Created in COMSOL Multiphysics 5.6

Flow in a Hydrocyclone

Introduction

Cyclones are used in a variety of applications ranging from the mining industry to vacuum cleaners (Ref. 1). In the pulp and paper industry, hydrocyclones are used for contaminant removal, pulp thickening, and fiber fractionation. Most cyclones do not contain any moving parts, and the flow is hence entirely driven by the applied pressure drops between the inlet(s) and the two outlets. The forward stream in the process is referred to as the *accept flow*, whereas the discarded stream is referred to as the *reject flow*. Depending on the application, the accept outlet could either be the overflow located at the base of the cone, near the inlet(s), or the underflow near the apex of the cone. The former configuration is used for removal of heavy (compared to the carrier fluid) contaminants, whereas the latter is used for removal of light contaminants and in thickening processes. In fractionation processes the definition of accept and reject is more or less a matter of convenience since both streams are applied forward in the system.

Model Definition

The model geometry used in this application is shown in Figure 1.

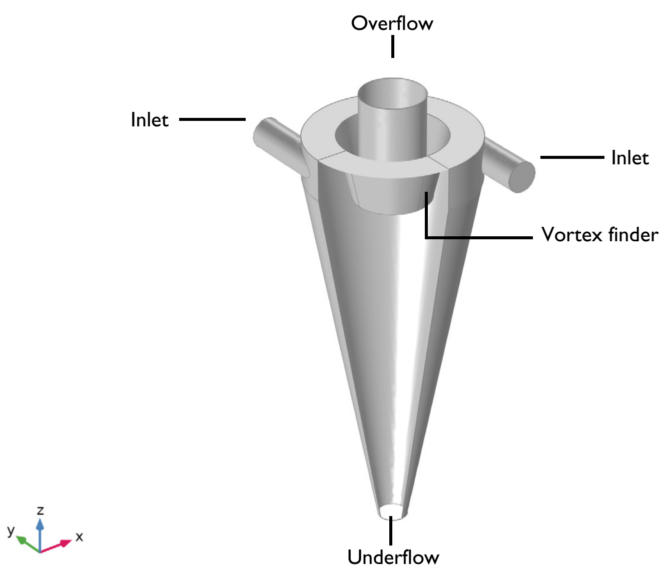

Figure 1: Model geometry showing the inlets, overflow (here the accept outlet), and underflow (the reject outlet).

Two circular inlets are tangentially attached to the annular inlet chamber, which is separated from the overflow by a wall called the "vortex finder". This design creates a strong swirl in the incoming flow. From the annular inlet chamber, the flow enters a conical chamber where the separation takes place. The conical shape preserves the angular momentum and stabilizes the vortex core — the central region of the swirl motion characterized by solid-body rotation. A portion of the flow is effluxed through the underflow near the apex of the conical separation chamber, and the rest exits through the overflow.

The flow in a hydrocyclone is characterized by a very strong swirl, which makes it difficult to simulate using an isotropic turbulence model. It is imperative that the swirl flow is accurately captured in order to assess the separation efficiency for various particles. The streamlines essentially follow the azimuthal direction whereas mixing of momentum by turbulent fluctuations takes place in the radial direction, which also happens to be the wall-normal direction in the major part of the hydrocyclone. This makes the v2-f turbulence model a good candidate for the prevailing flow conditions.

Stationary operating conditions corresponding to those of heavy contaminant removal are studied in this application. The flowing medium is pure water at 20°C. The hydrocyclone is assumed to be pressurized and is hence operating without an air core. Initial values were chosen as zero velocity, zero pressure, and default values for the turbulence variables. No-slip conditions with automatic wall treatment were applied on all walls. At the two inlets the velocity is set to 5 m/s, and the turbulence conditions to isotropic with an intensity of 5% and a length scale of 0.07 times the inlet diameter are default settings. 5% of the flow exits through the underflow where a uniform velocity profile is specified. A constant pressure condition is applied at the overflow. The outlet conditions can be improved by attaching outlet chambers at both ends.

Results and Discussion

Figure 2 shows the streamlines for the swirling flow in the hydrocyclone.

