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# Multi-Fidelity Surrogate Models for Predicting the Aerodynamic Performance of Gas Turbine Airfoils

# Content

## Motivation and goal

- current situation (single-fidelity optimization)
- benefits of multi-fidelity optimization
- differences 2D- / 3D-CFD

## Method 1: domain correction

- based on decomposition of computational domain into principal components

## Method 2: output correction

- based on correction of low-fidelity objective values

## Results

- comparison of methods
- Which method gives better prediction with less effort?

# Motivation

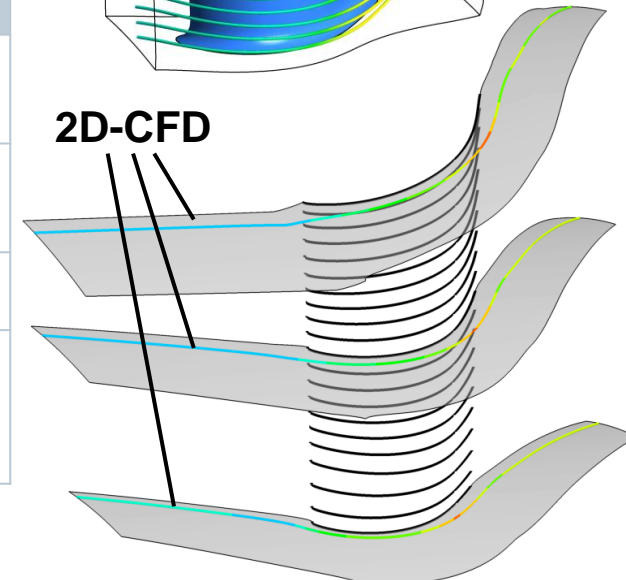
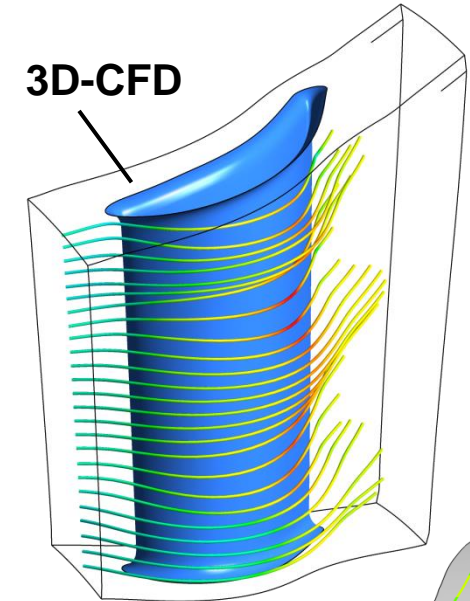
## Current situation

- aerodynamic airfoil optimization by accurate and time-consuming 3D-CFD (HiFi)

## Goal

- time-reduced airfoil optimization by coupled 2D/3D-CFD (LoFi, HiFi)

	3D-CFD (CFX)	2D-CFD (Mises)
domain	1 x 3D domain	e.g. 21 x 2D sections (radial stacked)
number of mesh cells	1.0 ... 1.5 million	~ 3 500 per section ~ 0.07 million total
time consumption (whole domain)		
• meshing	~ 10 min	~ 5 s
• solving	~ 20 min	~ 45 s
• post-processing	~ 1 min	~ 2 s

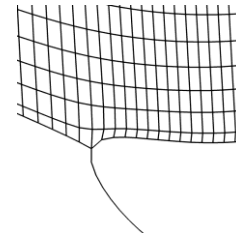
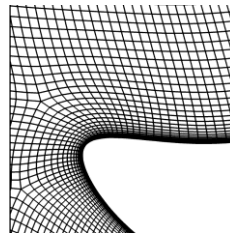


# Differences between HiFi and LoFi

**High Fidelity (HiFi, 3D-CFD)**  
accurate, but time-consuming

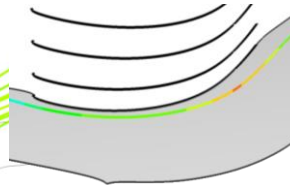
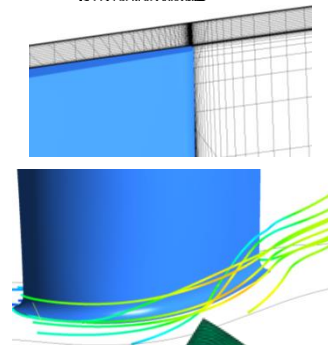
**Low Fidelity (LoFi, 2D-CFD)**  
less accurate, but much faster

