

Turbomachinery Simulation using STAR-CCM+

Usage From Across the Industry



SULZER

VOITH

SIEMENS



LIEBHERR

BorgWarner



Schlumberger



NIGATA

ALSTOM

Solar Turbines

ebmpapst



Pratt & Whitney

A Caterpillar Company



A United Technologies Company

Belcan



SANDEN

Delivering Excellence

HITACHI
Inspire the Next



Honeywell



Rolls-Royce



Hamilton Sundstrand

A United Technologies Company

КАУФ
АВИАЦИОННЫЕ ДВИГАТЕЛИ



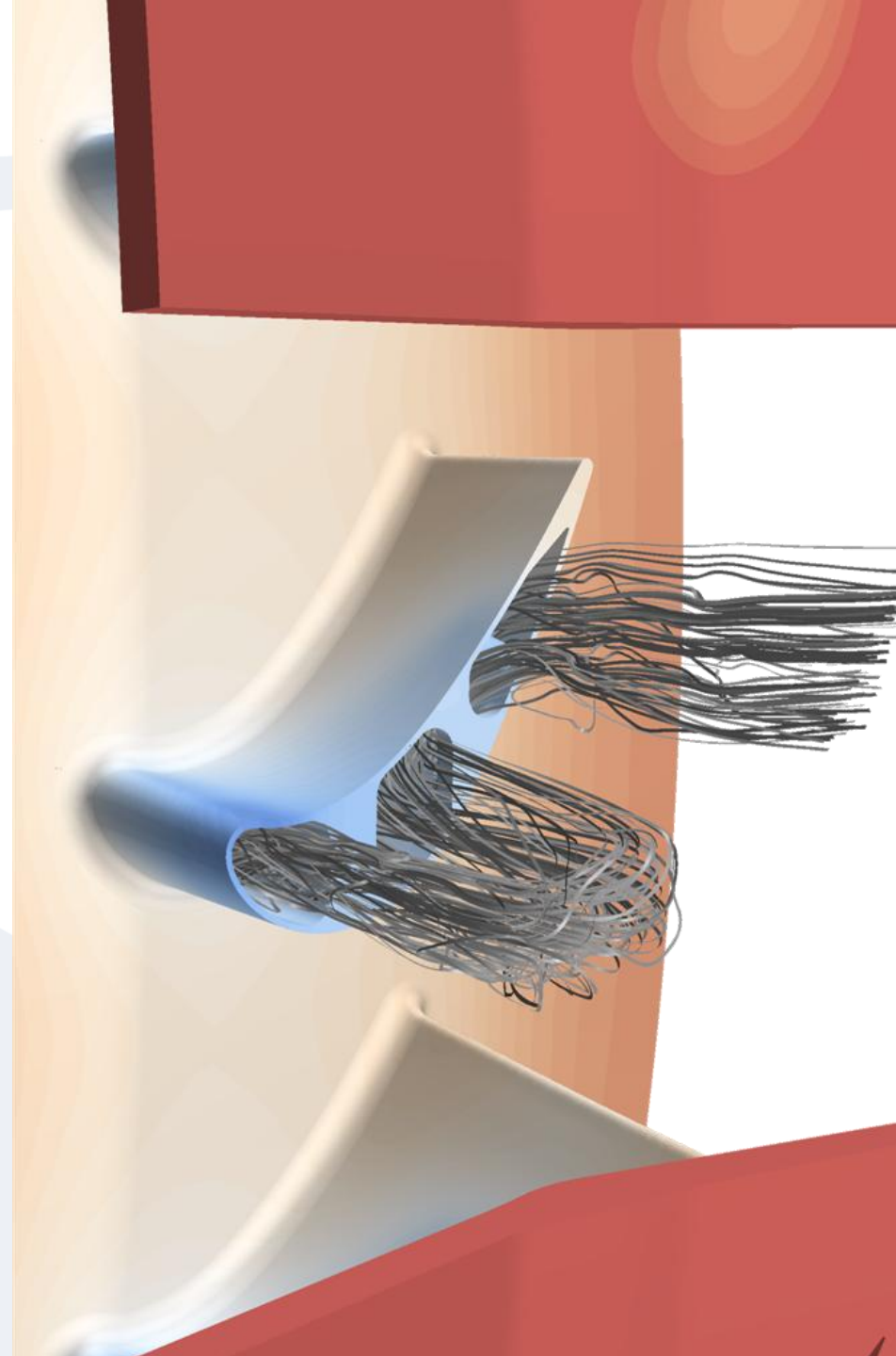
CAMERON

- **Key Objectives**
 - Conjugate heat transfer
 - Aeroelastic response
 - Performance mapping
- **Key Capabilities**
 - Complex geometry handling
 - Conformal polyhedral meshing
 - Harmonic balance
 - Advanced post-processing
- **Best Practice**
 - Mesh requirements
 - Solution procedure

Conjugate Heat Transfer

Key Capabilities

- **Direct CAD import**
- **3D CAD editing**
- **Meshing**
 - Polyhedral cells
 - Conformal interfaces
 - Automatic prism layer generation

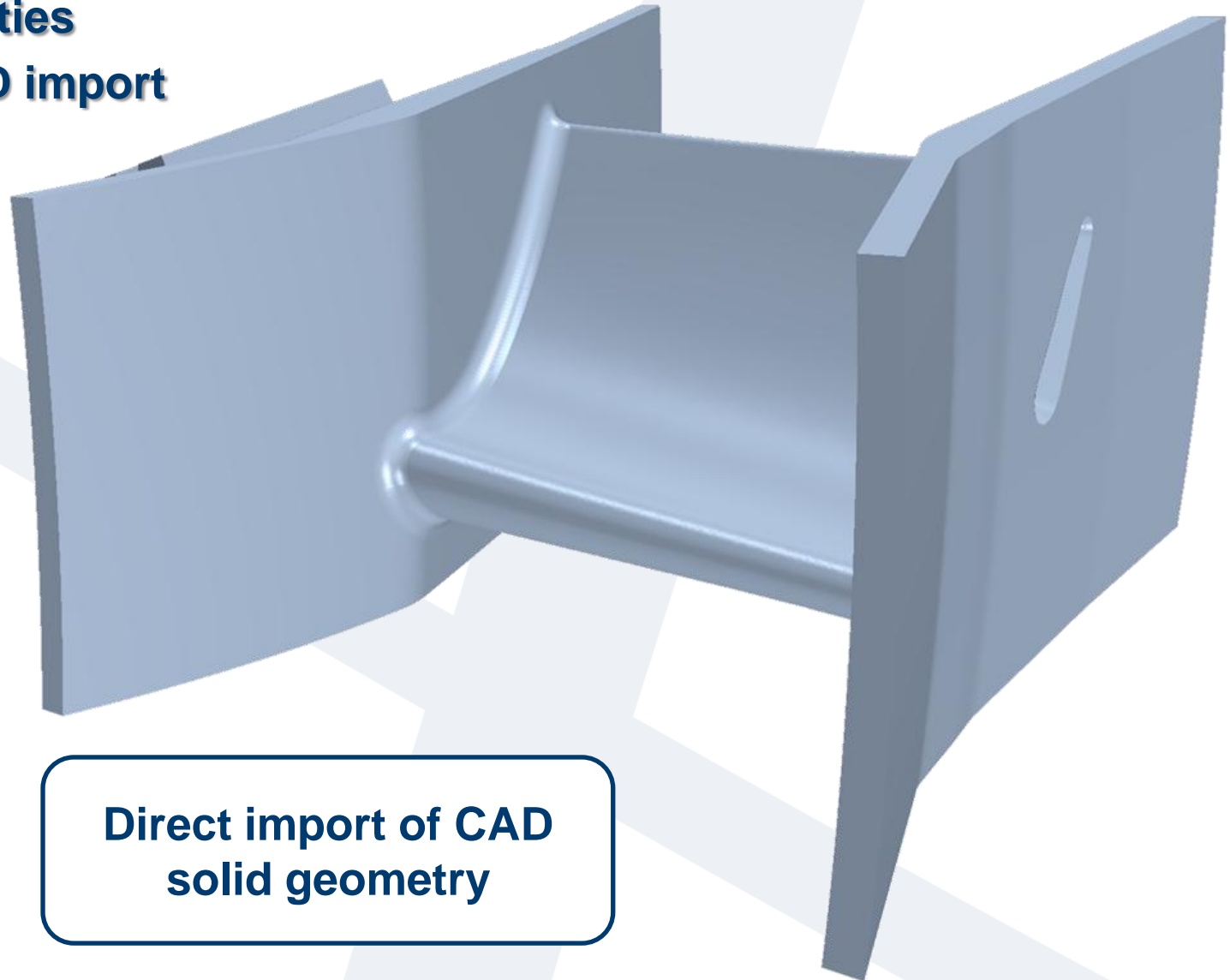


Cooled Turbine Blade



Key Capabilities

- Direct CAD import



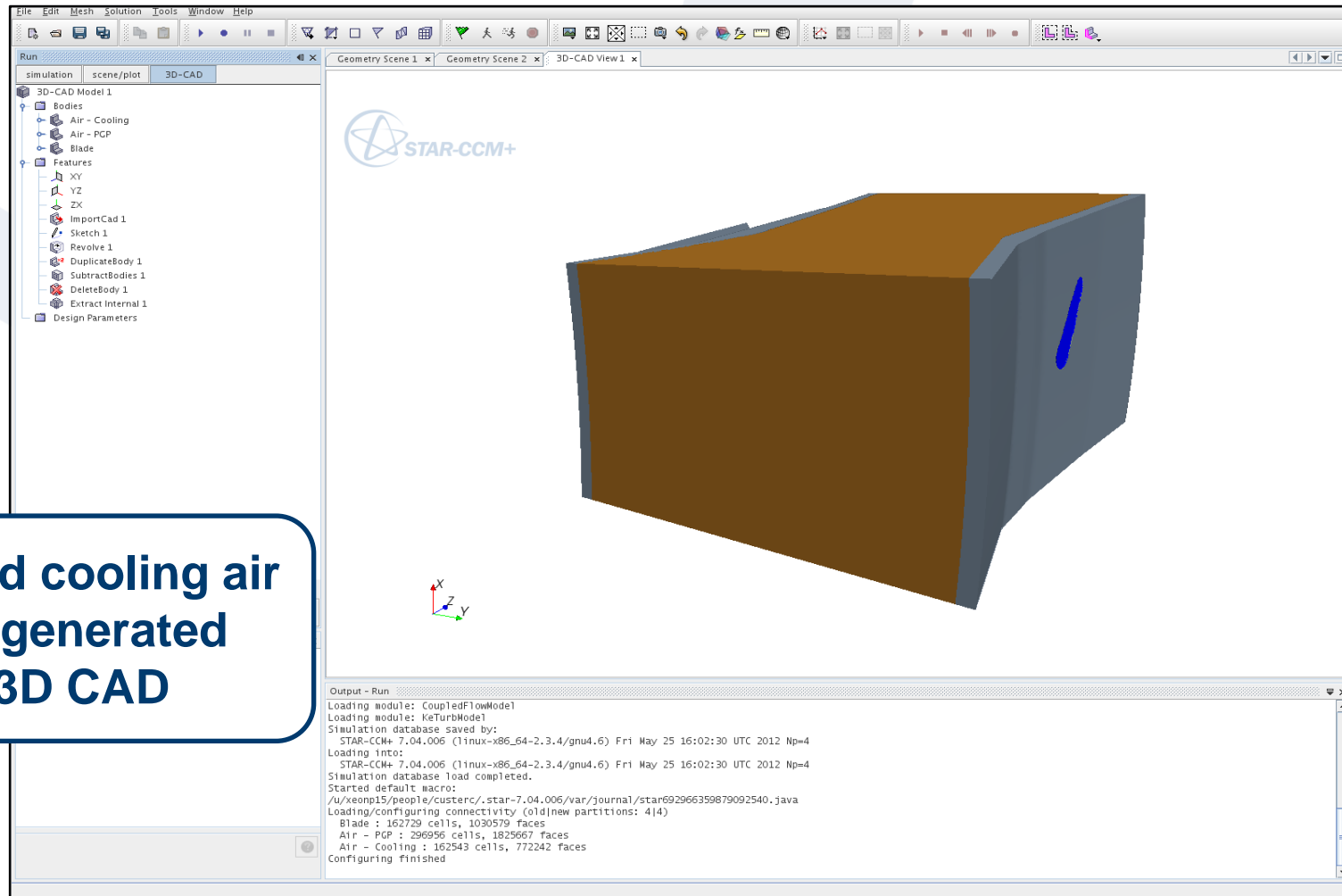
**Direct import of CAD
solid geometry**

Cooled Turbine Blade



Key Capabilities

- 3D CAD editing



External and cooling air volumes generated using 3D CAD

Cooled Turbine Blade

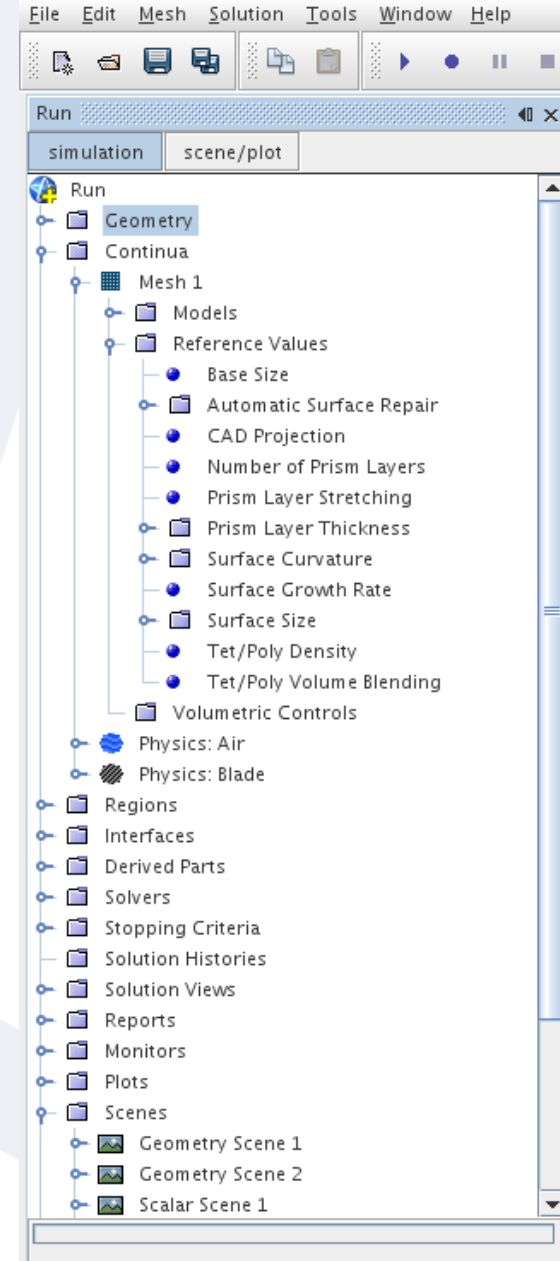


Key Capabilities

- **Meshing**

- Automatic mesh generation
- Polyhedral cells
- Conformal interfaces
- Automatic prism layer generation