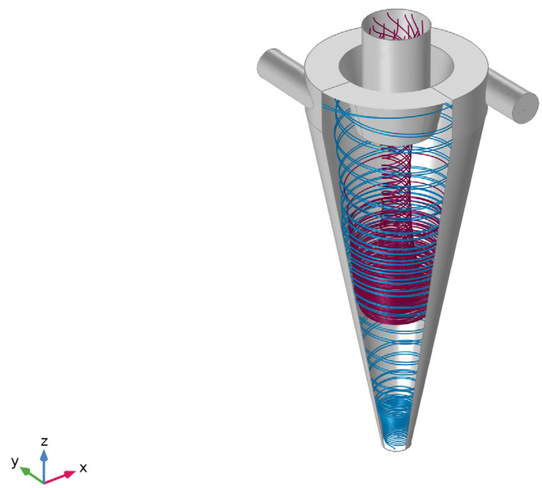

Figure 2: Streamlines for the overflow (burgundy) and underflow (teal).

The streamlines describe the typical flow field encountered in hydrocyclone applications. From the inlet chamber, the flow is diverted toward the underflow. In this case, 95% of the incoming flow is reversed and exits through the overflow. This is illustrated by the burgundy streamlines in the core. The remainder (teal) stays closer to the wall and exits through the underflow.

The pressure drop and in-plane streamlines on two orthogonal cut planes through the hydrocyclone are displayed in Figure 3.

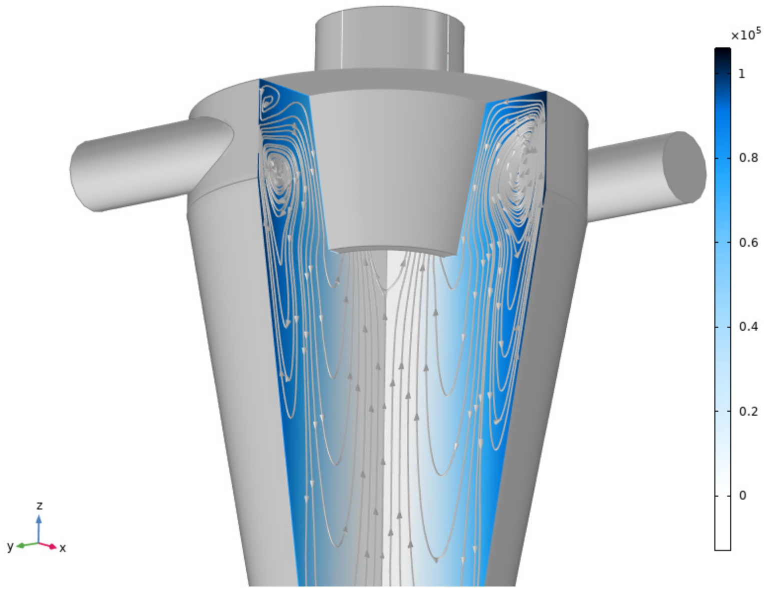

Figure 3: Pressure drop and in-plane streamlines in the xz- and yz-planes.

The two jets mix in the inlet chamber, resulting in azimuthal pressure variations on the vortex core. For certain hydrocyclone designs, this may cause the vortex core to destabilize resulting in poor separation performance. The optimal number and design of the inlet pipes, and the design of the inlet chamber, is an active research field. The pressure drop between the inlets and outlets is of the order 100 kPa. Figure 4 shows a contour surface displaying a vertical (stable) vortex core. The swirl flow in the hydrocyclone can be divided into an outer region, described by a semi-free vortex, and an inner region of solid body rotation.

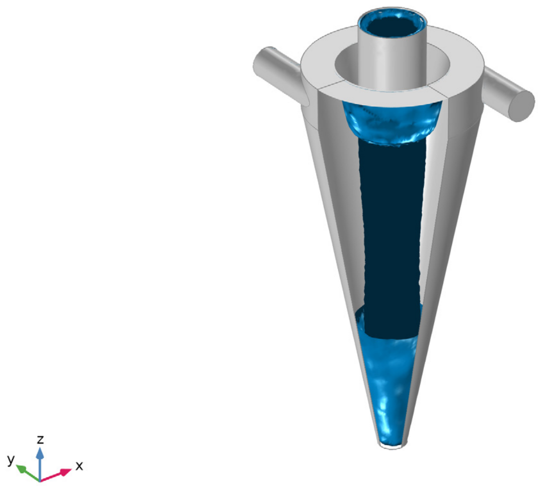

Figure 4: Contour surface of the vortex core.

The graph in Figure 5 shows the azimuthal velocity component as a function of the radius at a vertical position 10 cm below the vortex finder. An inner core of solid-body rotation is clearly distinguishable from the outer semi-free vortex.