fine mesh



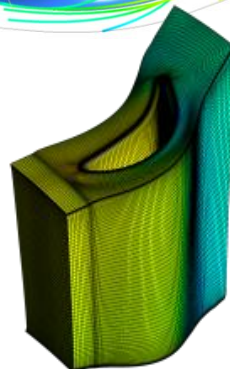
coarse mesh

incorporate geometry details

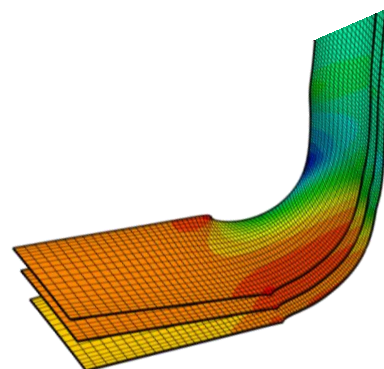


simplified geometry

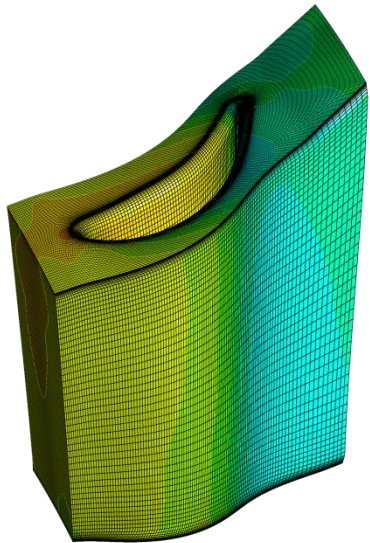
continuous domain (3D)



separated, radial stacked airfoil sections (2D)



## Objective value (efficiency)



HiFi

$$\eta = \frac{\bar{h}_1^M - \bar{h}_2^M}{\bar{h}_1^M - h_{2s}}$$

LoFi

$$\bar{h}^M = \frac{1}{\dot{m}} \int h \, d\dot{m}$$

CFX massFlowAve

$$\bar{h}^M = \frac{1}{\dot{m}} \sum_i h^{(i)} \dot{m}^{(i)}$$

$$h_{2s} = h(\bar{s}_1^M, \bar{p}_2^A, )$$

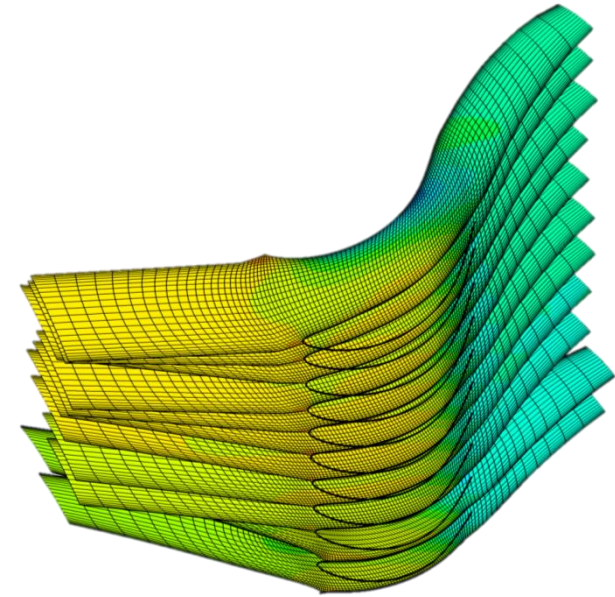
$$\bar{s}_1^M = \frac{1}{\dot{m}} \int s_1 \, d\dot{m}$$

$$\bar{s}_1^M = \frac{1}{\dot{m}} \sum_i s_1^{(i)} \dot{m}^{(i)}$$

$$\bar{p}_2^A = \frac{1}{A_2} \int p_2 \, dA$$

CFX areaAve(Pressure)