- **Pipelined meshing**
- **Simple global size settings**
- **Local refinement control**
- **Automatic solution interpolation**

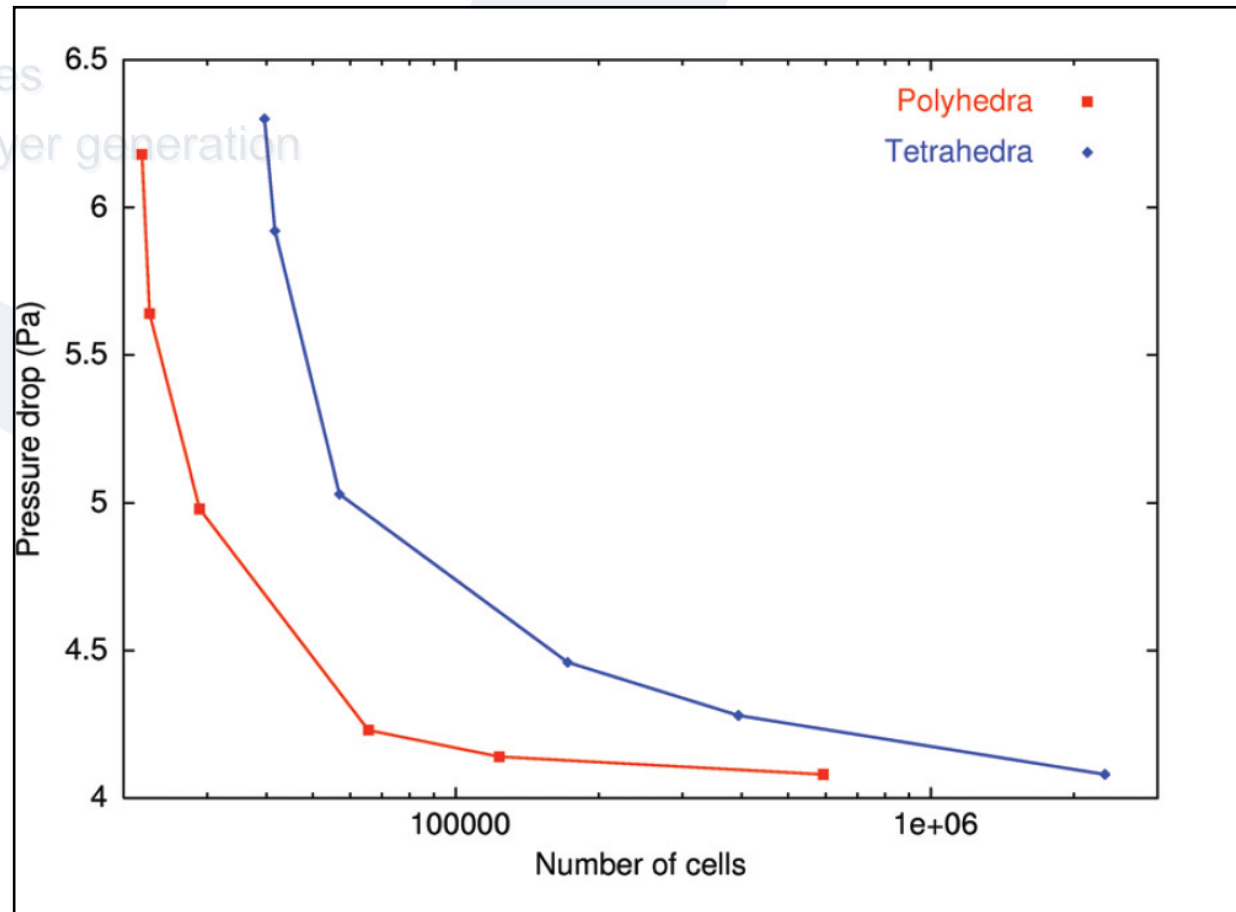
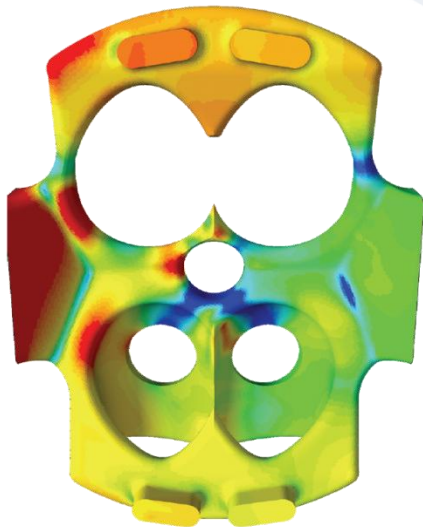


Cooled Turbine Blade

Key Capabilities

- **Meshing**
 - Automatic mesh generation
 - Polyhedral cells
 - Conformal interfaces
 - Automatic prism layer generation

Fewer cells required



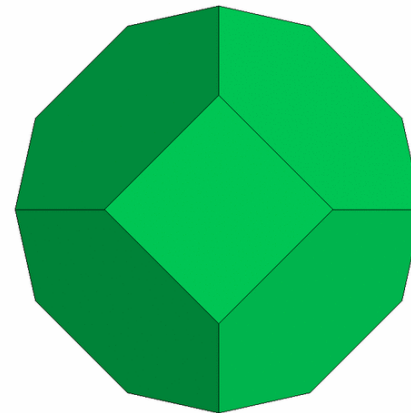
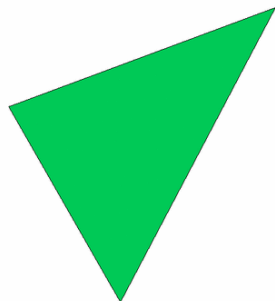
Cooled Turbine Blade

Key Capabilities

- **Meshing**

- Automatic mesh generation
- Polyhedral cells
- Conformal interfaces
- Automatic prism layer generation

Good for swirling flow



Polyhedral cell faces are orthogonal to the flow regardless of flow direction

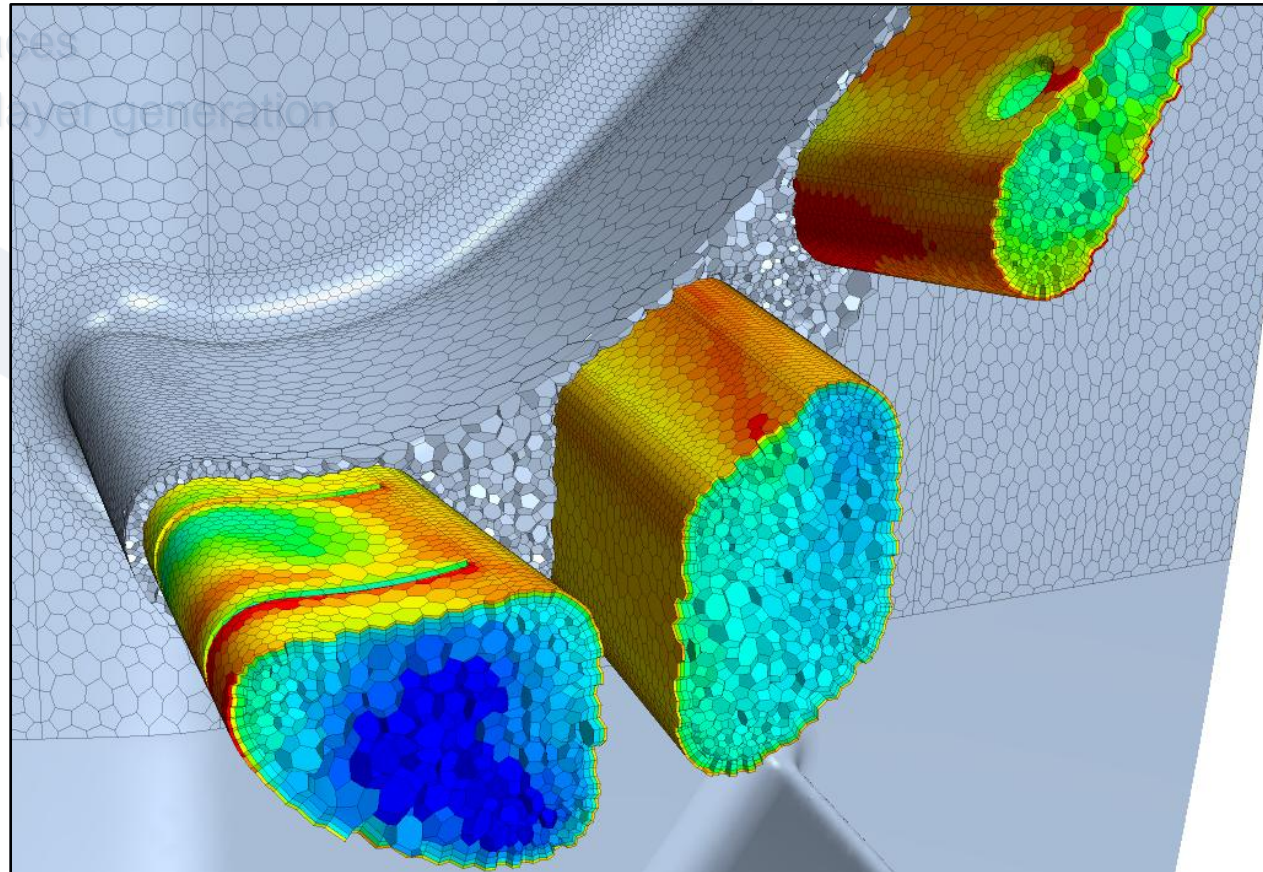
Cooled Turbine Blade

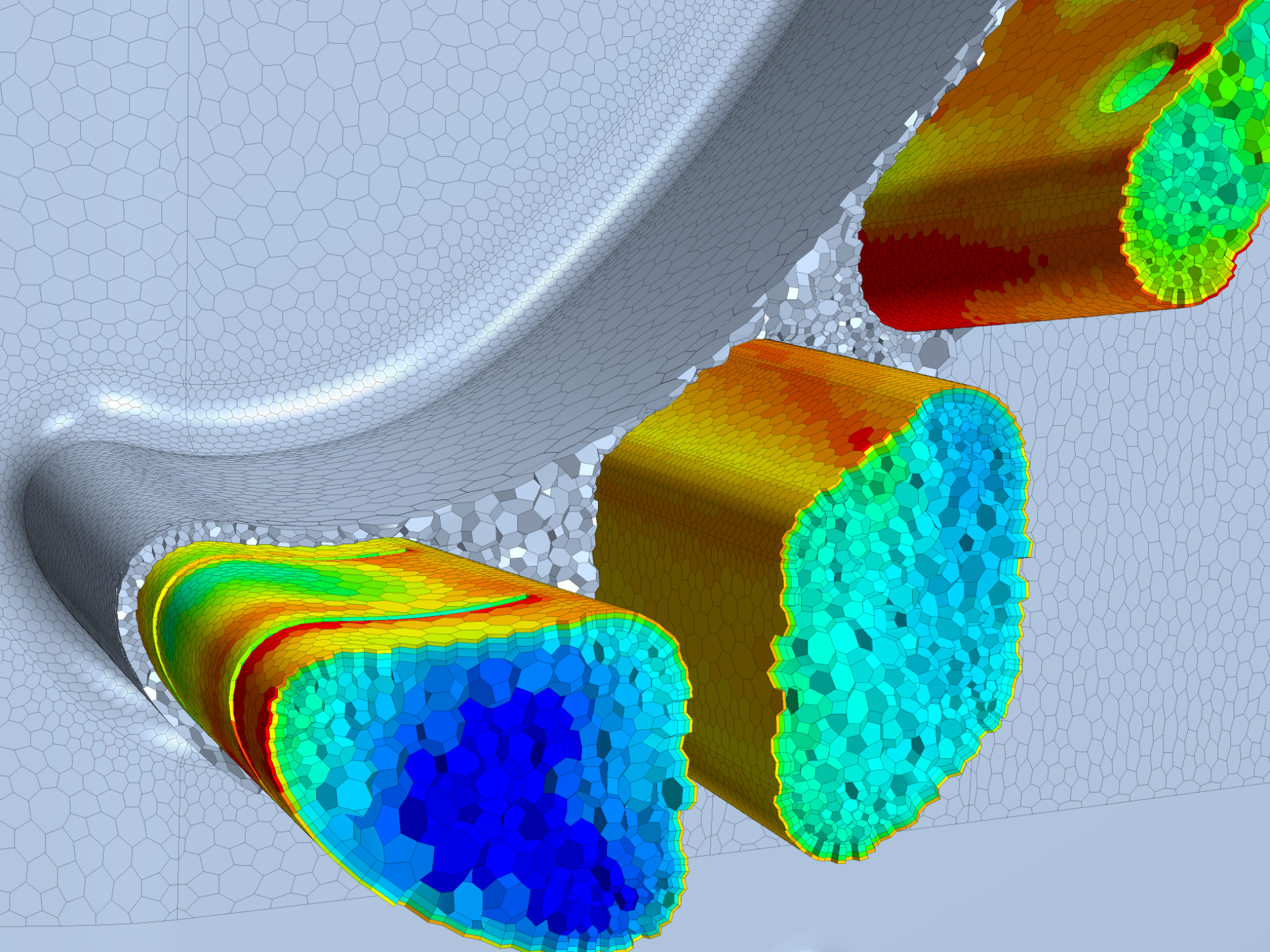
Key Capabilities

- **Meshing**

- Automatic mesh generation
- Polyhedral cells
- Conformal interfaces
- Automatic prism layer generation