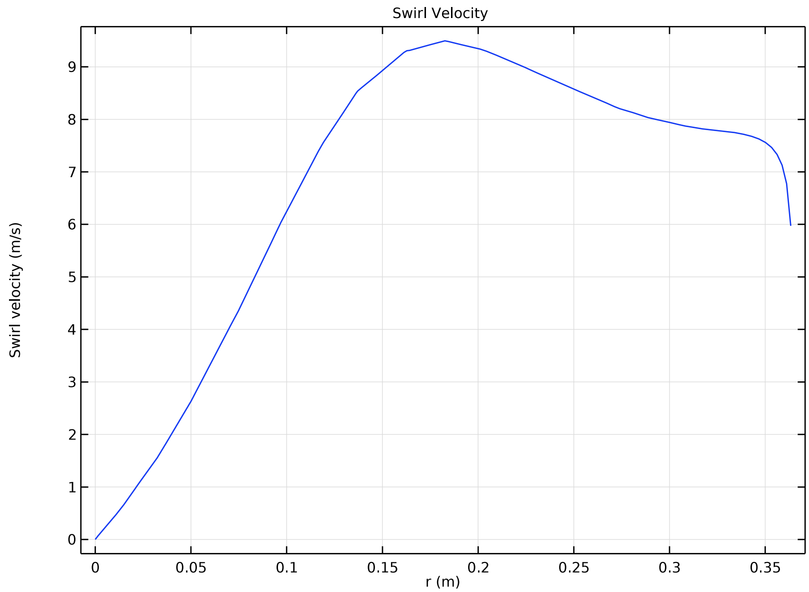

Figure 5: Azimuthal (swirl) velocity versus radius 10 cm below the vortex finder.

Notes About the COMSOL Implementation

The mesh is deliberately made coarse to reduce the computational time for this tutorial model. If the maximum size of the elements is reduced by thirty percent, the maximum swirl velocity in Figure 5 reaches 12 m/s.

Reference

1. D.Bradley, “The Hydrocyclone, 1st Edition, International Series of Monographs in Chemical Engineering,” *Pergamon*, 1965.

Application Library path: `CFD_Module/Single-Phase_Flow/hydrocyclone`

Modeling Instructions

From the **File** menu, choose **New**.

NEW

In the **New** window, click **Model Wizard**.

MODEL WIZARD

1 In the **Model Wizard** window, click **3D**.

2 In the **Select Physics** tree, select **Fluid Flow>Single-Phase Flow>Turbulent Flow>Turbulent Flow, v2-f (spf)**.

3 Click **Add**.

4 Click **Study**.

5 In the **Select Study** tree, select **Preset Studies for Selected Physics Interfaces>Stationary with Initialization**.

6 Click **Done**.

GLOBAL DEFINITIONS

Parameters 1

1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Global Definitions** click **Parameters 1**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Parameters**, locate the **Parameters** section.

3 In the table, enter the following settings:

Name	Expression	Value	Description
u_in	5[m/s]	5 m/s	Inlet velocity
r_in	0.0725[m]	0.0725 m	Inlet radius
r_out	0.07[m]	0.07 m	Reject radius
R_f	0.05	0.05	Reject volume fraction
u_out	R_f*2*(r_in/r_out)^2*u_in	0.53635 m/s	Reject velocity

GEOMETRY 1

Work Plane 1 (wp1)

1 In the **Geometry** toolbar, click **Work Plane**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Work Plane**, locate the **Plane Definition** section.

3 From the **Plane** list, choose **xz-plane**.

Work Plane 1 (wp1)>Plane Geometry

In the **Model Builder** window, click **Plane Geometry**.

Work Plane 1 (wp1)>Polygon 1 (pol1)

1 In the **Work Plane** toolbar, click **Polygon**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Polygon**, locate the **Coordinates** section.

3 In the table, enter the following settings:

xw (m)	**yw (m)**
0.4	1
0.4	0.8
r_out	-1
0	-1
0	1.2
0.15	1.2
0.15	0.7
0.18	0.7
0.25	1
0.4	1

4 Click **Build Selected**.

Revolve 1 (rev1)

1 In the **Model Builder** window, right-click **Geometry 1** and choose **Revolve**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Revolve**, locate the **Revolution Angles** section.

3 Clear the **Keep original faces** check box.

Cylinder 1 (cyl1)

1 In the **Geometry** toolbar, click **Cylinder**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Cylinder**, locate the **Size and Shape** section.