$$\bar{p}_2^A = \frac{1}{A_2} \sum_i p_2^{(i)} A_2^{(i)}$$



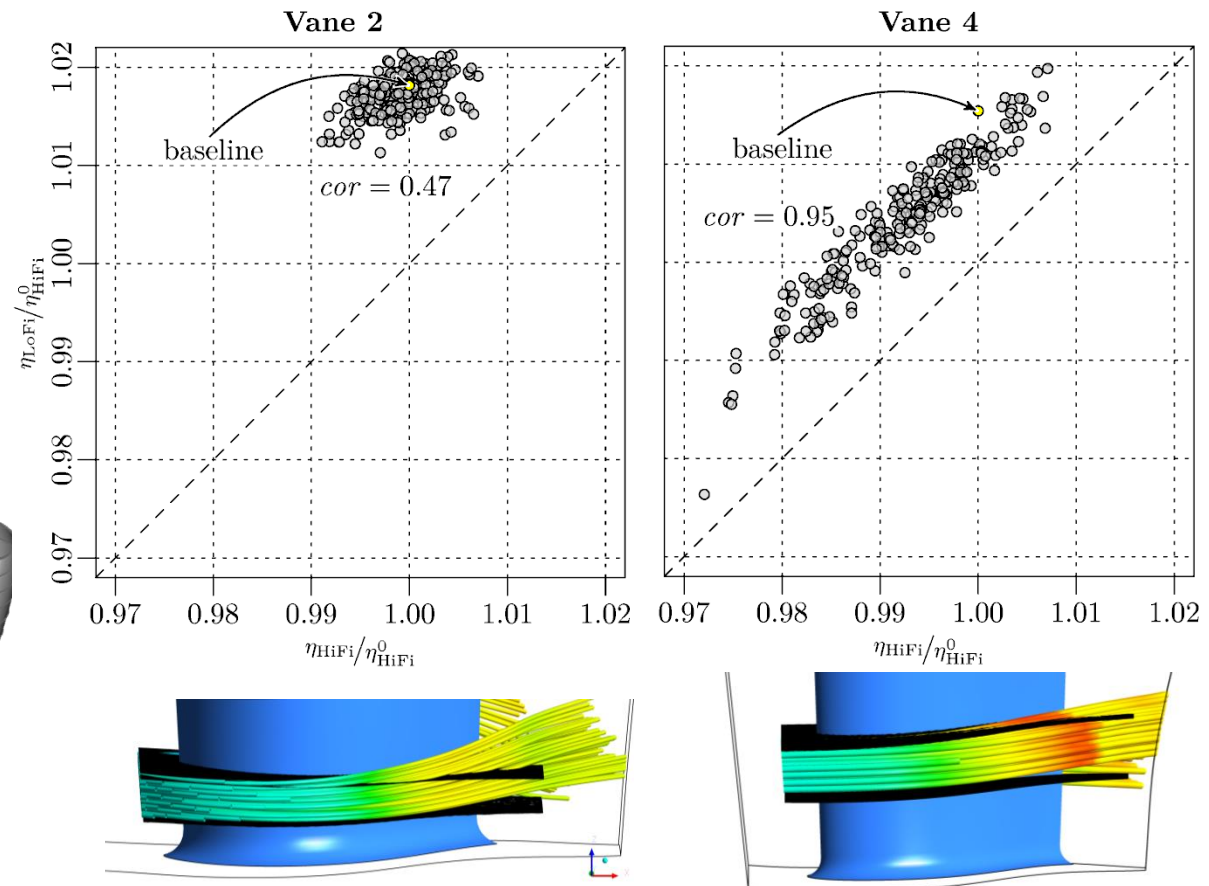
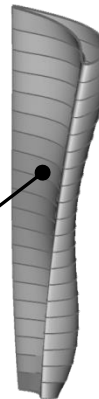
Equivalent objective value (efficiency) for both methods available

# Correlation study

## Procedure

- 250 different geometries for Vane 2 and Vane 4, respectively
- determine design space visually
- evaluate every sample with LoFi and HiFi
- at best, points fall on diagonal line
- Pearson correlation coefficient

extreme example  
for variation in geometry

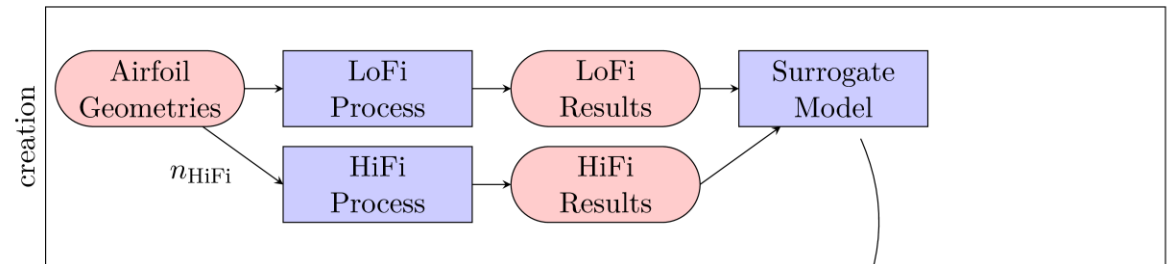


Correlation between objective values of LoFi and HiFi exists,  
but it depends on type of airfoil (flow regime)