High quality cells, even with complex geometry





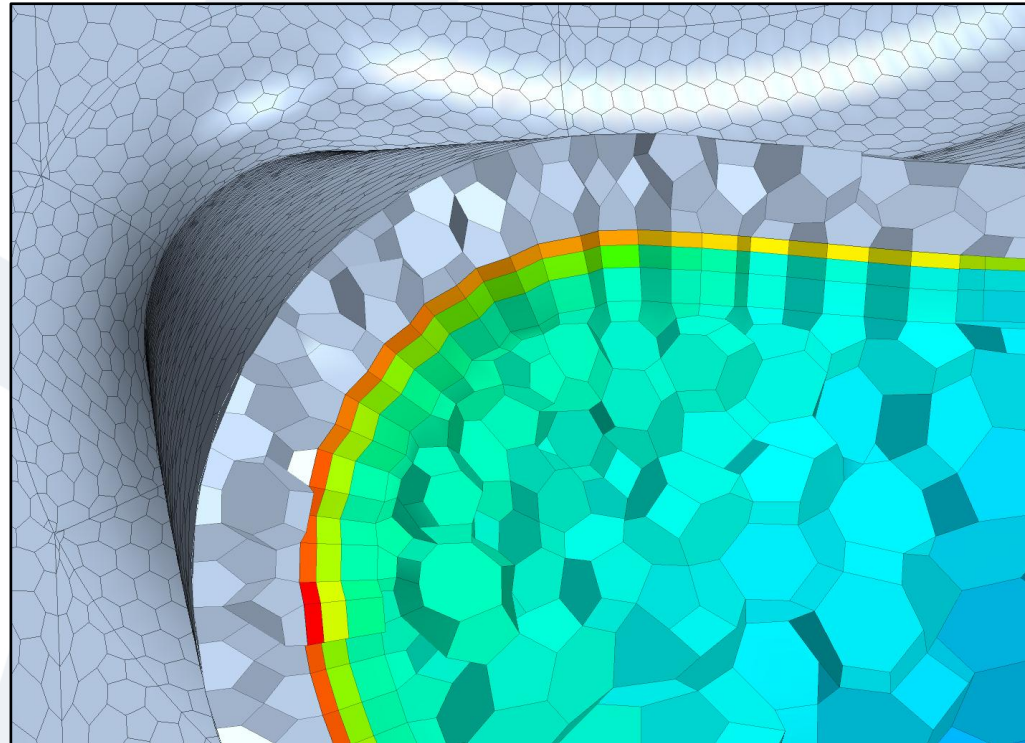
Cooled Turbine Blade

Key Capabilities

- **Meshing**
 - Automatic mesh generation
 - Polyhedral cells
 - Conformal interfaces
 - Automatic prism layer generation

Cells are one-to-one connected on the solid/fluid interface

Fluid-side prism layers are automatically generated



Aeroelastic Response



Traditional simulation methods present many challenges

- **Aeroelastic analysis must be run unsteady**
- **Traditional unsteady simulation is challenging**
 - Very long run times
 - Must mesh the entire machine
 - Hard to specify blade vibration
 - Hard to extract stability information

- **Harmonic balance method in STAR-CCM+ resolves each of these challenges**
- **The HB method is not available in any other commercial package**

Harmonic Balance Basics

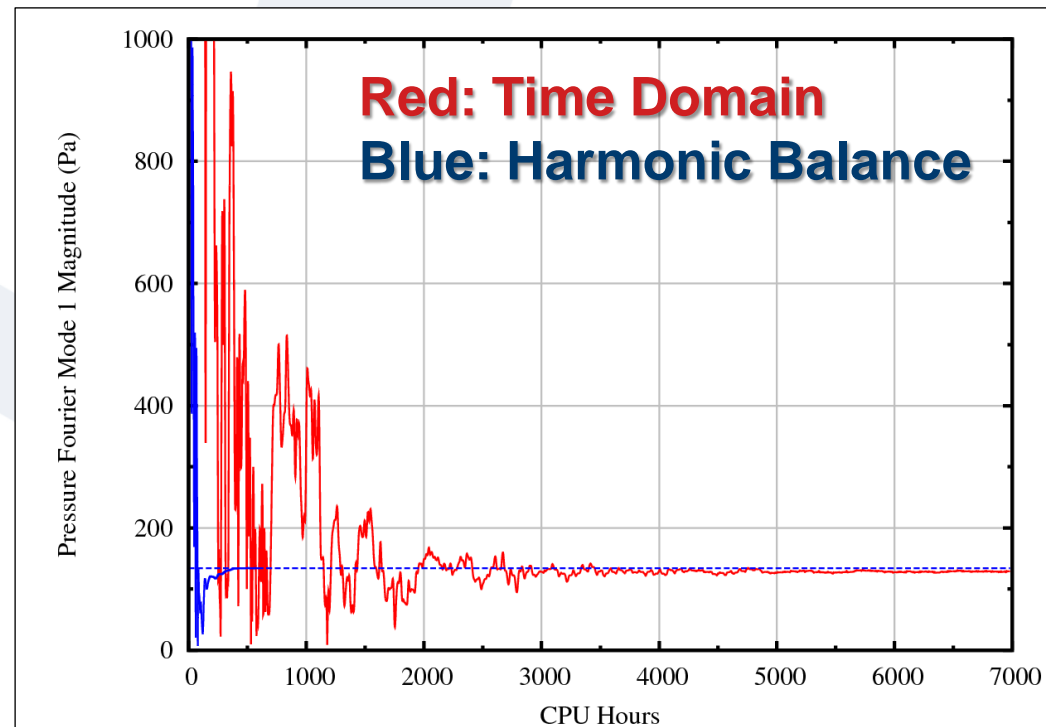
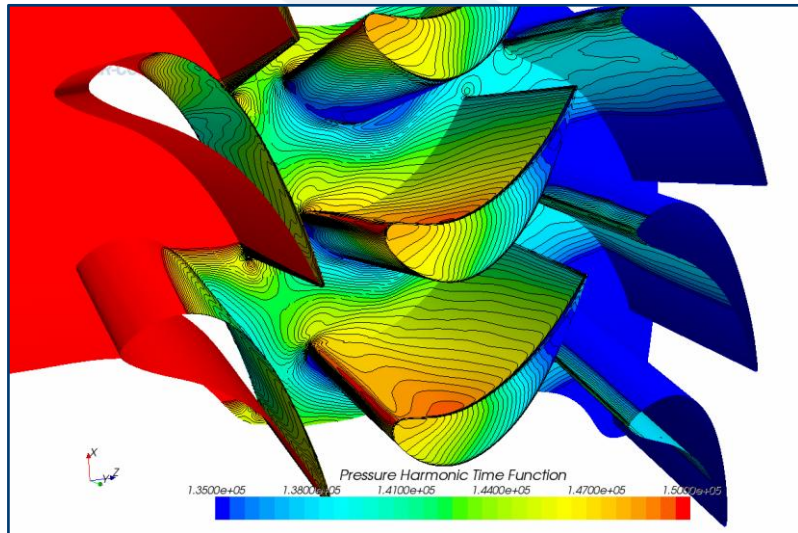


- **The harmonic balance method takes advantage of the periodic nature of a turbomachine**
- **Solves a set of equations that converge to the periodic, unsteady solution**
- **Full non-linear solver**
- **All unsteady interactions captured**

Harmonic Balance Key Benefits

Rapid calculation of unsteady solution

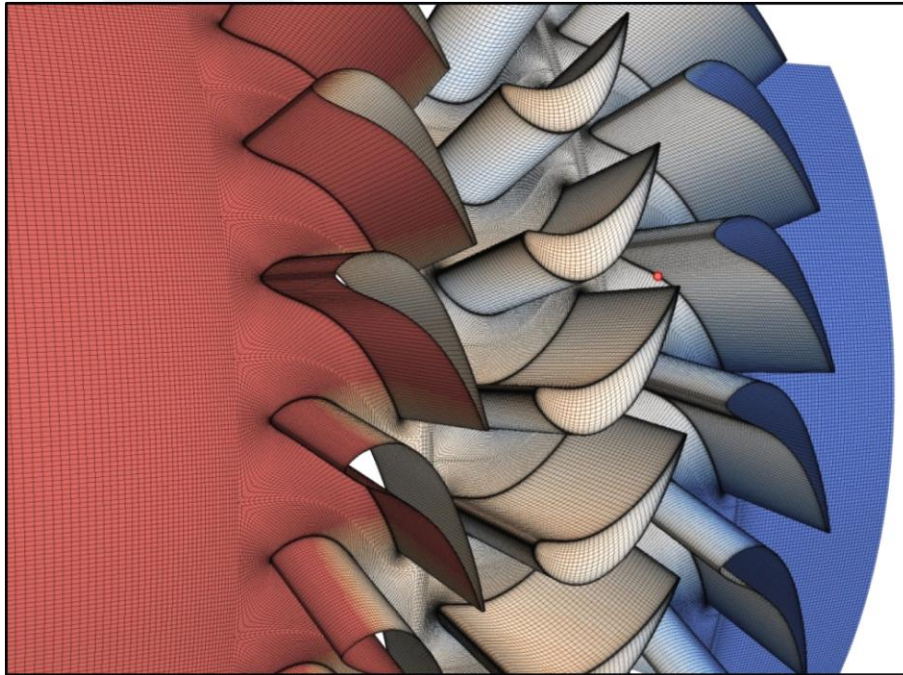
- Unsteady simulation must be run for many time steps to converge
- HB simulation converges to the unsteady solution 10x faster



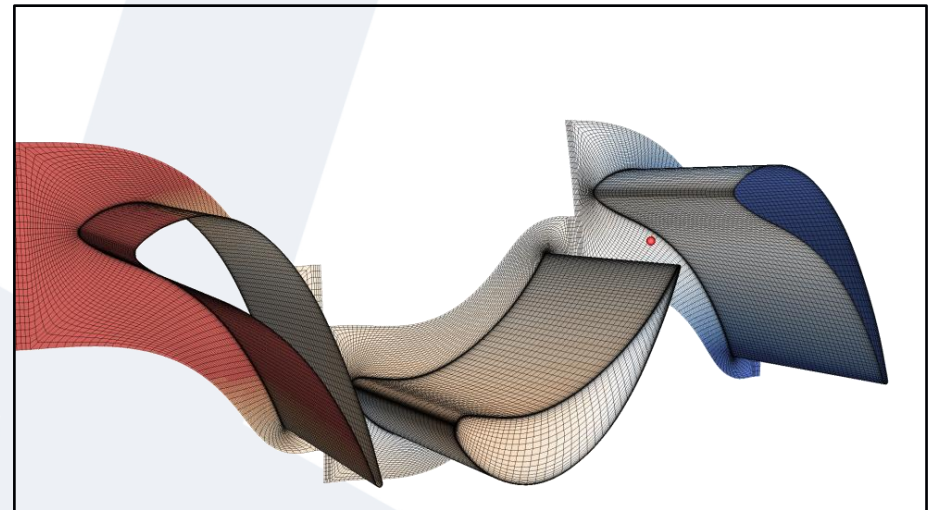
Harmonic Balance Key Benefits

Single blade passage mesh

- All blades must be meshed for an unsteady simulation
- Only one blade passage must be meshed for a HB simulation, however the **solution is calculated for all blades**



Time Domain



Harmonic Balance

Harmonic Balance Key Benefits

Specify blade vibration

- The vibration of each blade is staggered. This is known as the “Interblade phase angle”
- To determine stability a simulation must be run for each phase angle
- Traditional unsteady solvers require manual set up of motion for each phase angle

