The EULAG dynamical core – idealized and semi idealized tests

Marcin Kurowski¹⁾, Zbigniew Piotrowski, Bogdan Rosa, Michał Ziemiański

> Institute of Meteorology and Water Management (IMGW), Warsaw Podleśna, 61

> > ¹⁾marcin.kurowski@imgw.pl



1. Motivation

2. Idealized tests

- cold density currents (Straka et al., 1993)
- rising termal (Robert, 1993; Giraldo, 2008)
- inertia-gravity waves (Skamarock and Klemp, 1994)
- mountain waves (Bonaventura, 2000)

3. Semi-idealized tests

• idealized flows over realistic (Alpine) topography

4. Computational issues

- computational efficiency
- scalability

5. Summary and future plans



1. MOTIVATION



Our general goal: Testing the EULAG dynamical core as a prospective dynamical core of a future operational weather prediction COSMO model for very high horizontal resolutions

EULAG – computational research model for multiscale flows (over 20 years of history), nonhydrostatic anelastic, employing finite volume non-oscillatory positive definite transport algorithm able to solve the flow equations both in Eulerian and Lagrangian framework



CDC Project Plan specifies a series of tasks for testing the EULAG model, starting with:

Task 1.1: Idealized tests of the EULAG dynamical core

Simulate 2D and 3D idealized flows over mountains and 2D and 3D potential flows to compare with COSMO results, laboratory flows and analytic solutions. Run a series of experiments involving valley flows in an idealized setup to compare with COSMO (and possibly other models) results. (...)

Task 1.2: Tests of the EULAG dynamical core for realistic flows over the Alpine topography

Simulate realistic flows over the Alpine topography (in particular orography containing deep valleys), with resolution ranging from 2.2 km, 1.1 km to 0.25 km, case studies for different weather regimes ranging from simple (without much weather), to summer (convective) and winter (frontal) situations. (...)



Cold density current

reference:

Straka J. M, R. B. Wilhelmson, L. J. Wicker, J. R. Anderson and K. K. Droegemeier. Numerical solutions of a nonlinear density current – a benchmark solution and comparisions. International Journal for Numerical Methods in Fluids, 17(1):1-22, **1993**





Setup overview

(details in Straka et al. 1993):

- isentropic atmosphere,
 - $\theta(z)$ =const (300K)
- periodic lateral boundaries
- free-slip bottom b.c.
- constant subgrid mixing, K=75m²/s

- domain size 51.2km x 6.4km
- bubble min. temperature -15K
- bubble size 8kmx4km
- no initial flow
- integration time 15min

No analytic solution







Comparison of velocity (u, w), pressure perturbation (p') and potential temperature perturbation (θ ') after 15min.



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EULAG vs ensemble from Straka et al. 1993



Straka's ensemble includes models:

- incompressible
- quasi-compressible
- anelastic
- fully compressible

• REFC25 - reference model, compressible, 25m resolution



Convergence study for resolution





Additional qualitative tests involving influence of orography

- gaussian valley
- gaussian mountain
- sinusoidal orography




































































































































































Rising thermal

reference:

Giraldo, F. X. and M. Resteli. A study of spectral element and discontinuous Galerkin methods for the Navier-Stokes equations in nonhydrostatic mesoscale atmospheric modelling: equation sets and test cases. J. Comp. Phys., 227:3849-3877, **2008**





































Potential temperature perturbation after 700s



Interacting bubbles

reference:

Robert, A., Bubble convection experiments with a semi-implicit formulation of the Euler equations. J. Atmos. Sci., 50: 1865-1873, **1993**





Setup overview:

- domain size 1km x 1 km
- resolution 16x16m, 8x8m, 4x4m
- free-slip b.c.
- rigid boundaries
- no external flow
- no subgrid mixing
- min. temperature:
 - 0.5K (big bubble)
 - -0.1K (small bubble)







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Rising thermal





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Inertia-gravity waves

reference:

Skamarock W. C. and Klemp J. B. Efficiency and accuracy of Klemp-Wilhelmson time-splitting technique. *Mon. Wea. Rev.* 122(11):2623-2630, **1994**



Constant flow within a short channel (300km)



Testing model for subtle phenomenon

Setup overview:

- domain size 300x10km
- resolution 1x1km,
 0.5x0.5km, 0.25x0.25km
- rigid free-slip b.c.
- periodic lateral boundaries
- constant horizontal flow 20m/s
- no subgrid mixing
- hydrostatic balance
- stable stratification N=0.01 s⁻¹
- max. temperature perturbation 0.01K










Constant flow within a long channel (6000km)



Setup overview:

- same as for a short channel except that the domain size is $6000 \times 10 \text{ km}$ $(\Delta x/\Delta z=20)$
- integration time is 1000min





Potential temperature perturbation









Mountain waves

reference:

Bonaventura, L., A semi-implicit semi-Lagrangian scheme using the height coordinate for a nonhydrostatic and fully elastic model of atmospheric flows. J. Comput. Phys. 158(2):186-213, **2000**





hydrostatic waves generated in stable air passing over mountain

Setup overview:

- resolution 3x0.25km
- constant horizontal flow (32m/s)
- open lateral b.c.
- free-slip bottom b.c.
- isothermal atmosphere, i.e. constant stratification (N=0.0187 s⁻¹)
- absorbers (top and lateral) as in Pinty et al. MWR 1995)
- Agnesi mountain (height **1m**, half-width **16km**)









3D Eulag setup based on Cosmo2 700x700 (2.2km) *unfiltered* orography

Setup overview

- simple setup with ambient [-5,-5] m/s wind (also various directions)
- open b.c.
- bulk moist model applied, allowing warm rain
- no surface fluxes
- no explicit subgrid turbulence (inviscid)
- equally spaced vertical levels
- terrain-following coordinates
- 2 tests: **actual** and **double** height (i.e. max ~ 8km)













3. SEMI-IDEALIZED TESTS

- the flow has realistic features even for very steep orography
- no numerical/computational problems were reported during model run



Computational issues: computational efficiency and scalability



Tests of scalability were performed on 3 different platforms/architectures with use of TauProfiler:

- **IBM BGL** (BlueGene, NCAR, Boulder) series of experiments
- Linux cluster (TASK, Gdańsk) series of experiments
- **Cray XT/4** (MeteoSwiss) a model run (comparison with COSMO)

Model setup:

as for semi-idealized flow over the Alps (COSMO2 2.2km)











EULAG 2.2km – components scaling on Linux cluster



Number of processors







Computational efficiency – comparison with operational COSMO run on Cray XT/4 (MeteoSwiss)

Summary of 24h forecast

7 / / / / / / / /	7 /	EULAG	COSMO	
/	setup	semi-idealized with bulk microphysics	fully operational	
/	# of processors	650	800	
	total time	24 minutes	22 minutes	SIMILAF



Results, so far ...

- good agreement of the results with the reference numerical and analytic solutions for idealized flows
- realistic solutions for semi-idealized tests with steep orography
- lack of numerical problems imposed by steep slopes or orographicaly driven moist (bulk) processes
- good scalability and the computational efficiency similar to COSMO model (more tests needed?)



5. SUMMARY AND FUTURE PLANS

Future

- Continuation of task 1.1:
 - complete idealized tests (with documentation)
- Continuation of task 1.2
 - realistic Alpine flows
 - solving the problem of determination of full pressure
 - complete tests of computational efficiency and scalability
- Next steps: task 1.3 and task 1.4: task 1.3: Tests of the EULAG dynamical core for realistic flows over the Alpine topography with simplified physics parametrization
 - task 1.4: Choice of the anelastic equation system