# Multi-Fidelity Surrogate Model

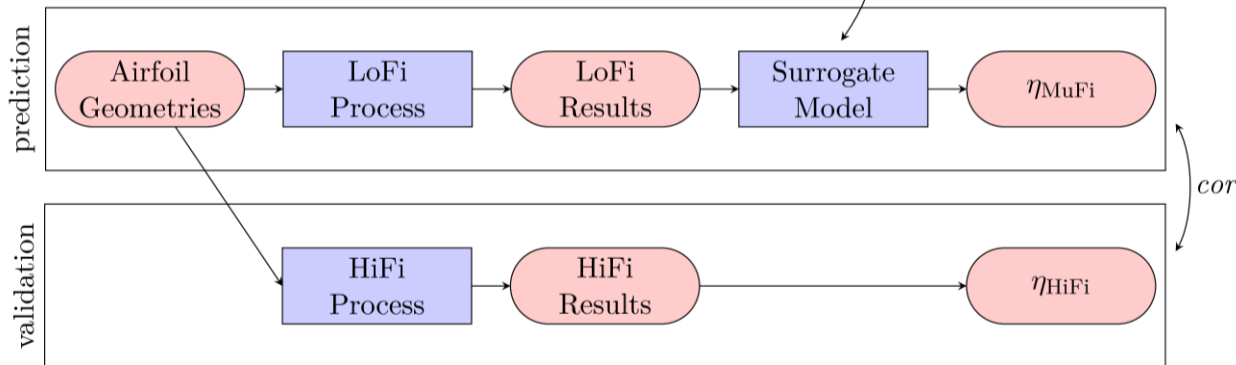
## Creation

- evaluate set of samples by LoFi and HiFi process ( $n_{\text{HiFi}}$ )
- build surrogate model



## Prediction

- evaluate *different* set of samples by LoFi process
- prediction by using LoFi results and surrogate model



## Validation

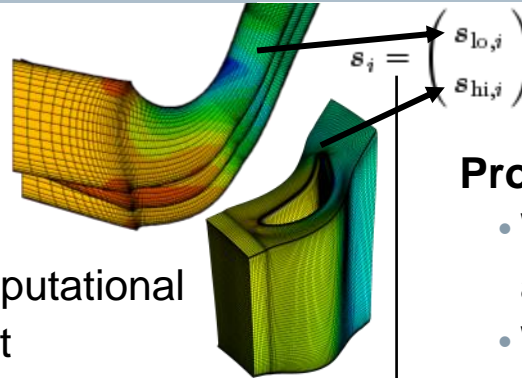
- evaluate second set by HiFi process
- compare to prediction (*cor*)

The ideal surrogate model would provide a high correlation (*cor*) while requiring only few HiFi evaluations ( $n_{\text{HiFi}}$ )

## Method 1: domain correction (gappy POD)

### Procedure

- predict nodal values of a HiFi simulation by nodal values of a LoFi simulation
- based on decomposition of computational domain into principal component
- developed for image reconstruction (Sirovich et al. 1986, Turk et al. 1991)
- post-processing of HiFi domain to get (scalar) objective value



snapshot from HiFi-/LoFi-Domain  
 ↳ snapshot: nodevalues of domain

### Proper Orthogonal Decomposition

- Where are the regions with great amount of information?
- Where is the variability high in the flow field?

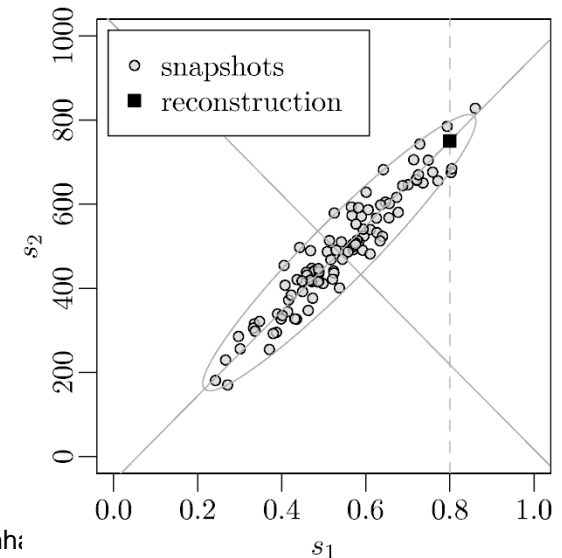
$$s_i \approx \bar{s} + \sum_{j=1}^L \alpha_j \phi_j \quad \text{approximate reconstruction}$$