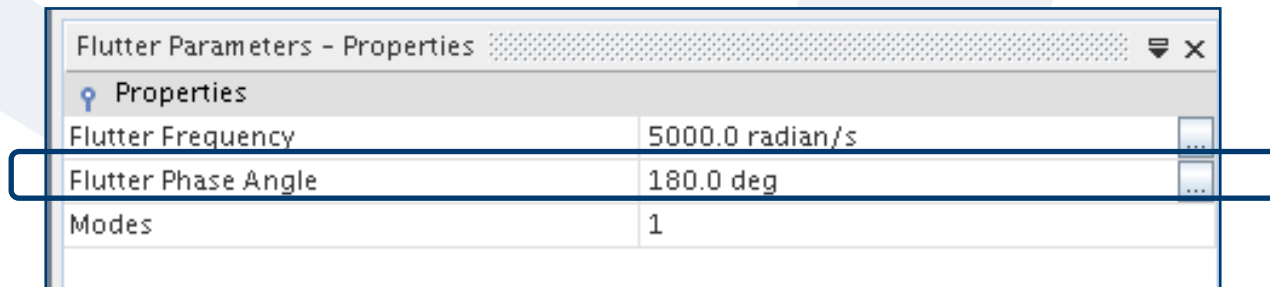


Harmonic Balance Key Benefits



Specify blade vibration

- Interblade phase angle is a simple input to the HB solver

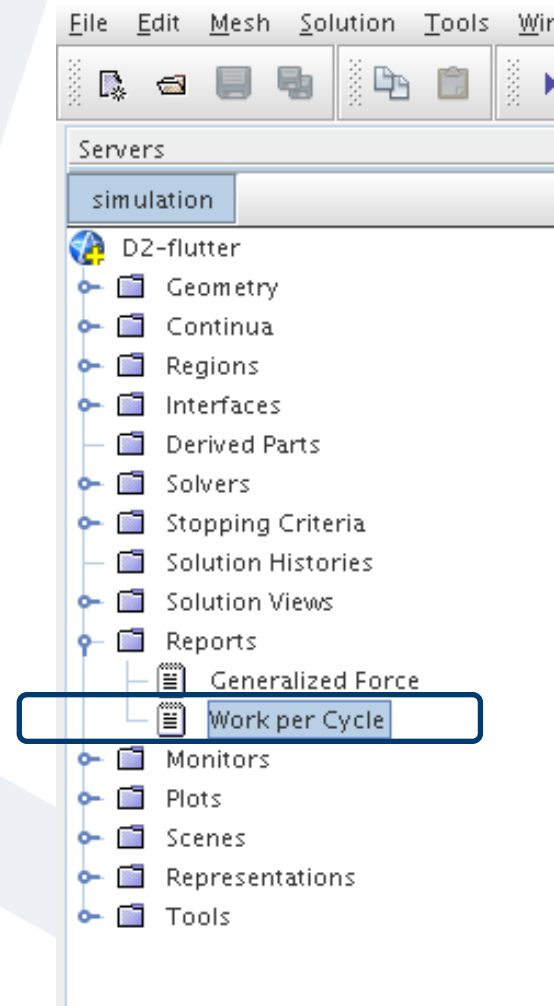


Harmonic Balance Key Benefits

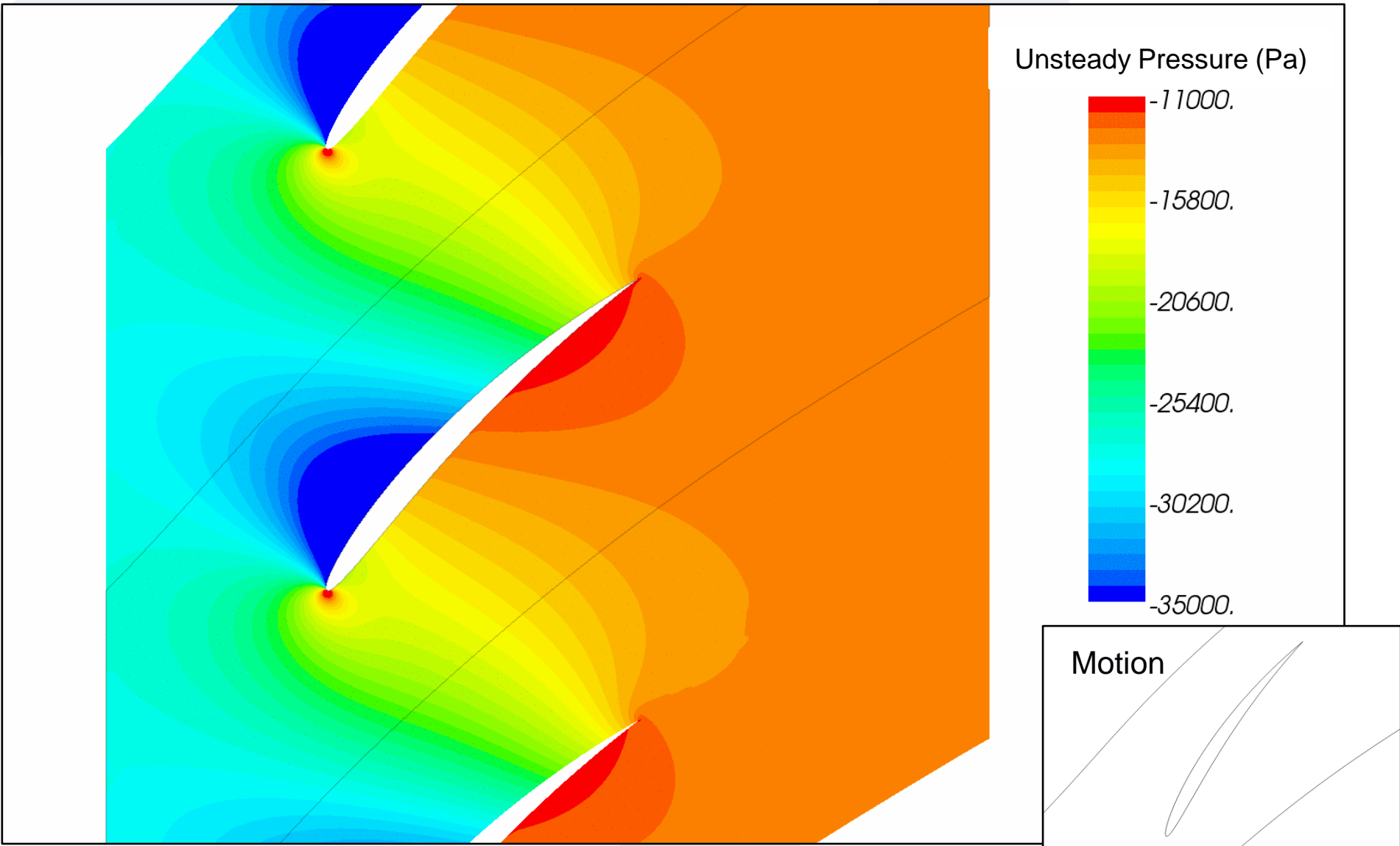


Work per cycle calculation

- Stability is determined by “Work per cycle”
- Traditional unsteady solver requires the solution be saved at each time step and complex, external post processing to determine this value
- Work per cycle is a simple report when using the HB solver

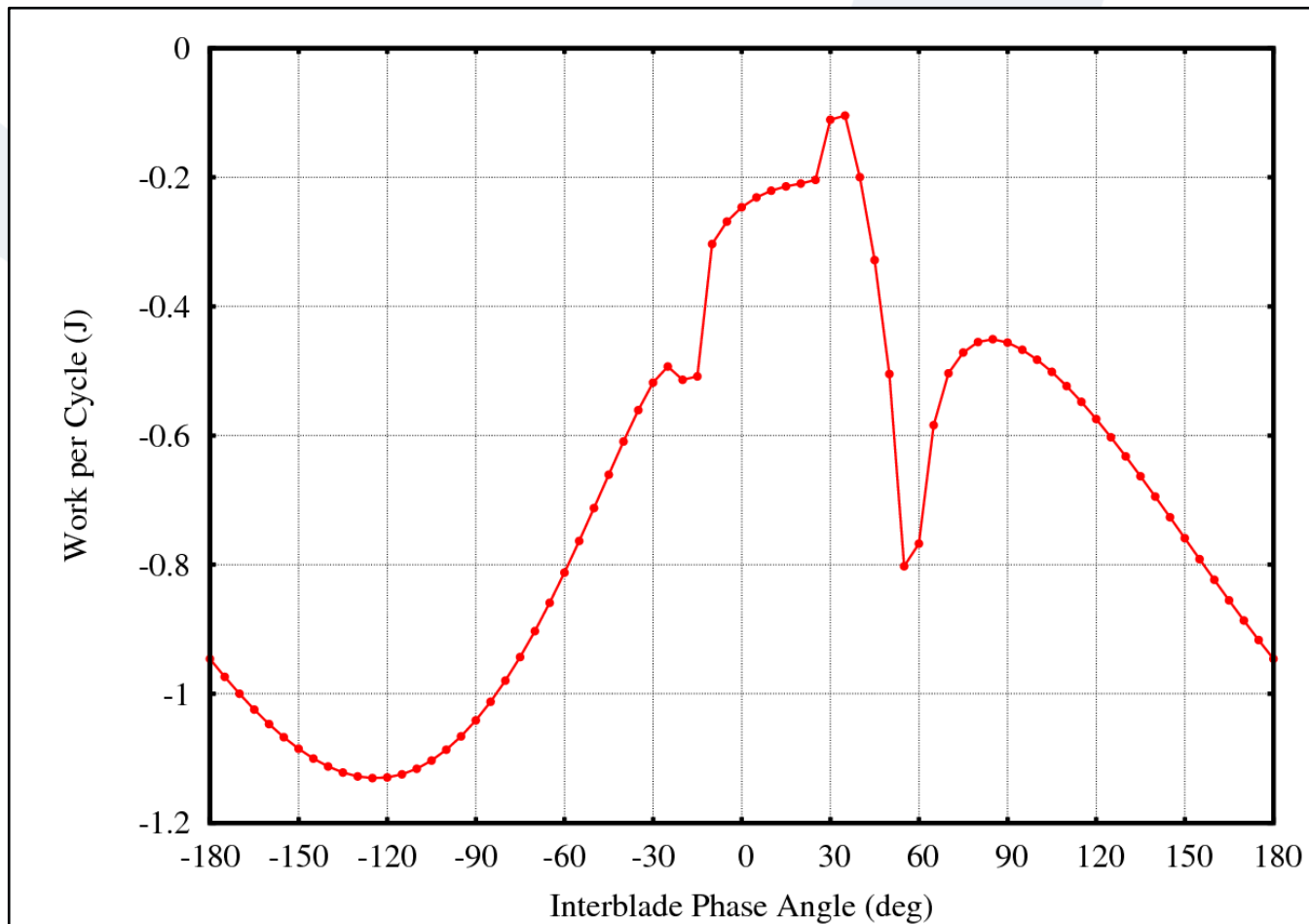


Example: Vane Flutter



Example: Vane Flutter

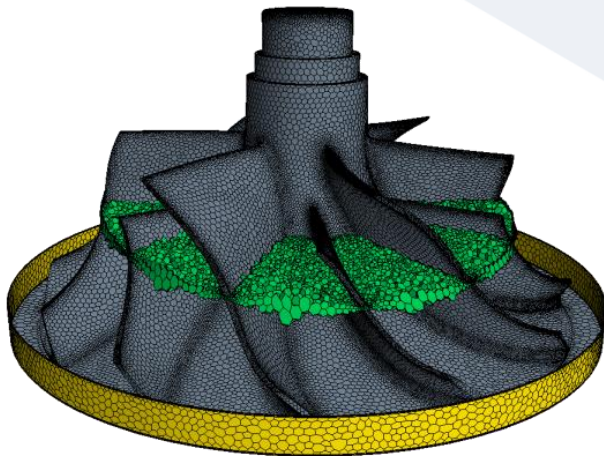
- Work per cycle map shows this vane will not flutter



Performance Mapping

Key Benefits

- **Complex geometry handling**
- **Polyhedral cells**
- **High quality mesh**
- **Prism layer generation**
- **Harmonic balance solver**

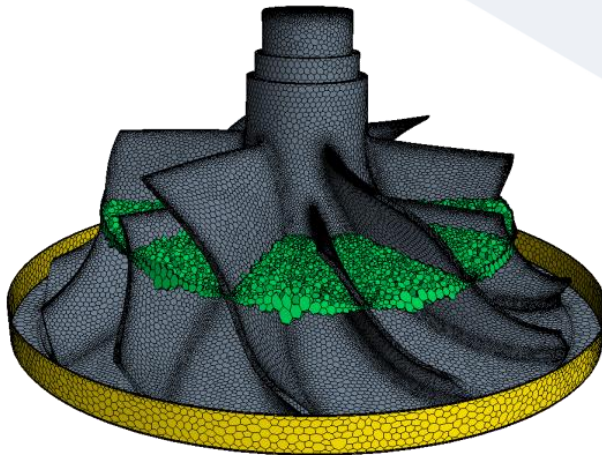


Performance Mapping

Key Benefits

- Complex geometry handling
- Polyhedral cells
- High quality mesh
- Prism layer generation
- Harmonic balance solver
- **Grid sequencing initialization**
- **Efficiency optimization with Optimate+**
- **Turbomachinery specific post-processing**