3 In the **Radius** text field, type `r_in`.

4 In the **Height** text field, type `0.5`.

5 Locate the **Position** section. In the **x** text field, type `0.3215`.

6 In the **y** text field, type `-0.5`.

7 In the **z** text field, type `0.9`.

8 Locate the **Axis** section. From the **Axis type** list, choose **y-axis**.

Cylinder 2 (cyl2)

1 In the **Geometry** toolbar, click **Cylinder**.
2 In the **Settings** window for **Cylinder**, locate the **Size and Shape** section.
3 In the **Radius** text field, type `r_in`.
4 In the **Height** text field, type `0.5`.
5 Locate the **Position** section. In the **x** text field, type `-0.3215`.
6 In the **z** text field, type `0.9`.
7 Locate the **Axis** section. From the **Axis type** list, choose **y-axis**.
8 In the **Geometry** toolbar, click **Build All**.

Form Composite Domains 1 (cmd1)

1 In the **Geometry** toolbar, click **Virtual Operations** and choose **Form Composite Domains**.

   Use the virtual operation **Form Composite Domains** to remove the interior boundaries of the hydrocyclone. This reduces the amount of elements and thereby the memory consumption and computing time for this model.

2 On the object **fin**, select Domains 1–5 only.
3 In the **Settings** window for **Form Composite Domains**, click **Build Selected**.

ADD MATERIAL

1 In the **Home** toolbar, click **Add Material** to open the **Add Material** window.
2 Go to the **Add Material** window.
3 In the tree, select **Built-in>Water, liquid**.
4 Click **Add to Component** in the window toolbar.
5 In the **Home** toolbar, click **Add Material** to close the **Add Material** window.

TURBULENT FLOW, V2-F (SPF)

Inlet 1

1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Component 1 (comp1)** right-click **Turbulent Flow, v2-f (spf)** and choose **Inlet**.
2 Select Boundaries 9 and 40 only, corresponding to the two inlets.
3 In the **Settings** window for **Inlet**, locate the **Velocity** section.

4 In the U_0 text field, type `u_in`.

The fully developed flow condition could be used as well to give a computed flow field for the inlet parameters. However, by doing so, the computing time would increase slightly. Thus, an analytic expression is used for the inlet parameters.

Outlet 1

1. In the **Physics** toolbar, click **Boundaries** and choose **Outlet**.
2. Select Boundaries 20, 21, 29, and 30 only, corresponding to the reject outlet.
3. In the **Settings** window for **Outlet**, locate the **Boundary Condition** section.
4. From the list, choose **Velocity**.
5. Locate the **Velocity** section. In the U_0 text field, type `u_out`.

Outlet 2

1. In the **Physics** toolbar, click **Boundaries** and choose **Outlet**.
2. Select Boundaries 18, 19, 28, and 31 only.
3. In the **Settings** window for **Outlet**, locate the **Pressure Conditions** section.
4. Select the **Normal flow** check box.
5. Clear the **Suppress backflow** check box.

MESH 1

1. In the **Model Builder** window, under **Component 1 (comp1)** click **Mesh 1**.
2. In the **Settings** window for **Mesh**, locate the **Mesh Settings** section.
3. From the **Sequence type** list, choose **User-controlled mesh**.
4. In the **Mesh** toolbar, click **Delete Sequence**.

ADD COMPONENT

In the **Model Builder** window, right-click the root node and choose **Add Component>3D**.

MESH 2

Import 1

1. In the **Mesh** toolbar, click **Import**.
2. In the **Settings** window for **Import**, locate the **Import** section.
3. Click **Browse**.
4. Browse to the model's Application Libraries folder and double-click the file `hydrocyclone_mesh.mphbin`.

5 Click **Import**.

MESH 1

In the **Model Builder** window, under **Component 1 (comp1)** click **Mesh 1**.

Copy 1

1 In the **Mesh** toolbar, click **Copy** and choose **Copy**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Copy**, locate the **Source Mesh** section.

3 From the **Mesh** list, choose **Mesh 2**.

4 Locate the **Dimension** section. From the **Geometric entity level** list, choose **Domain**.

5 Locate the **Source Entities** section. From the **Selection** list, choose **All domains**.

6 Locate the **Destination Entities** section. From the **Selection** list, choose **All domains**.

7 Locate the **Source Mesh** section. Click **Copy**.

8 Click **Build All**.

STUDY 1

In the **Home** toolbar, click **Compute**.

RESULTS

First, create datasets needed to produce Figure 2, Figure 3 and Figure 5.

Surface 2

1 In the **Results** toolbar, click **More Datasets** and choose **Surface**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Surface**, locate the **Selection** section.