### Advantage

- whole HiFi domain available

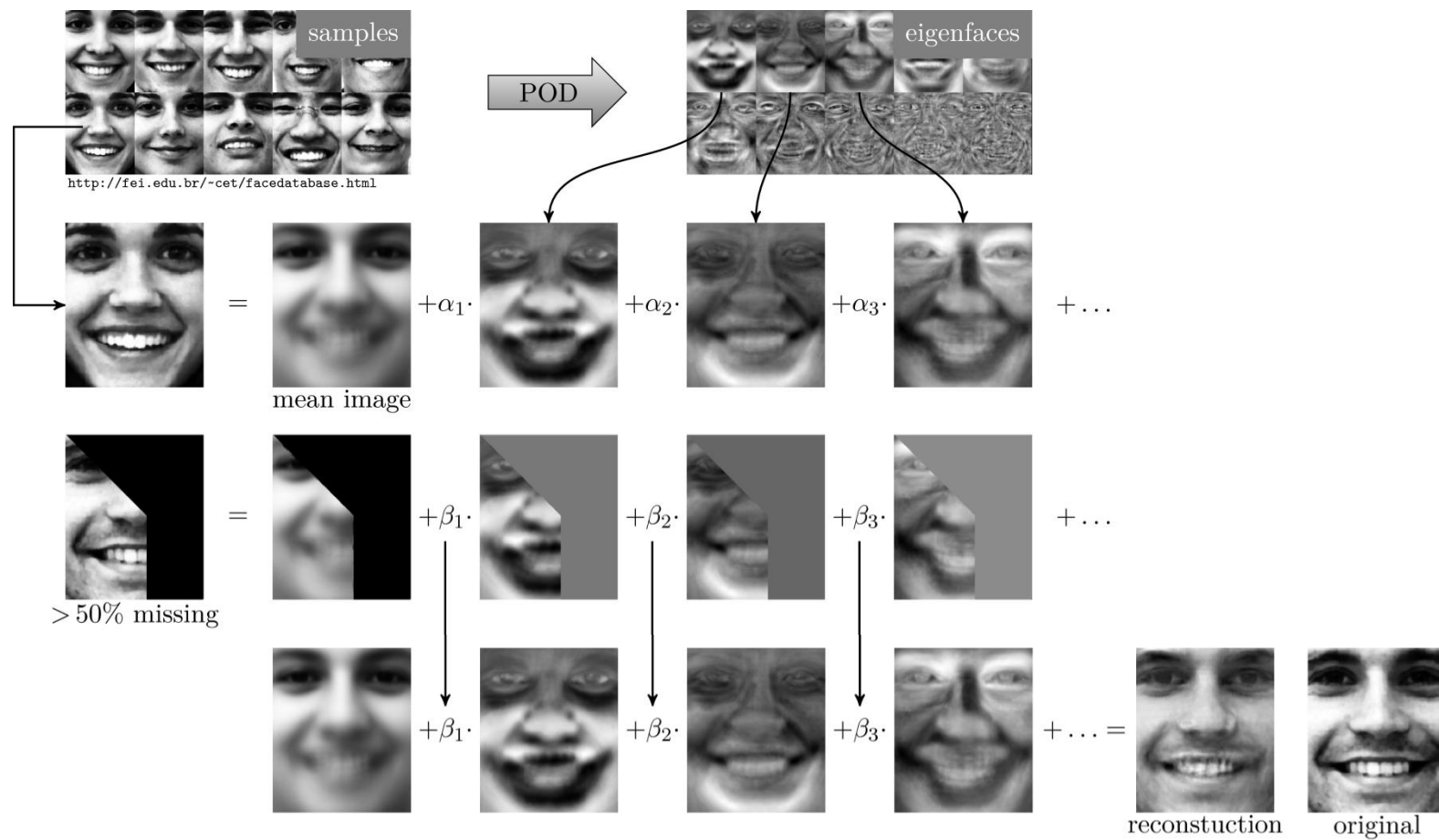
### Disadvantages

- high memory requirements; lots of CFD-result files need to be stored and processed
- in the past only few applications in the field of aero





# Image reconstruction



# Analogy image / domain reconstruction

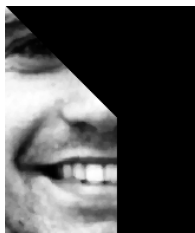
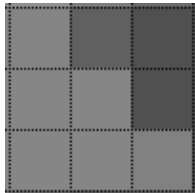
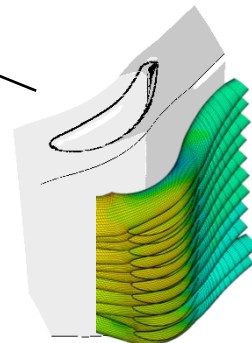
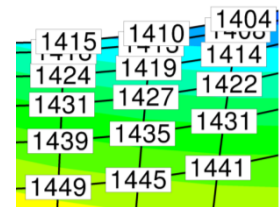
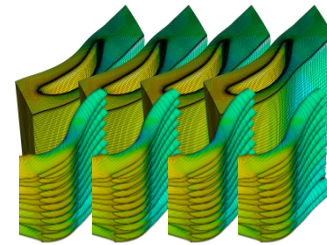


image reconstruction	domain reconstruction
set of similar images	set of similar HiFi and LoFi domains
pixel (gray value)	node (flow value)
variation by different faces	variation by different geometries
eigenfaces	eigensamples
missing parts of image	missing HiFi nodal values