← **Already discussed**



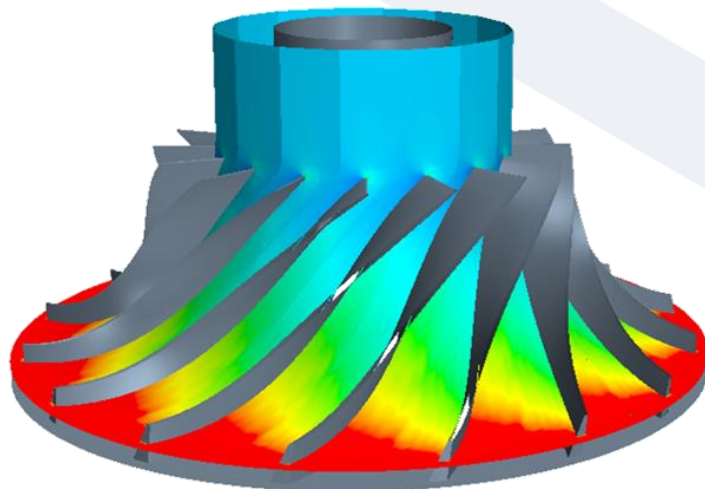
Performance Mapping

Key Benefits

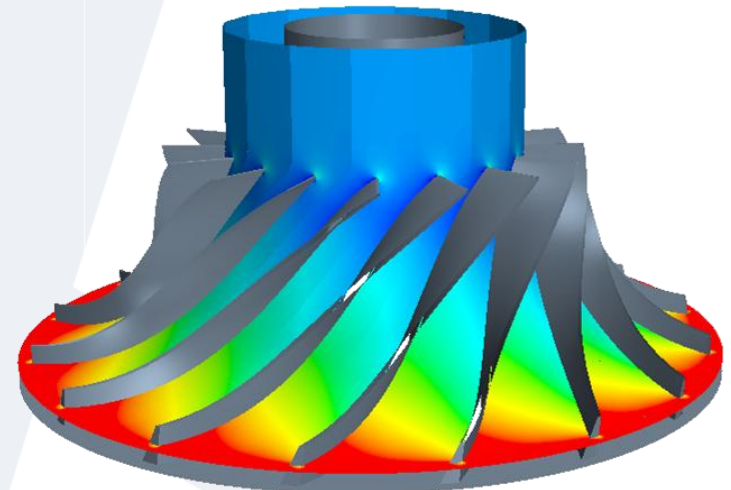
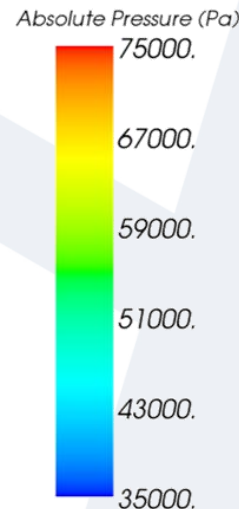
- Grid sequencing initialization

Time to initialization:
80 seconds

- Drastically reduce run time
- Reduce need for ramping
- Increased simulation robustness



Initialization



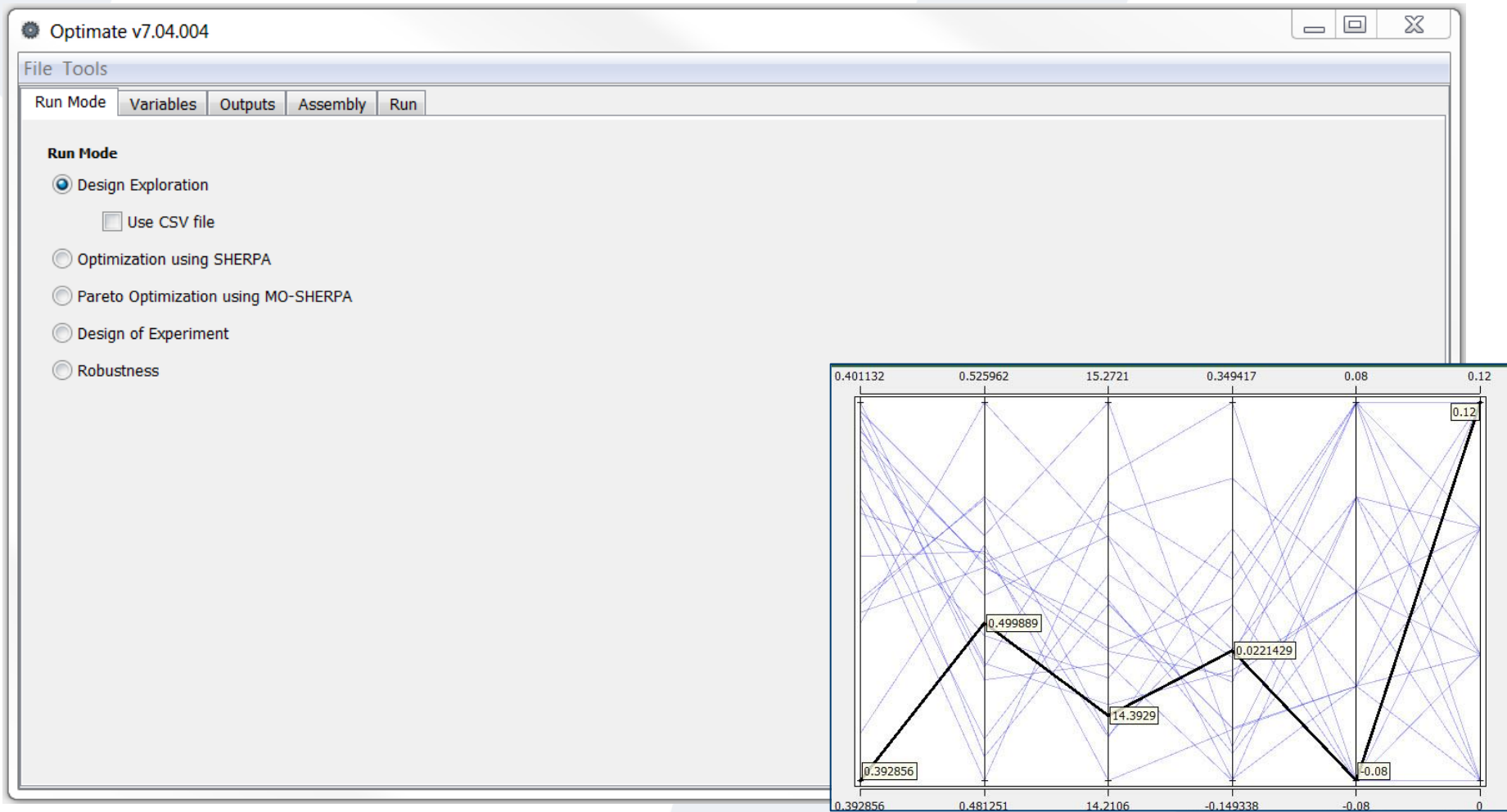
Converged Solution

Performance Mapping



Key Benefits

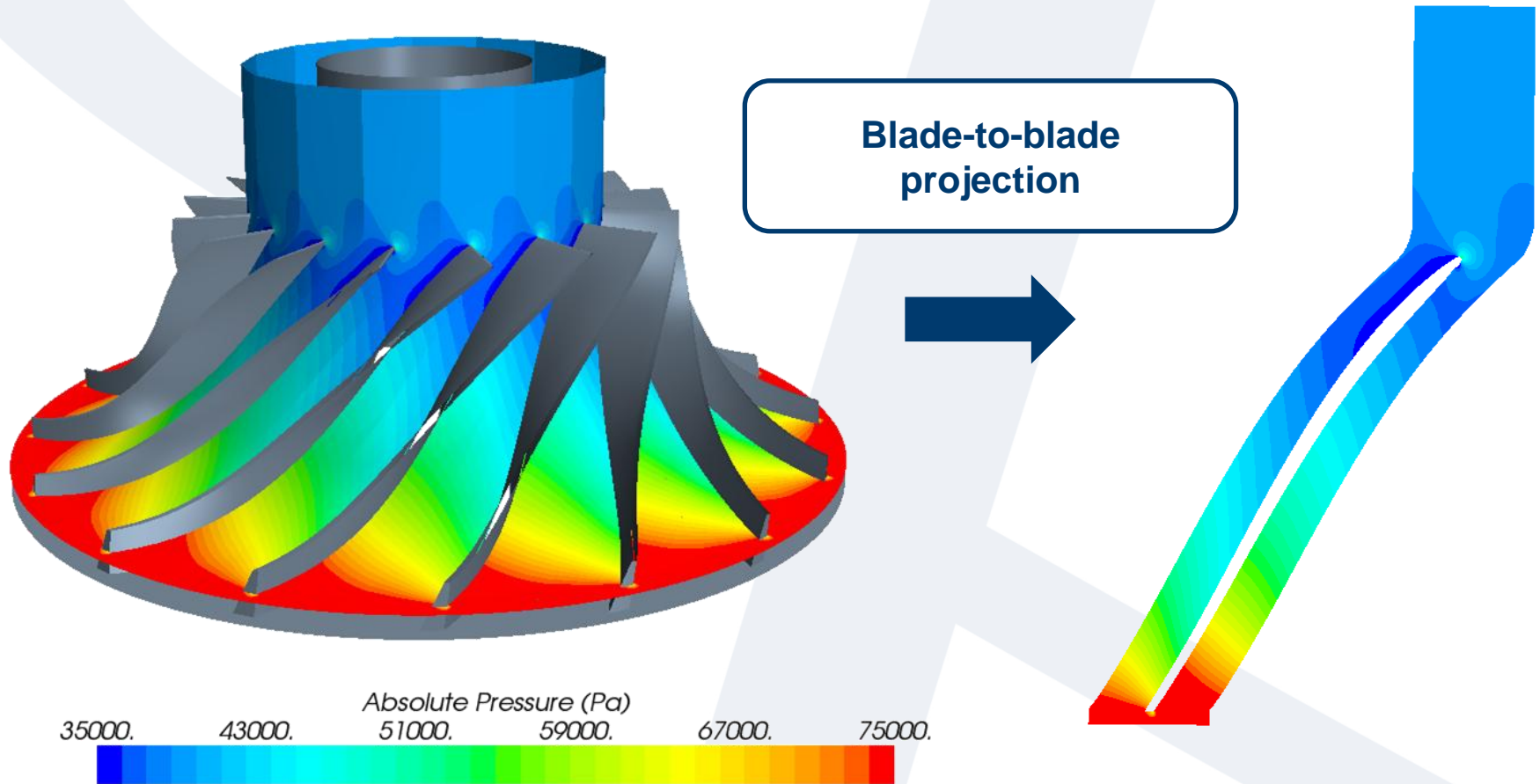
- Efficiency optimization with Optimate+



Performance Mapping

Key Benefits

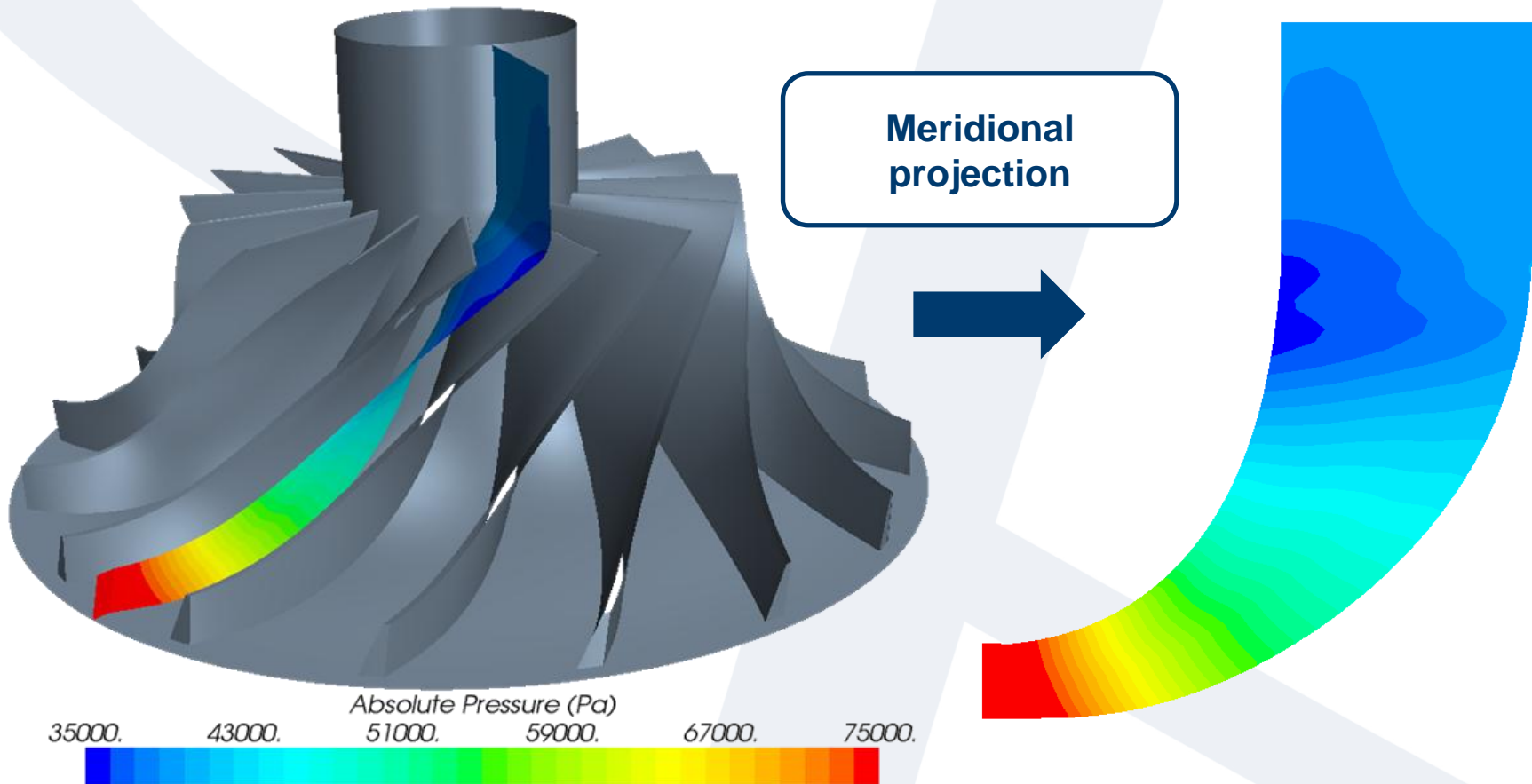
- Turbomachinery specific post-processing



