.1)
    (0 $bottleHeightCm -0.1)
    ( 1 $bottleHeightCm -0.1)
    ( 1 $bottleHeightCm 0.1)
    (0 $bottleHeightCm 0.1)
    ($bottleRadiusCm 0 -0.1)
    ($bottleRadiusCm $bottleHeightCm -0.1)
    ($bottleRadiusCm $bottleHeightCm 0.1)
```

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Make checkMesh happy

```
meshCreate.py will be executed by PrepareCase
```

```
#! /bin/sh
rm -r constant/polyMesh
blockMesh
makeAxialMesh -overwrite
collapseEdges -overwrite
topoSet
```

If collapseEdges works with writePrecision 6 then checkMesh won't like the resulting mesh

```
runRocket.py continued
controlDict = ParsedParameterFile(path.join(caseName, "system", "controlDict"),
                                 backup=True)
controlDict["writePrecision"] = 15
controlDict.writeFile()
```

Setting up and running

... and lift-off

```
prepareCases.sh executed by PrepareCase

#! /bin/sh
setFields -time 0
```

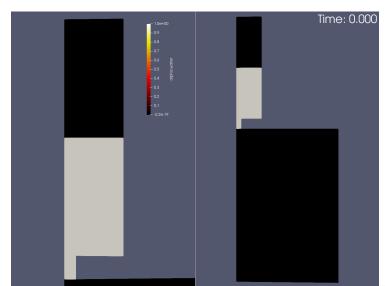
--parameter adds information to pickledData

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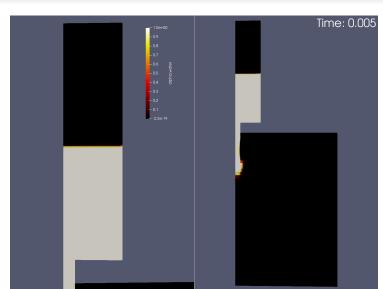
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Initial condition



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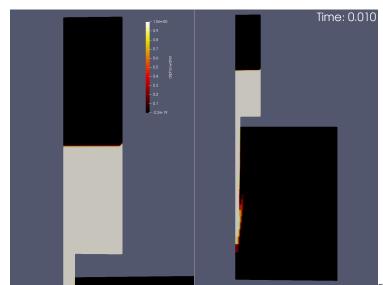
Start moving



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Moving

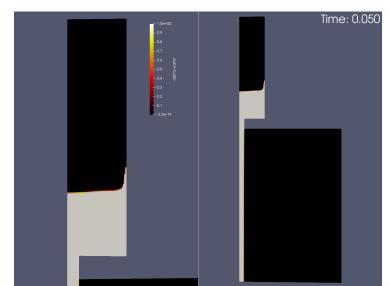
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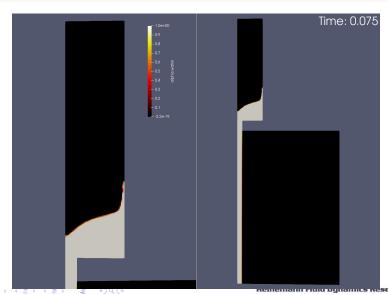
Steady flow

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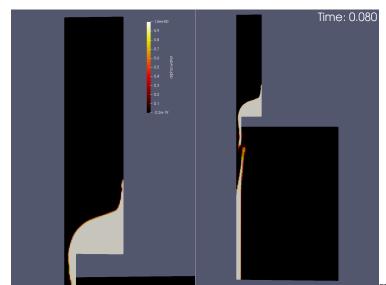
Things get interesting



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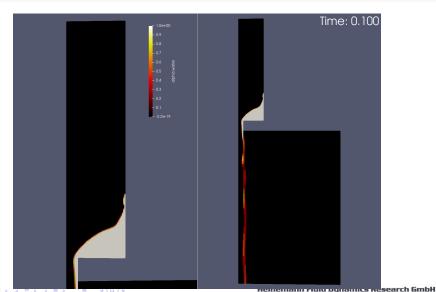
Break-through

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Slow draining

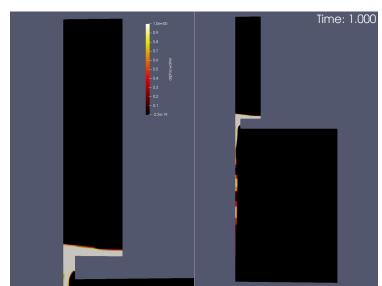


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Setting up and running

Only gravitation to empty the bottle



Running a series of simulations

With the queuing manager SLURM this runs filling heights 0, 1, 2, 20 cm with a pressure of 2 bar