## Method 2: output correction

### Procedure

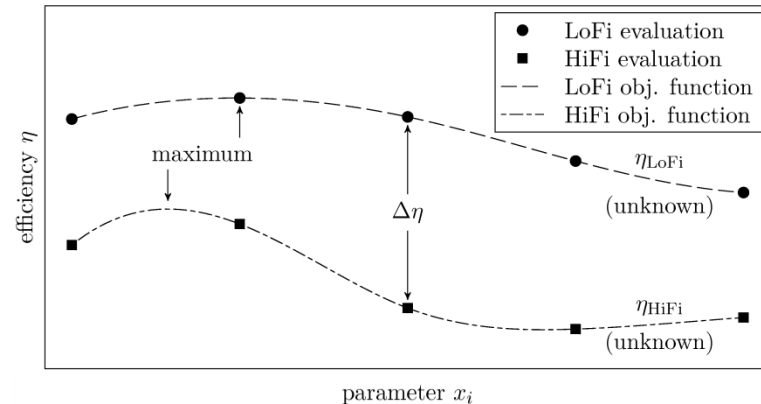
- alignment of objective value (efficiency) between LoFi and HiFi
- multi-fidelity model consists of a LoFi model and a correction model
- classification of correction models
  - additive and/or multiplicative

### Advantages

- successful application in the field of aero (mostly for small design spaces < 20 dimensions)
- kriging based correction models give estimate for local error in prediction → selective sampling for refinement (instead of global sampling)

### Disadvantage

- whole flow domain is not available



### Application

- Alignment
  - Alexandrov et al. '97, '99, '00, '01, ...
  - Hafka 1991
- Kriging
  - Forrester et al. '07, '08, '09
  - Han et al. '08, '09, '10, '12, '13

## Method 2: output correction

### Sampling

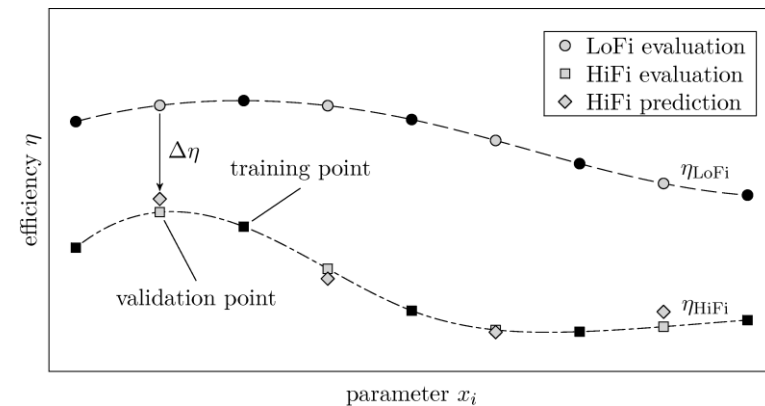
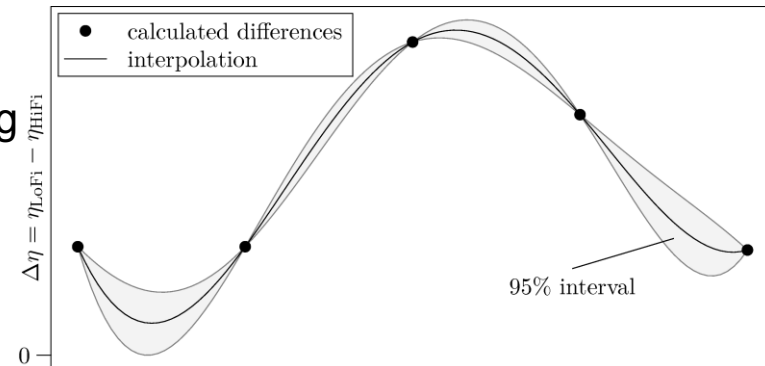
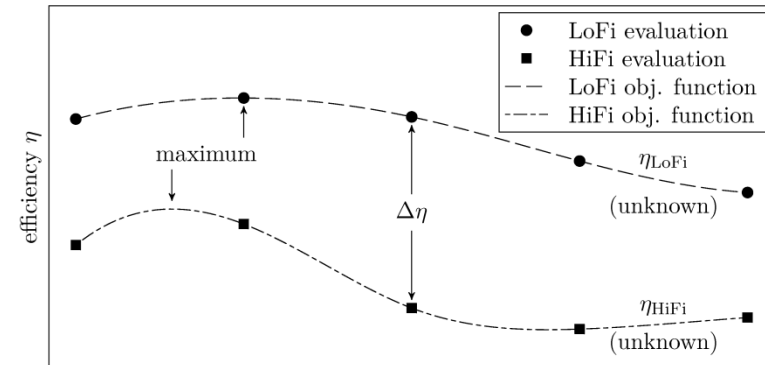
- uniform sampling over parameter space (training samples set, LHS)
- evaluation by LoFi and HiFi
- in general: maximal efficiency at different locations