3 Click **Paste Selection**.

4 In the **Paste Selection** dialog box, type `2, 4-17, 22-27, 32-42` in the **Selection** text field.

5 Click **OK**.

Edge 3D 1

1 In the **Results** toolbar, click **More Datasets** and choose **Edge 3D**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Edge 3D**, locate the **Selection** section.

3 Click **Paste Selection**.

4 In the **Paste Selection** dialog box, type `1 2 4 5 7 9 10 11 12 13 14 16 17 18 19 21 23 24 25 27 28 29 31 32 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 45 47 49 55 58 59 61 63 65 66 72 73 74 75 78 80 81 82` in the **Selection** text field.

5 Click **OK**.

Cut Plane 1

In the **Results** toolbar, click **Cut Plane**.

Cut Plane 2

1 In the **Results** toolbar, click **Cut Plane**.
2 In the **Settings** window for **Cut Plane**, locate the **Plane Data** section.
3 From the **Plane** list, choose **xz-planes**.

Cut Line 3D 1

1 In the **Results** toolbar, click **Cut Line 3D**.
2 In the **Settings** window for **Cut Line 3D**, locate the **Line Data** section.
3 In row **Point 1**, set **x** to `-0.5`.
4 In row **Point 2**, set **x** to `0`.
5 In row **Point 1**, set **z** to `0.6`.
6 In row **Point 2**, set **z** to `0.6`.

The following steps reproduce Figure 2.

Streamlines

1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Results** click **Velocity (spf)**.
2 In the **Settings** window for **3D Plot Group**, type `Streamlines` in the **Label** text field.
3 Click to expand the **Title** section. From the **Title type** list, choose **None**.
4 Locate the **Plot Settings** section. Clear the **Plot dataset edges** check box.

Slice

1 In the **Model Builder** window, expand the **Streamlines** node.
2 Right-click **Slice** and choose **Delete**. Click **Yes** to confirm.

Surface 1

1 In the **Model Builder** window, right-click **Streamlines** and choose **Surface**.
2 In the **Settings** window for **Surface**, locate the **Data** section.
3 From the **Dataset** list, choose **Surface 2**.
4 Locate the **Coloring and Style** section. From the **Coloring** list, choose **Uniform**.
5 From the **Color** list, choose **Gray**.

Line 1

1 Right-click **Streamlines** and choose **Line**.
2 In the **Settings** window for **Line**, locate the **Data** section.

3 From the **Dataset** list, choose **Edge 3D 1**.

4 Locate the **Coloring and Style** section. From the **Coloring** list, choose **Uniform**.

5 From the **Color** list, choose **Custom**.

6 On Windows, click the colored bar underneath, or — if you are running the cross-platform desktop — the **Color** button.

7 Click **Define custom colors**.

8 Set the RGB values to 128, 128, and 128, respectively.

9 Click **Add to custom colors**.

10 Click **Show color palette only** or **OK** on the cross-platform desktop.

Streamline 1

1 Right-click **Streamlines** and choose **Streamline**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Streamline**, locate the **Streamline Positioning** section.

3 In the **Number** text field, type `10`.

4 Select Boundaries 18, 19, 28, and 31 only.

5 Locate the **Coloring and Style** section. Find the **Line style** subsection. From the **Type** list, choose **Tube**.

6 In the **Tube radius expression** text field, type `0.0025`.

7 Select the **Radius scale factor** check box.

8 Find the **Point style** subsection. From the **Color** list, choose **Custom**.

9 On Windows, click the colored bar underneath, or — if you are running the cross-platform desktop — the **Color** button.

10 Click **Define custom colors**.

11 Set the RGB values to 128, 0, and 64, respectively.

12 Click **Add to custom colors**.

13 Click **Show color palette only** or **OK** on the cross-platform desktop.

Streamline 2

1 Right-click **Streamlines** and choose **Streamline**.

2 Select Boundaries 20, 21, 29, and 30 only.

3 In the **Settings** window for **Streamline**, locate the **Streamline Positioning** section.

4 In the **Number** text field, type `2`.

5 Locate the **Coloring and Style** section. Find the **Line style** subsection. From the **Type** list, choose **Tube**.

6 In the **Tube radius expression** text field, type `0.0025`.

7 Select the **Radius scale factor** check box.

8 Find the **Point style** subsection. From the **Color** list, choose **Custom**.

9 On Windows, click the colored bar underneath, or — if you are running the cross-platform desktop — the **Color** button.