```
> sbatch runVariation.sh 2e5
```

This might differ on your queuing manager

```
runVariation.sh
#! /bin/bash
#SBATCH --time=7-0 --partition=longrun
#SBATCH --ntasks=1
#SBATCH --array=0-20
source ~/OpenFOAM/OpenFOAM-v1912/etc/bashrc
cd ~/pyfoam; . setDevelopmentPath.sh ; cd -
height=$(python -c "print(0.01*($SLURM_ARRAY_TASK_ID))")
pressure=$1
echo "Running,,with,,filling,,height:,,$height,,Pressure:,,$pressure"
hostname
./runRocket.py $height $pressure
```

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Acceleration of the bottle

Total acceleration

$$a_{total} = a_{thrust} - g + a_{drag} \tag{1}$$

with the three components

- thrust is produced by the water flushing out
- graviation q: makes sure the bottle comes back
- drag force. Without it the bottle would go to over 100m (unrealistic)

Thrust depends on the mass flow and the outlet velocity

$$a_{thrust} = \frac{\dot{m}_{out} * v_{out}}{m(t)} \tag{2}$$

Drag depends on the mass and the bottle velocity

$$a_{drag} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\rho_{air}}{m(t)} \vec{v} | \vec{v} | A \tag{3}$$



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How to calculate the height

- Solve the ODEs $\dot{x} = v$, $\dot{v} = a_{total}$
 - This will be done by scipy
- \blacksquare m(t) and $a_{thrust}(t)$ are calculated during the simulation
 - by swak4Foam
 - written to disk as timelines
- Drag coefficient will be calculated from values in bottleParameters
- Solution of the ODE will be converted to a PyFoamDataFrame for easier handling
- For laughs the trajectory without drag will be calculated as well
- Material properties will be read from the case (if possible)



Calculate acceleration and mass during the simulation

This is done with swak4Foam in controlDict

```
Mass flow
totalMass {
  type swakExpression;
 valueType cellSet:
  setName inner:
  #include "../constant/bottleParameters"
  variables (
      "totalMass=sum(rho*vol())+<brk>
             <cont>$bottleWeightGram/1000/72; <brk>
             (cont)"
  expression "totalMass*72":
  accumulations (
     may
```

```
Acceleration
acceleration {
  type swakExpression:
  valueType faceZone;
  zoneName toAir:
  variables (
      "totalMass{cellSet'inner}=sum(rho*vol<brk>
             <cont>())+$bottleWeightGram <brk>
             <cont>/1000/72:"
  expression "-U.y*rho*phi/totalMass";
  accumulations (
     S 11 m
  ):
```

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Total mass over time

Bottle mass

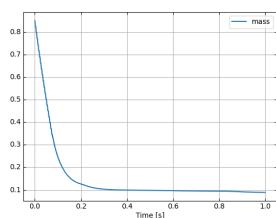


Figure: Mass of liquid inside the bottle



Mass flow over time

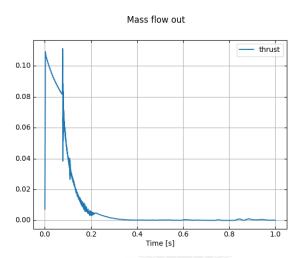
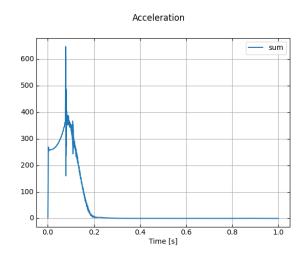


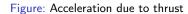
Figure: Mass flow through the neck of the bottle

Heinemann Fluid Dynamics Research GmbH

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Acceleration of the bottle





Calculating the height

Setting up the evaluation script

Start of calcRocketHeight.py #! /usr/bin/env python3 from os import path from PyFoam.Applications.RedoPlot import RedoPlot from PyFoam.RunDictionary.TimelineDirectory import TimelineDirectory from PvFoam, RunDictionary, ParsedParameterFile import ParsedParameterFile from scipy.integrate import odeint, solve_ivp import numpy as np

Reading results and parameters from the case

Instead of hard-coding values we read them from the case