Performance Mapping

Key Benefits

- Turbomachinery specific post-processing

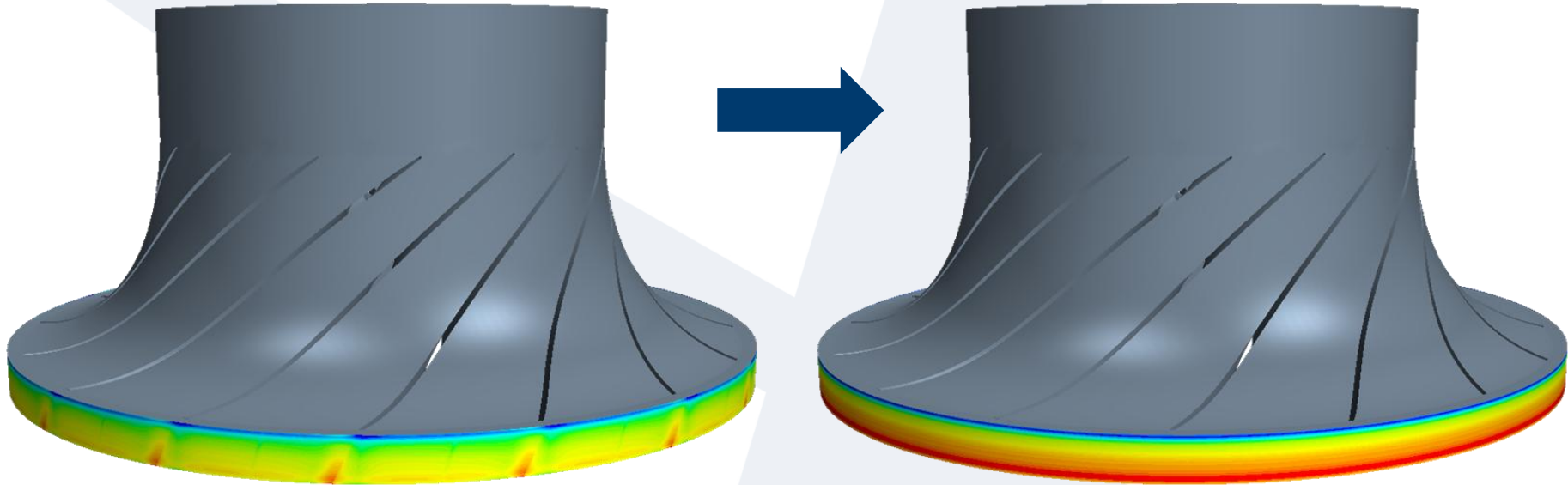


Performance Mapping

Key Benefits

- Turbomachinery specific post-processing

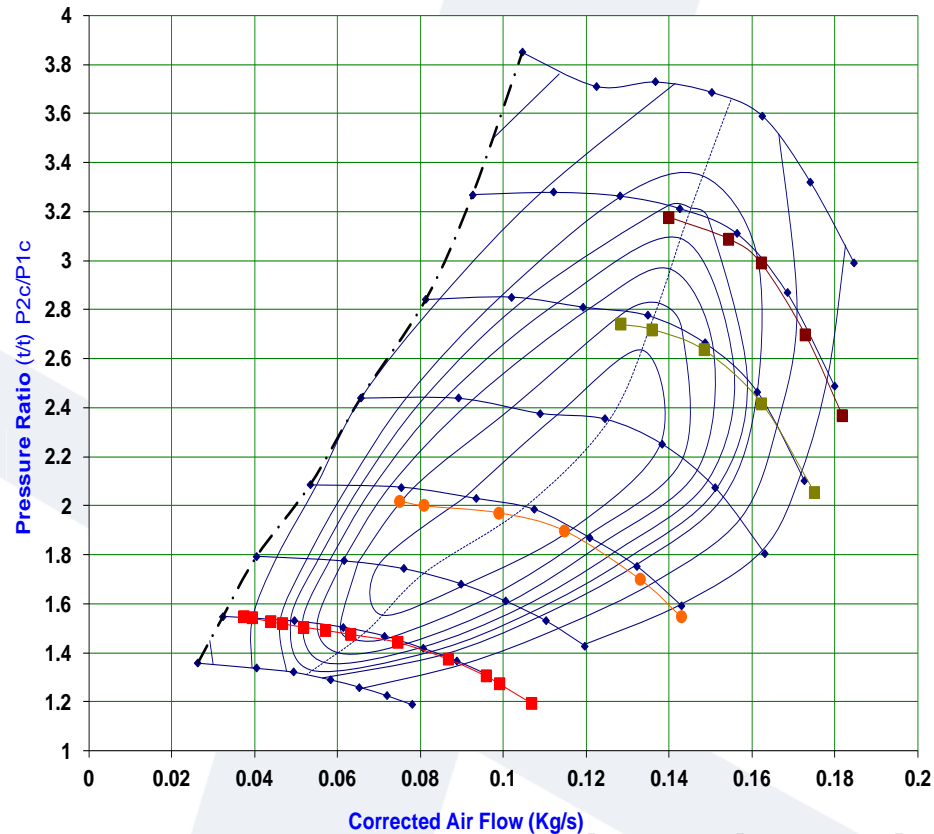
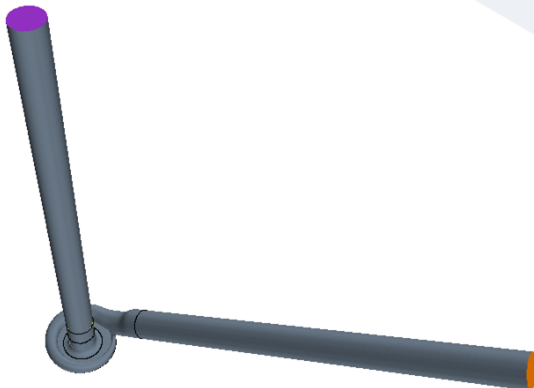
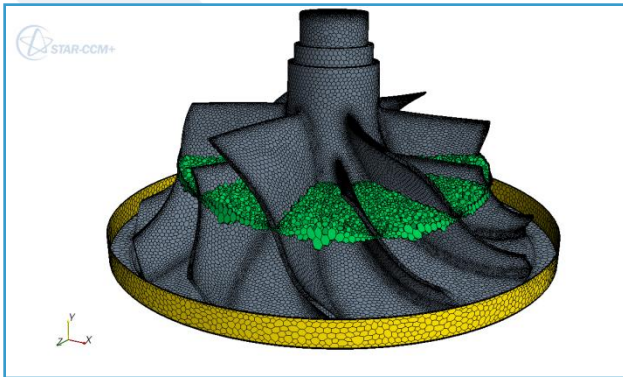
Circumferential
Averaging



Validated Simulation: Radial Compressor



- Comparison with rig measurements
 - Full performance curve
 - RPM range

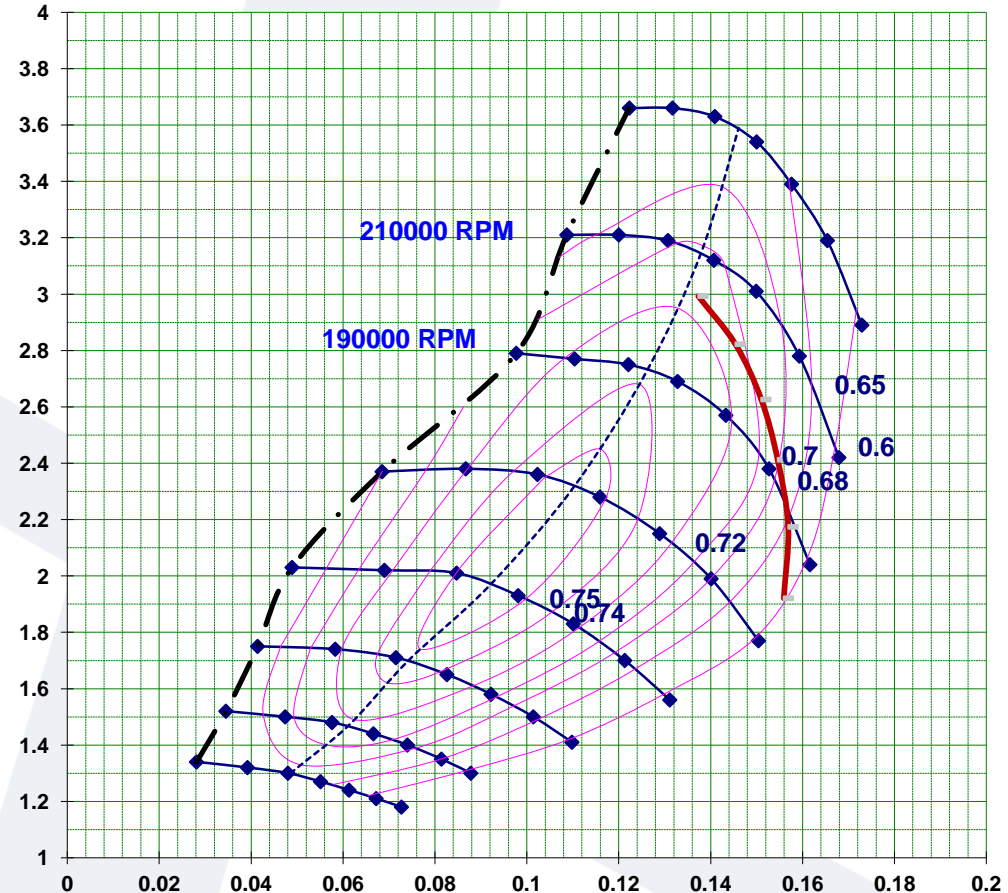
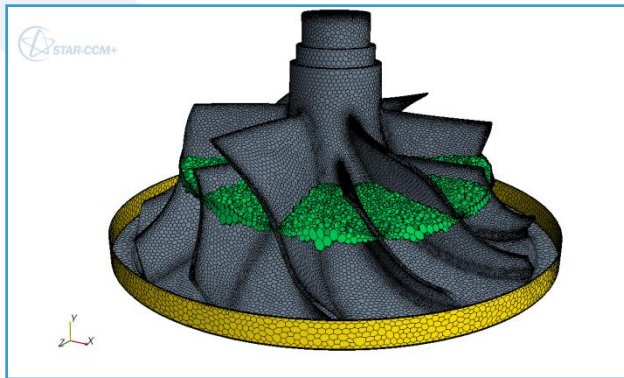