### Interpolation

- calculate differences at sampling locations
- correction function: interpolate values, e.g. by kriging
- advantage kriging: confidence interval for subsequent optimization

### Prediction and Validation

- uniform sampling over parameter space at different locations (validation samples set, LHS)
- HiFi prediction: LoFi evaluation + correction
- HiFi evaluation for validation → correlation



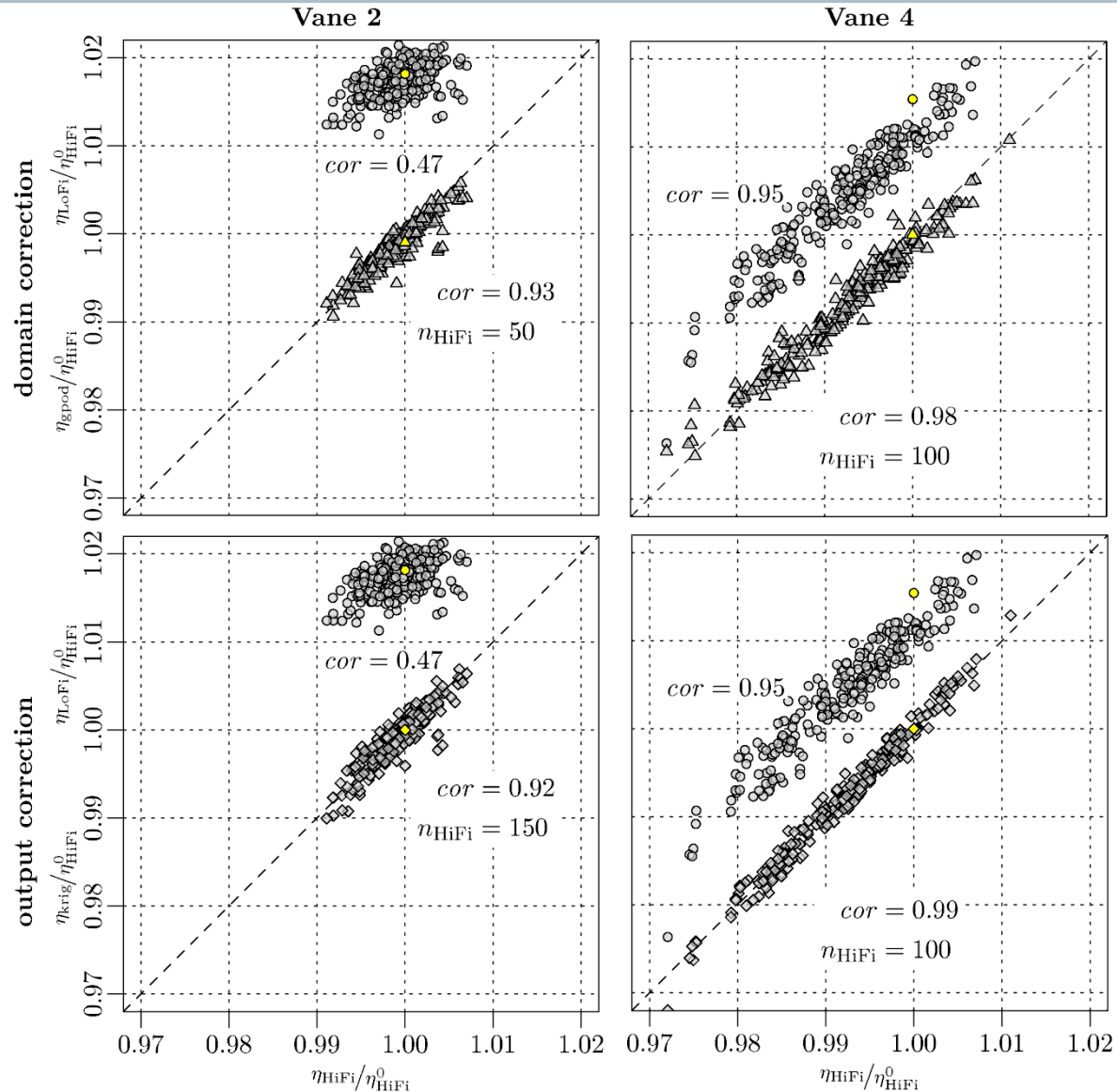
# Results

## Procedure

- one set of samples for *creation* of surrogate model
- one more set of samples for *validation* of surrogate model