```
calcRocketHeight.py continued (start of function)
def calcHeights(caseName):
    rhoWater = ParsedParameterFile(path.join(caseName,
                                            "constant",
                                            "thermophysicalProperties.water")
              )["mixture"]["equationOfState"]["rho0"]
    bottleParameters = ParsedParameterFile(path.join(caseName, "constant", " < brk>
          <cont>bottleParameters"))
    tl = TimelineDirectory(case=caseName,
                          dirName="postProcessing/swakExpression_acceleration")
    accel2 = tl["acceleration"]().getData()
    totalMassData = TimelineDirectory(case=caseName.
                                     dirName="postProcessing/swakExpression totalMass")
    totalMass = totalMassData["totalMass"]().getData()
```

Solving without drag

solve_ivp means Solve initial value problem. It needs

- a function describing the derivative
- \blacksquare time range (up to 10s)
- the initial values (rocket is at rest)
- a vector with the times at which we want the solution

calcHeights continued in calcRocketHeight.py

Solving with drag

- Got the drag coefficient from the internet (not a very food reference)
- Geometry we read from the file that was used to set up the geometry

```
calcHeights continued in calcRocketHeight.py
densAir = 1.15
Cd = 0.82
            # Long cylinder
massBottle = bottleParameters["bottleWeightGram"]/1000.
bottleRadius = bottleParameters["bottleRadiusCm"]/100.
bottleHeight = bottleParameters["bottleHeightCm"]/100.
area = bottleRadius*bottleRadius*3.1415
vol = area*bottleHeight
def funcDrag(t, x):
    mass = totalMass[t]["totalMass_t=0,,max"].values[0]
   dragForce = 0.5*densAir*Cd*area*x[1]*abs(x[1])/mass
    velNoDrag, accelNoDrag = func(t,x)
    return [velNoDrag,
           accelNoDrag - dragForce]
solDrag = solve_ivp(funcDrag, [0, 10], [0, 0], t_eval=times)
return sol, solDrag
```

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Calculating the height

Creating a DataFrame from the solution

This will be handy later

```
calcRocketHeight.py continued
```

```
def solutionToDataFrame(sol):
    from PyFoam.Wrappers.Pandas import PyFoamDataFrame
    return PyFoamDataFrame(data={"h": sol.y[0], "vel": sol.y[1]},
                            index=sol.t)
```

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Use it as a stand-alone utility

■ The if makes sure that this part is not used when the file is imported as a library

```
calcRocketHeight.py continued and end
if __name__ == "__main__":
    import sys
    if len(sys.argv) != 2:
        print("Script, needs, 1, argument: <case, directory>")
        sys.exit(1)
    caseName = sys.argv[1]
    solNoDrag, solDrag = calcHeights(caseName)
    noDrag = solutionToDataFrame(solNoDrag)
    withDrag = solutionToDataFrame(solDrag)
    print("Max, height, without, drag, (solve_ivp), {}, at, t={}", format(noDrag, h, max(), noDrag, h, <br/>/brk>
           <cont>idxmax()))
    print("Max_velocity_without_drag_(solve_ivp)_{\}_at_t={}\_h={}\".format(noDrag.vel.max(), \brace hk}
           <cont>noDrag.vel.idxmax().noDrag.h[noDrag.vel.idxmax()]))
    print("Max_height_with_drag_(solve_ivp)_{{}}at_t={}".format(withDrag.h.max(),withDrag.h.%brk>
           <cont>idxmax()))
    print("Maxuvelocityuwithudragu(solve_ivp)u{}uatut={}uh={}".format(withDrag.vel.max(), <br/>brk>
```

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<cont>withDrag.vel.idxmax(),withDrag.h[withDrag.vel.idxmax()]))

Getting the results for one run

- The script now allows calculating the heights for one case
- But doing that for
 - 21 filling heights times
 - 9 initial pressures
- is tedious
 - and may lead to copy/paste errors

