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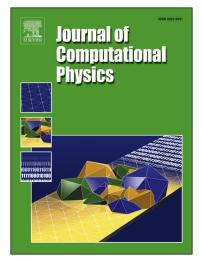
 PII:
 S0021-9991(17)30365-0

 DOI:
 http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcp.2017.04.077

 Reference:
 YJCPH 7343

To appear in: Journal of Computational Physics

Received date:19 January 2016Revised date:17 January 2017Accepted date:30 April 2017



Please cite this article in press as: J. Wackers et al., Can adaptive grid refinement produce grid-independent solutions for incompressible flows?, J. Comput. Phys. (2017), http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcp.2017.04.077

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Can adaptive grid refinement produce grid-independent solutions for incompressible flows?

Jeroen Wackers^a, Ganbo Deng^a, Emmanuel Guilmineau^a, Alban Leroyer^a, Patrick Queutey^a, Michel Visonneau^a, Alexandro Palmieri^b, Alfredo Liverani^b

^aLHEEA Lab, Ecole Centrale de Nantes, CNRS-UMR 6598, 44321 Nantes Cedex 3, France ^bCIRI-MAM Tecnopolo della Nautica / UNIBO, Via Sant'Alberto 163, Ravenna, Italy

Abstract

This paper studies if adaptive grid refinement combined with finite-volume simulation of the incompressible RANS equations can be used to obtain gridindependent solutions of realistic flow problems. It is shown that grid adaptation based on metric tensors can generate series of meshes for grid convergence studies in a straightforward way. For a two-dimensional airfoil and the flow around a tanker ship, the grid convergence of the observed forces is sufficiently smooth for numerical uncertainty estimation. Grid refinement captures the details of the local flow in the wake, which is shown to be grid converged on reasonably-sized meshes. Thus, grid convergence studies using automatic refinement are suitable for high-Reynolds incompressible flows. *Keywords:* grid adaptation, grid convergence, uncertainty estimation, hydrodynamic flows

Preprint submitted to J Comput Phys

Email address: jeroen.wackers@ec-nantes.fr (Jeroen Wackers)

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