Validated Simulation: Radial Compressor



- **Installation effects**

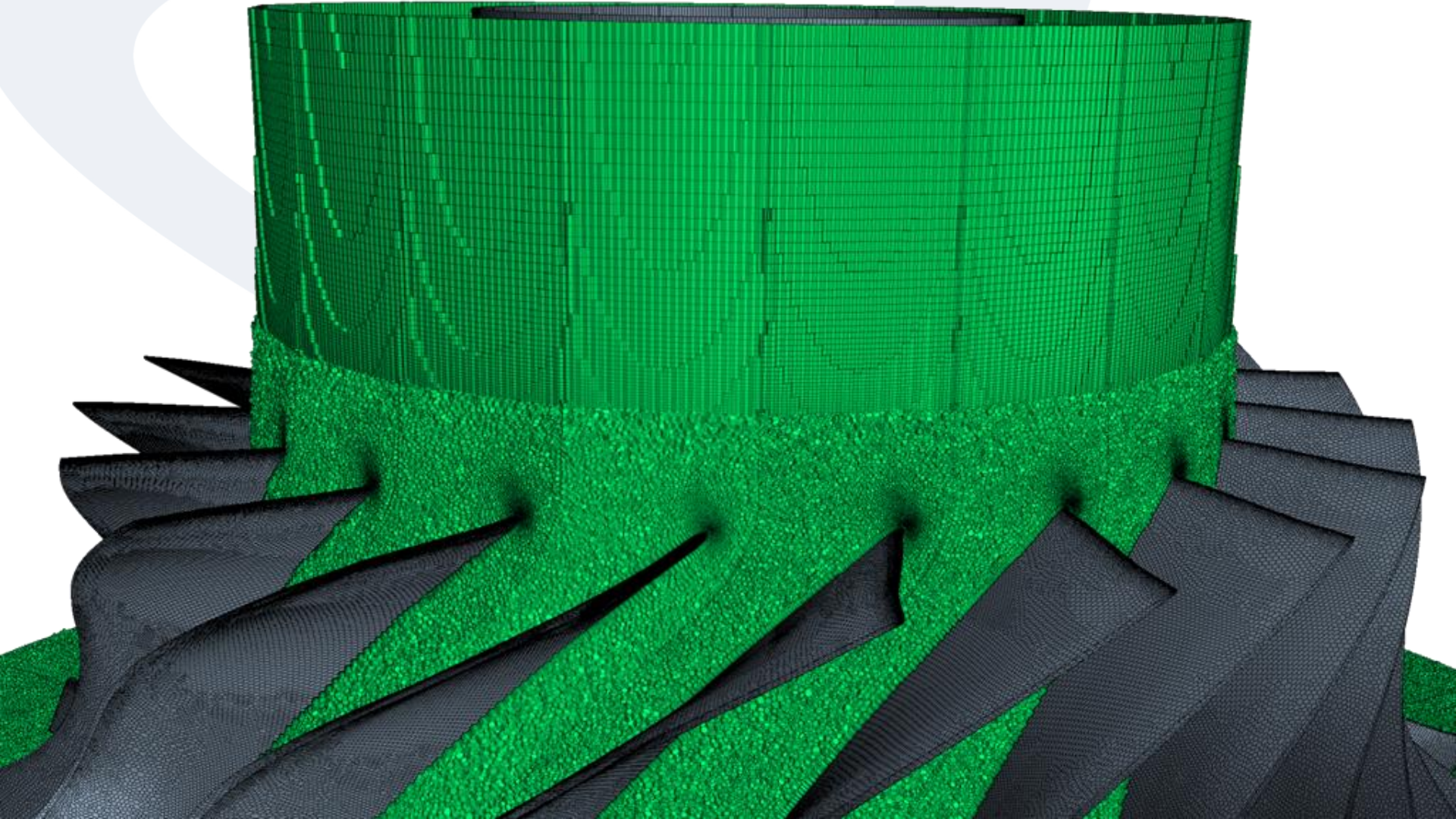
- Curved inlet duct
- Diffuser outlet



Turbomachinery Meshing Guidelines



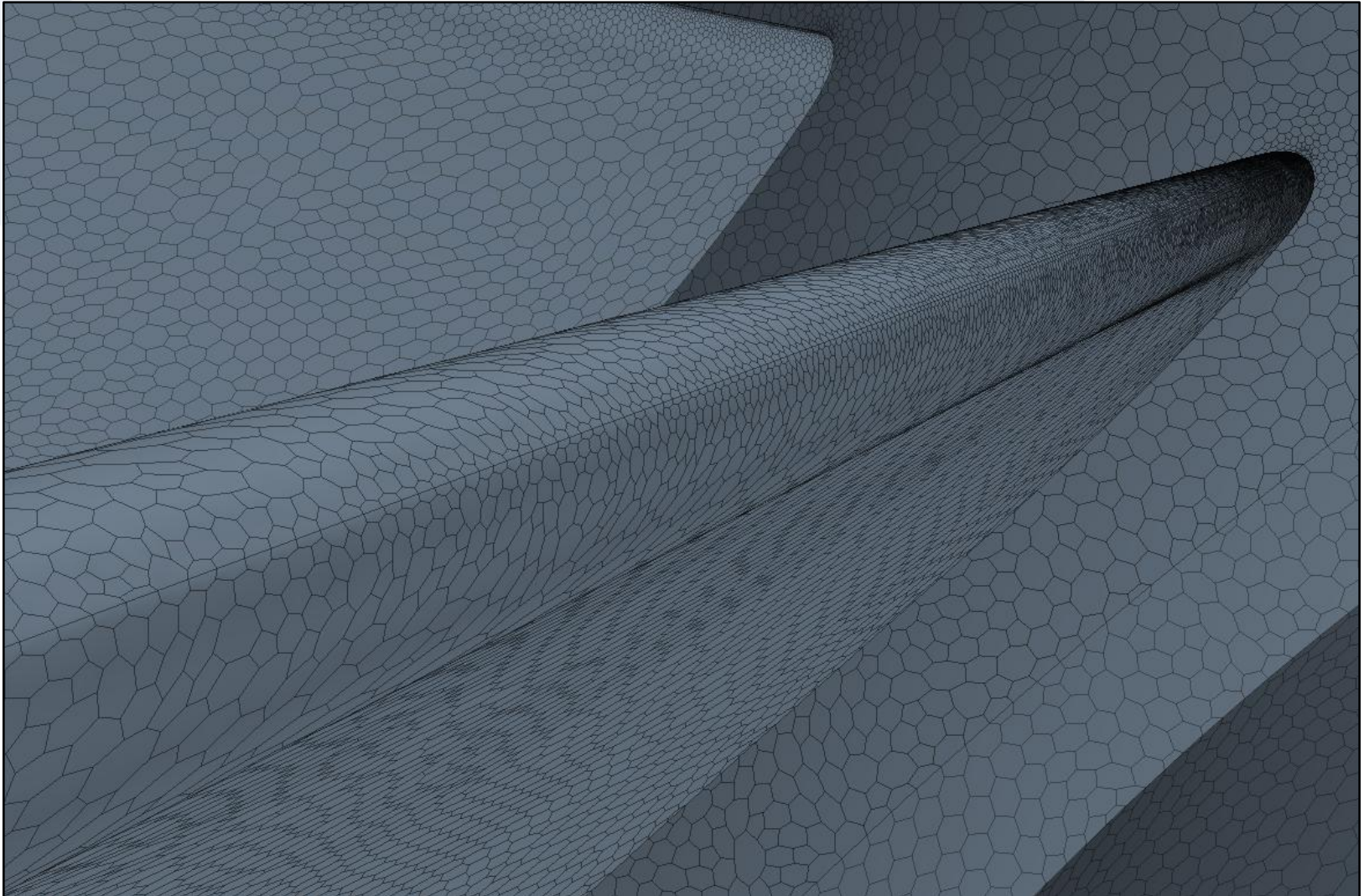
- Polyhedral mesh with extruded inlet/exit as needed



Turbomachinery Meshing Guidelines



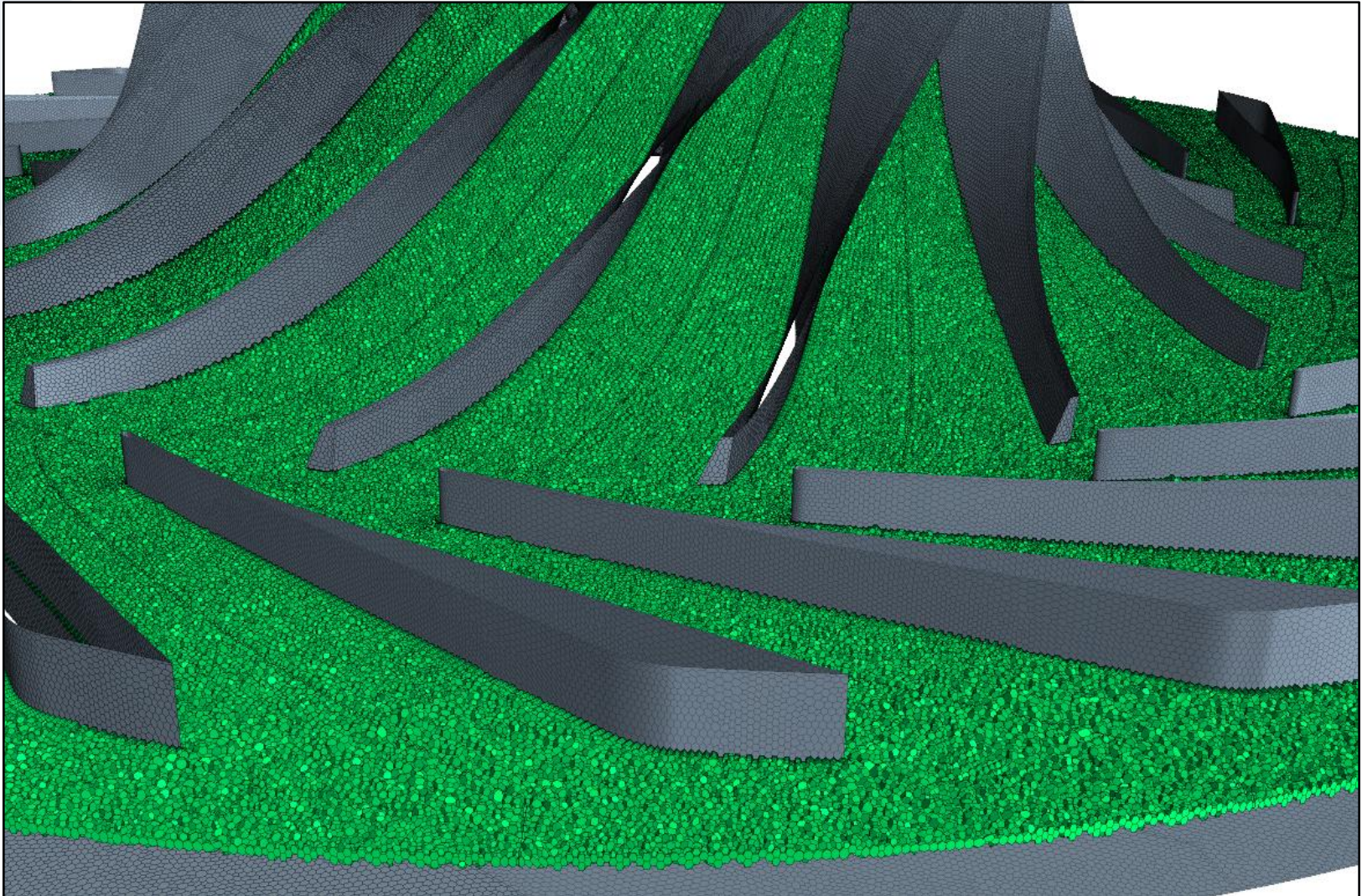
- High resolution of leading and trailing edges



Turbomachinery Meshing Guidelines



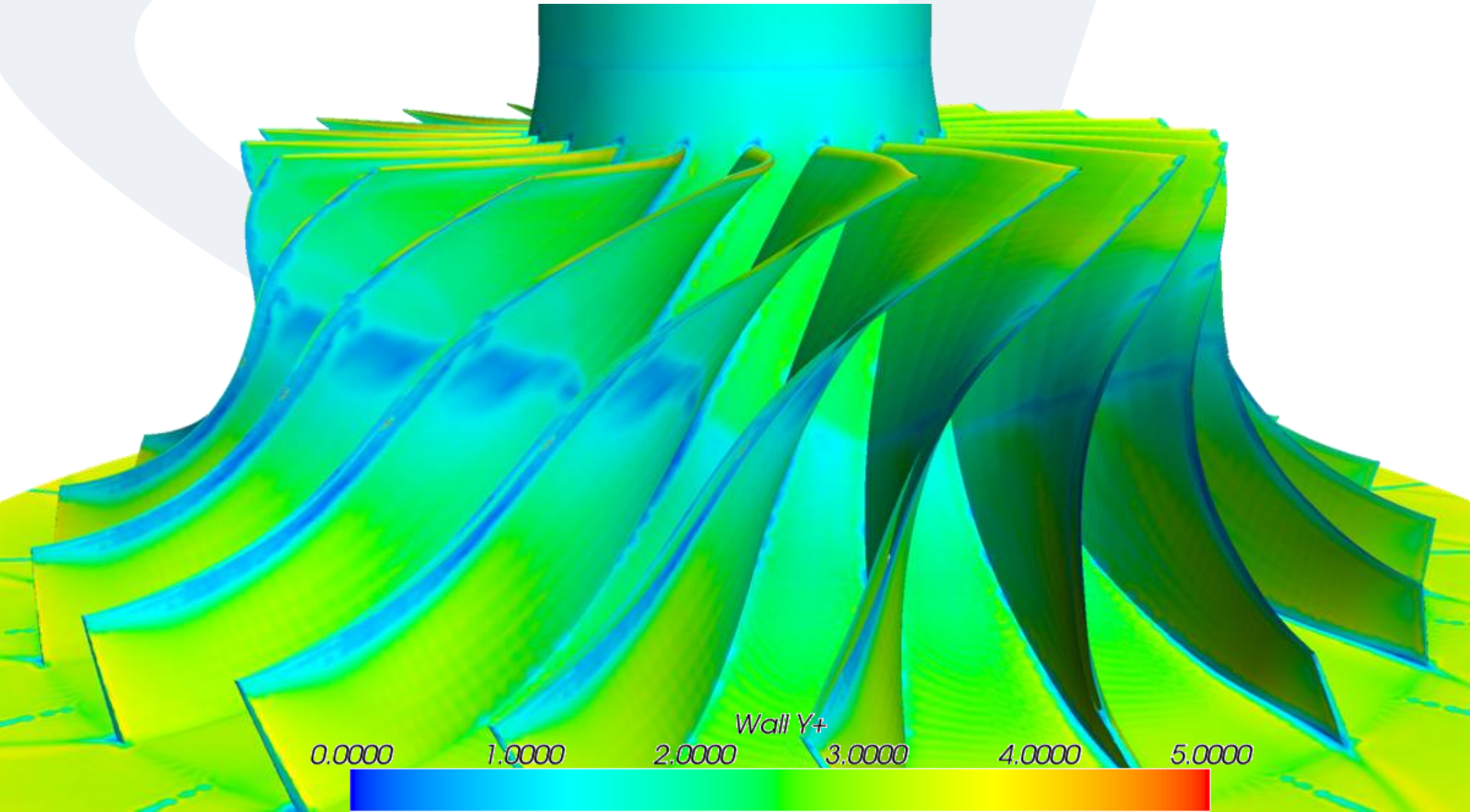
- Uniform cell sizing in the primary gas path