```
Running the script
```

```
> ./calcRocketHeight.py bottleRocket_h=10.0cm_p=7.00bar
Max height without drag (solve ivp) 95.02943323016414 at t=4.486944869448695
Max velocity without drag (solve_ivp) 41.56696361178429 at t=0.1975019750197502 h <br/>brk>
       \langle cont \rangle = 5.043644903526841
Max height with drag (solve_ivp) 29.734145968350088 at t=2.1064210642106422
Max velocity with drag (solve_ivp) 38.26591408658745 at t=0.16920169201692017 h < br/>brk>
       \langle cont \rangle = 3.7235871308834385
```



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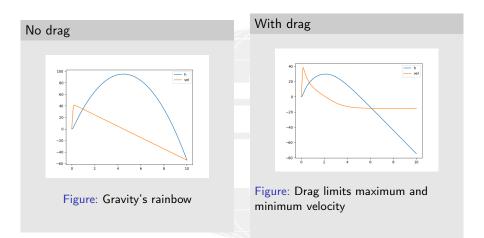
Playing interactively with the data

```
-i gets us to the REPL
> ipython -i ./calcRocketHeight.py bottleRocket_h=10.0cm_p=7.00bar
```

```
REPL lets us use the variables of the script
```

```
%pylab
> drag=solutionToDataFrame(solDrag)
> noDrag=solutionToDataFrame(solNoDrag)
> drag.plot()
> noDrag.plot()
> drag.describe()
count
                   100000.000000 100000.000000
mean
                       -8.375094
                                       -7.467186
                      32.699416
std
                                      12.621959
                     -74.675001
-36.360768
min
                                      -15.331439
25%
                      -36.360768
                                     -15.303381
50%
                                     -14.597914
                       0.491664
75%
                       22.096334
                                       -3.776312
max
                      29.734146
                                      38.265914
integral
                      -83.748040
                                      -74.671843
valid length
                      10.000000
                                      10.000000
weighted average
                       -8.374804
                                       -7.467184
```

Comparing drag and no drag solutions





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Using rocketWithScripts.pvsm

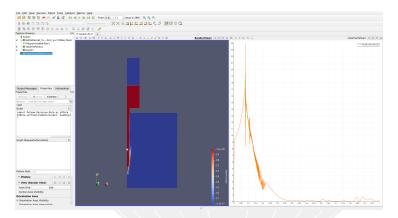


Figure: On the left there is a sphere at the location of the maximum velocity. On the right a timeline loaded from the case

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Collecting and analyzing the data

Write a script

- Collects the pickledData from all runs in the directory into a SQLite database
- Loops through the runs
 - runs calcHeight on the case
 - adds heights from that to the database
 - uses uniqueid to add the data to the correct run

Then we work interactively

- read the database with the utility pyFoamDumpRunDatabaseToCSV.py
- interactively play with the data
 - use the pivot functionality of pandas to arrange the data in a table

If you're more comfortable with that you can read the CSV into Excel

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Setup and Database creation

It is easier to use the application class than constructing the database from scratch

```
Beginning of collectData.py
#! /usr/bin/env python3
from glob import glob
from os import path
from pickle import Unpickler
from pprint import pprint
from PyFoam.Applications.AddCaseDataToDatabase import AddCaseDataToDatabase
from PyFoam.Basics.RunDatabase import RunDatabase
from calcRocketHeight import calcHeights, solutionToDataFrame
pattern = "bottleRocket_h=*bar"
dbName = "bottleRocketData.db"
pickleFile = "PyFoamRunner.compressibleInterFoam.analyzed/pickledData"
cases = glob(pattern)
print("Adding basics from {} {} {}_{\sqcup} cases ".format(len(cases)))
AddCaseDataToDatabase(args=[dbName] + [path.join(c,pickleFile) for c in cases] +
                           ["--create"])
db = RunDatabase(dbName)
```

4 D > 4 A > 4 B > 4 B >

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Loop over all the runs

• Our previous script is used as a library and the results are added to the database