## Correlations

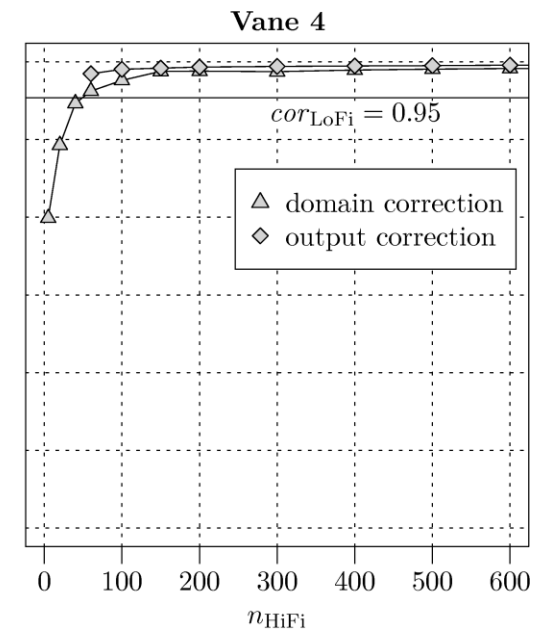
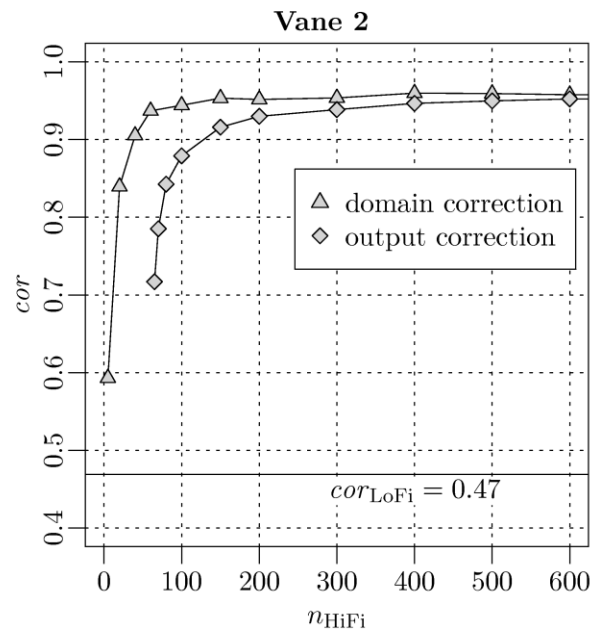
- correlation coefficient between HiFi and MuFi is higher than between HiFi and LoFi
- only little differences in the accuracy of prediction between the two methods
- differences in required HiFi evaluations



## Results

### Dependency on number of HiFi evaluations

- correlation coefficient is dependent on number of HiFi evaluations
- Vane 2: approx. 50 HiFi evaluations for  $cor > 0.90$
- Vane 4: approx. 100 HiFi evaluations for  $cor > 0.98$

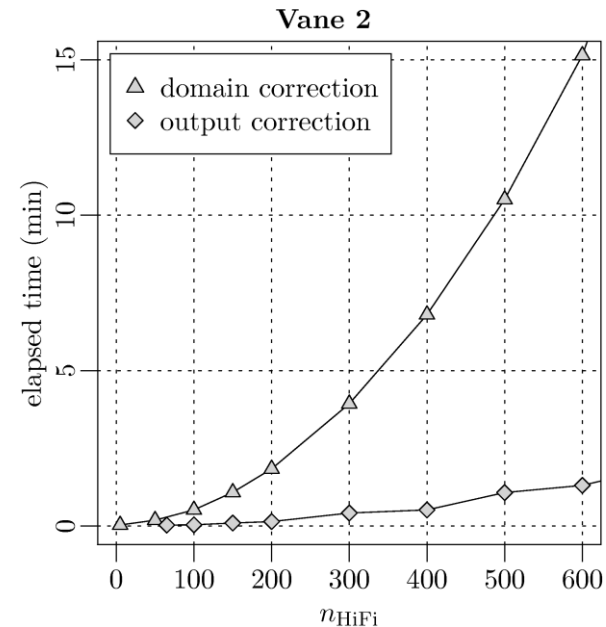


Both methods show a high correlation with only a few HiFi evaluations.  
High potential for using multi-fidelity approach for optimization of Vane 2

# Results

## Time consumption for creation of surrogate models

- dependency on number of HiFi evaluations
- method 1: cubic dependency
- method 2: approx. linear dependency
- hardware: 1 CPU-core @ 2.6 GHz
- speed-up by parallelization is possible
- time consumption for HiFi evaluations is not included



For both methods the time consumptions are negligible in comparison to time consumption for HiFi evaluations

# Outlook

## Multi-Fidelity Surrogate Models

- evaluate both methods for Blade 1
- optional: take another method (“input correction”) into comparison

## Optimization

- use multi-fidelity surrogate model for optimization
- benchmark performance of multi-fidelity optimization in contrast to single-fidelity optimization



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