Turbomachinery Meshing Guidelines



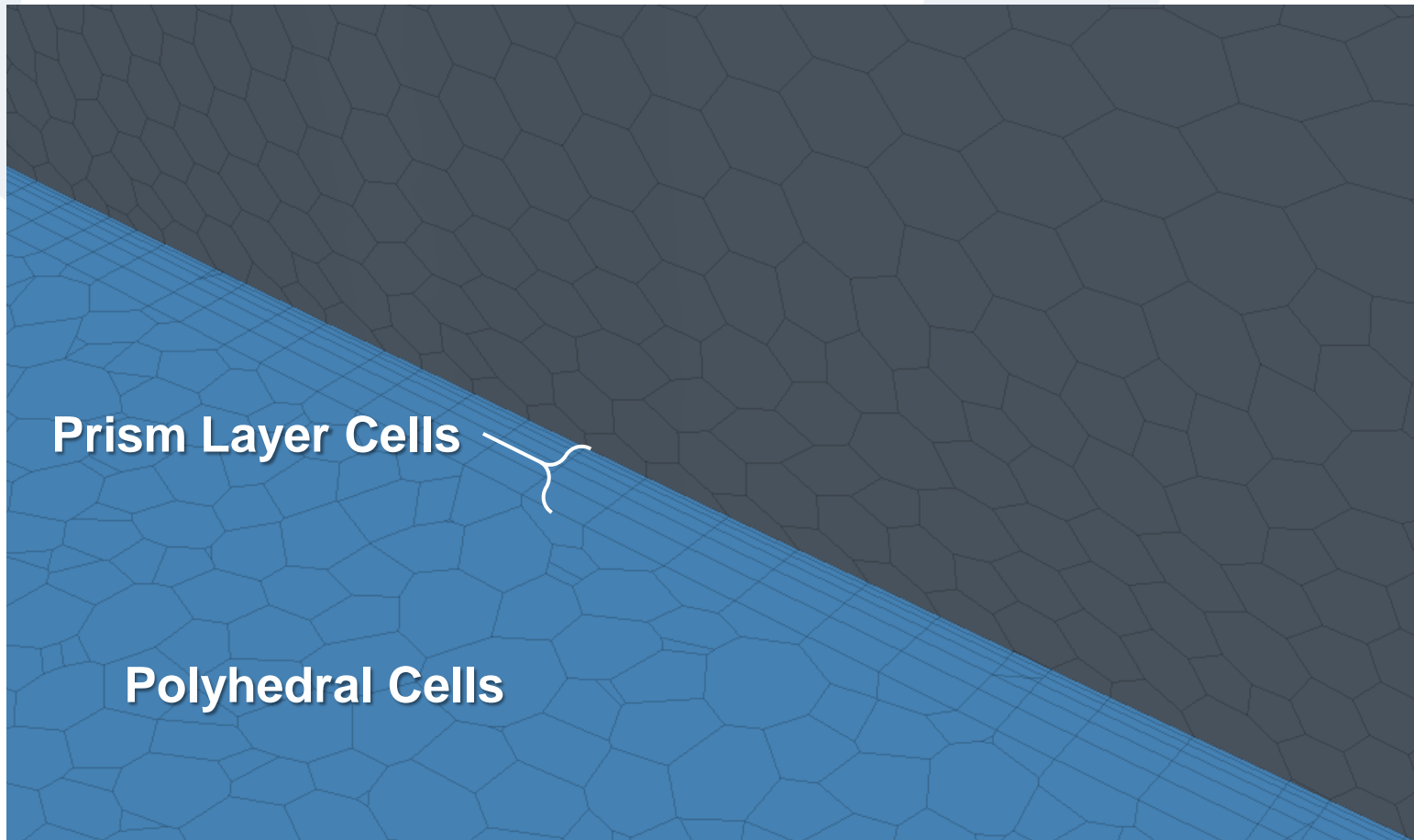
- All y^+ algorithm with y^+ values less than 5



Turbomachinery Meshing Guidelines

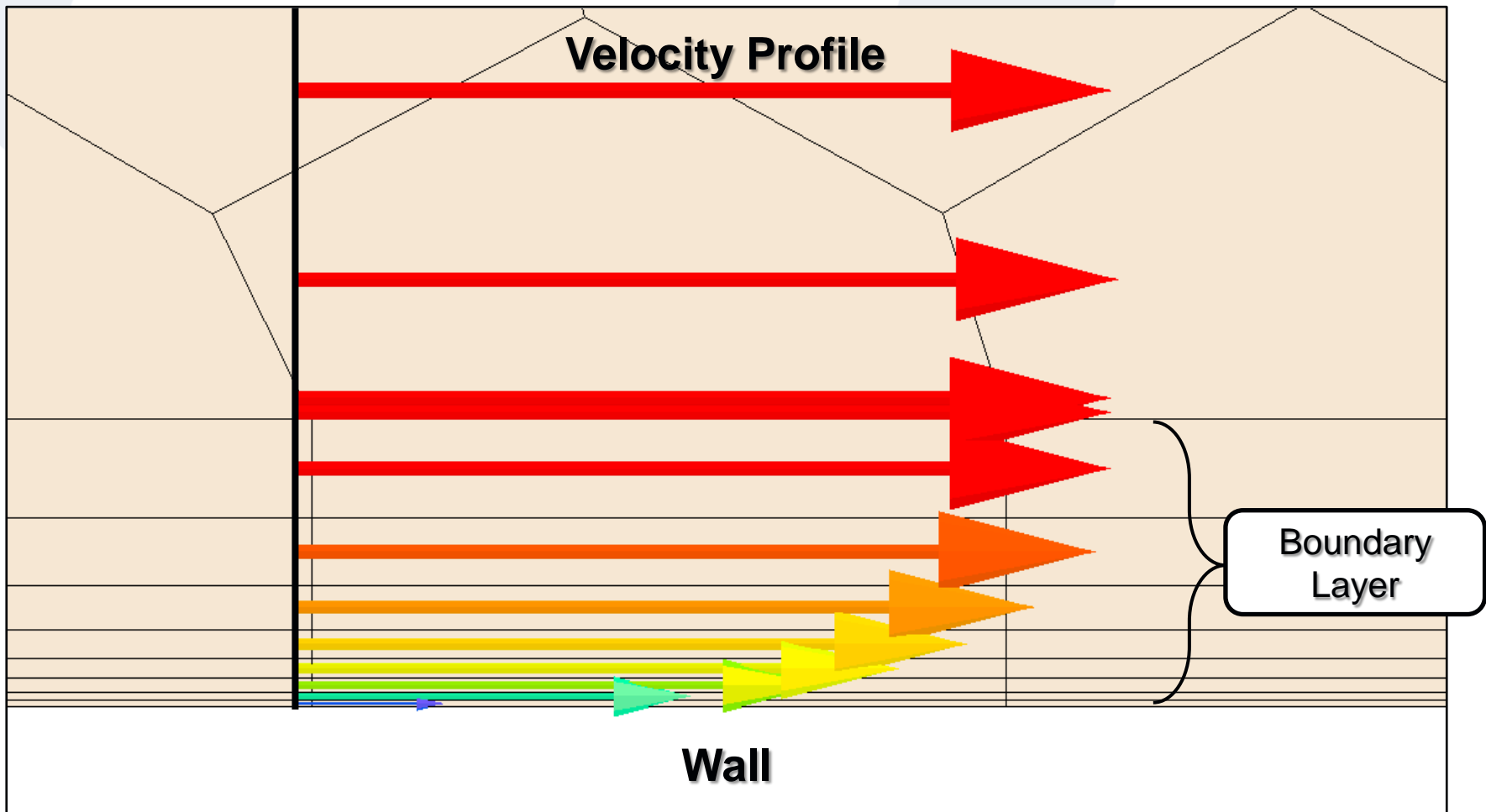


- Last prism layer similar size to the first poly cell layer



Turbomachinery Meshing Guidelines

- At least 5 prism layers to resolve the boundary layer



Turbomachinery Solution Guidelines

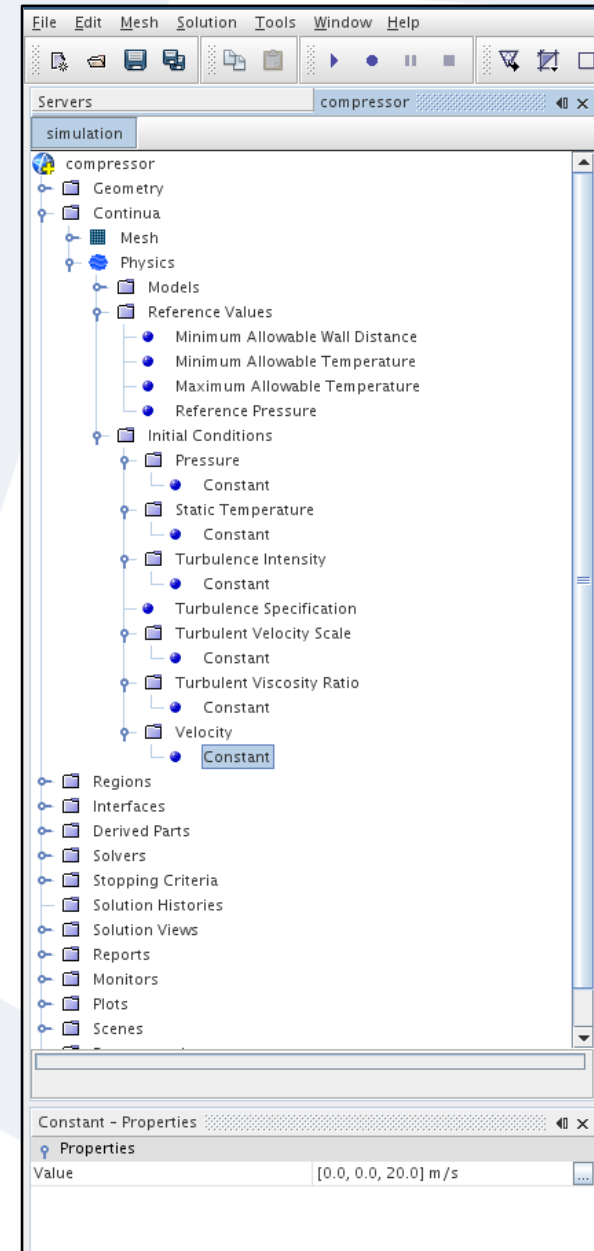


Reference Values

- **Set reference pressure to be near the operating point**

Initial Conditions

- **Set velocity to a non-zero value**
- **Set initial pressure to the inlet or exit value, whichever is greater**
- **Set temperature the inlet value**



Turbomachinery Solution Guidelines



Initialization

- Use grid sequencing initialization to obtain an initial condition
- Ensure that each grid level converges
- Initialize solution using actual operating conditions (do not ramp boundary conditions or rotation rate)

Suggested GSI parameters

- Max iterations per level: 200
- Convergence tolerance: 0.005
- CFL number: 20

A screenshot of the ANSYS Fluent software interface. The main window shows a tree view of the simulation setup for a "compressor". The "Expert Initialization" folder is expanded, and "Grid sequencing" is selected. Below the tree view, the "Grid sequencing - Properties" panel is visible, showing the following parameters:

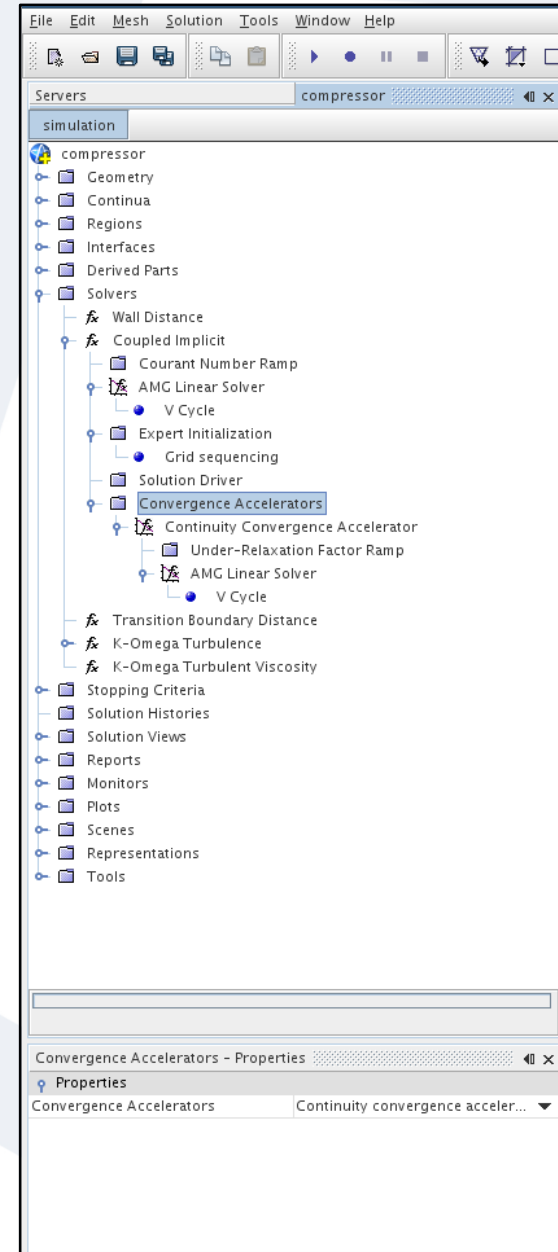
| Grid sequencing - Properties | |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Properties | |
| Maximum grid levels | 10 |
| Maximum iterations per level | 200 |
| Convergence tolerance per level | 0.0050 |
| CFL number | 20.0 |

Turbomachinery Solution Guidelines



Solver Settings

- Use a high CFL number whenever possible, a CFL number of 20 is a good starting point
- For cases with high and low speed flow regions, enable Continuity Convergence Acceleration



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