```
collectData.py continued and end
for c in cases:
    print(f"Processing,,{c}")
    data = Unpickler(open(path.join(c,pickleFile), "rb")).load()
    runId = data["uniqueid"]
    pressure = data["parameters"]["initPressure"]
    height = data["parameters"]["initHeight"]
    print(f",...ID:,,{runId},,p={pressure},,h={height}")
    solNoDrag, solDrag = calcHeights(c)
    noDrag = solutionToDataFrame(solNoDrag)
    withDrag = solutionToDataFrame(solDrag)
    evaluations = { "noDrag" : { "hMax": noDrag.h.max(), "hMaxTime": noDrag.h.idxmax(),
                                 "velMax": noDrag.vel.max(), "velMaxTime": noDrag.vel.idxmax <br/>brk>
                                       <cont>().
                                 "hVelMax" : noDrag.h[noDrag.vel.idxmax()]}.
                   "withDrag" : { "hMax": withDrag.h.max(), "hMaxTime": withDrag.h.idxmax() < brk>
                          <cont>.
                                   "velMax": withDrag.vel.max(), "velMaxTime": withDrag.vel. <br/>obrk>
                                         <cont>idxmax().
                                   "hVelMax" : withDrag.h[withDrag.vel.idxmax()]}}
    pprint(evaluations)
    db.modify(runId, {"evaluations": evaluations})
```

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Analyzing the data in the database

- Now we can play with the data
 - For details on pivot check the pandas documentation

```
Getting the data into a REPL
```

```
> pyFoamDumpRunDatabaseToCSV.py bottleRocketData.db bottleRocketData.csv --interactive-<br/>
      <cont>after
```

On the REPL

```
%pylab
data=self.getData()["dump"]
piv=data.pivot("parameters//initHeight", "parameters//initPressure")
piv["evaluations//withDrag//hMax"].plot(marker="o")
plot(piv["evaluations//withDrag//hMax"].idxmax(),piv["evaluations//withDrag//hMax"].max(),'<br/>ork>
      <cont>r',linewidth=4)
```

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Analyzing the data

The resulting plot

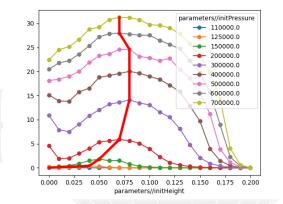


Figure: Maximum height as a function of the two parameters (red line is the maximum for each pressure)

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Analyzing the data

Analysis of the results

- Heights of 20-30 m seem reasonable
 - In reality the rocket has stability problems and starts going sideways at 10+ m
- Recommendation of DLR to "fill one third" seem reasonable
- High pressures show diminishing results
- For low pressures rockets without water fly almost as high as filled rockets
 - But with water it is more fun
 - Fun is hard to model (not just in OpenFOAM)



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Analyzing the data

Critique of the model

This simulation will not revolutionize bottle rocket science

- geometry needs improvement
- turbulence model is very crude
- g in compressibleInterFoam is constant
 - doesn't take into account that this is an accelerated reference system
 - solver would have to be modified
- drag force could be calculated better
 - we have a flow solver

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Outline

■ This presentation

Who is this?

■ What are we working with

Before we start

Python versions

Packages

Virtual environments

Library structure

■ File handling by PyFoam

Data structures in Python and

Parsing and writing OpenFOAM

■ Recycling PyFoam data

Paraview

Database

■ What we simulate

Setting up and running Calculating the height

Analyzing the data

8 Conclusions





Further presentations

Other presentations about PyFoam that are not specifically about programming it but might help are

- about pyFoamPrepareCase.py (which is also something like programming)
 - Uses something called templates
 - See "Automatic case setup with pyFoamPrepareCase" from the Ann Arbor Workshop 2015
 - an updated version was given at the Shanghai Workshop 2018
- Writing and handling data is explained in
 - "PyFoam for the lazy" from Guiamares Workshop in 2016



Contribute

- The official source repository of PyFoam is at https://sourceforge.net/p/openfoam-extend/PyFoam/ci/ default/tree/
- To clone it use Mercurial

```
> hg clone http://hg.code.sf.net/p/openfoam-extend/PyFoam PyFoam
```

Mercurial is similar to git (but with a better user-interface)

- Pull requests are most welcome
- An introduction for contributors comes with the sources: https://sourceforge.net/p/openfoam-extend/PyFoam/ci/ default/tree/DeveloperNotes.md

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Goodbye to you

Thanks for listening Questions?



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Authors of this document are:

Bernhard F.W. Gschaider original author and responsible for the strange English grammar. Contact him for a copy of the sources if you want to extend/improve/use this presentation