10 Click **Define custom colors**.

11 Set the RGB values to 0, 128, and 192, respectively.

12 Click **Add to custom colors**.

13 Click **Show color palette only** or **OK** on the cross-platform desktop.

Streamlines

1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Streamlines**.

2 In the **Streamlines** toolbar, click **Plot**.

3 Click the **Zoom Extents** button in the **Graphics** toolbar.

Continue to reproduce Figure 3.

Pressure (spf)

1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Pressure (spf)**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **3D Plot Group**, locate the **Plot Settings** section.

3 Clear the **Plot dataset edges** check box.

Surface

1 In the **Model Builder** window, expand the **Pressure (spf)** node, then click **Surface**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Surface**, locate the **Data** section.

3 From the **Dataset** list, choose **Surface 2**.

Line 1

1 In the **Model Builder** window, right-click **Pressure (spf)** and choose **Line**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Line**, locate the **Data** section.

3 From the **Dataset** list, choose **Edge 3D 1**.

4 Locate the **Coloring and Style** section. From the **Coloring** list, choose **Uniform**.

5 From the **Color** list, choose **Custom**.

6 On Windows, click the colored bar underneath, or — if you are running the cross-platform desktop — the **Color** button.

7 Click **Define custom colors**.

8 Set the RGB values to 128, 128, and 128, respectively.

9 Click **Add to custom colors**.

10 Click **Show color palette only** or **OK** on the cross-platform desktop.

Pressure

In the **Model Builder** window, right-click **Pressure** and choose **Delete**. Click **Yes** to confirm.

Surface 2

1 In the **Model Builder** window, right-click **Pressure (spf)** and choose **Surface**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Surface**, locate the **Data** section.

3 From the **Dataset** list, choose **Cut Plane 1**.

4 Locate the **Expression** section. In the **Expression** text field, type `p`.

5 Click to expand the **Range** section. Select the **Manual color range** check box.

6 In the **Minimum** text field, type `-13000`.

7 In the **Maximum** text field, type `106000`.

8 Locate the **Coloring and Style** section. From the **Color table** list, choose **JupiterAuroraBorealis**.

9 Select the **Reverse color table** check box.

Surface 3

1 Right-click **Pressure (spf)** and choose **Surface**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Surface**, locate the **Data** section.

3 From the **Dataset** list, choose **Cut Plane 2**.

4 Locate the **Expression** section. In the **Expression** text field, type `p`.

5 Locate the **Range** section. Select the **Manual color range** check box.

6 In the **Minimum** text field, type `-13000`.

7 In the **Maximum** text field, type `106000`.

8 Locate the **Coloring and Style** section. Clear the **Color legend** check box.

9 From the **Color table** list, choose **JupiterAuroraBorealis**.

10 Select the **Reverse color table** check box.

Pressure (spf)

In the **Model Builder** window, click **Pressure (spf)**.

Streamline Surface 1

1 In the **Pressure (spf)** toolbar, click **More Plots** and choose **Streamline Surface**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Streamline Surface**, locate the **Data** section.

3 From the **Dataset** list, choose **Cut Plane 1**.

4 Locate the **Expression** section. In the **x component** text field, type `0`.

5 Locate the **Streamline Positioning** section. From the **Positioning** list, choose **Magnitude controlled**.

6 In the **Density** text field, type `16`.

7 Locate the **Coloring and Style** section. Find the **Line style** subsection. From the **Type** list, choose **Tube**.

8 In the **Tube radius expression** text field, type `0.002`.

9 Select the **Radius scale factor** check box.

10 Find the **Point style** subsection. From the **Color** list, choose **Gray**.

11 From the **Type** list, choose **Arrow**.

Pressure (spf)

In the **Model Builder** window, click **Pressure (spf)**.

Streamline Surface 2

1 In the **Pressure (spf)** toolbar, click **More Plots** and choose **Streamline Surface**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Streamline Surface**, locate the **Data** section.

3 From the **Dataset** list, choose **Cut Plane 2**.

4 Locate the **Expression** section. In the **y component** text field, type `0`.

5 Locate the **Streamline Positioning** section. From the **Positioning** list, choose **Magnitude controlled**.

6 In the **Density** text field, type `16`.

7 Locate the **Coloring and Style** section. Find the **Line style** subsection. From the **Type** list, choose **Tube**.

8 In the **Tube radius expression** text field, type `0.002`.

9 Select the **Radius scale factor** check box.

10 Find the **Point style** subsection. From the **Color** list, choose **Gray**.

11 From the **Type** list, choose **Arrow**.

Pressure (spf)

1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Pressure (spf)**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **3D Plot Group**, locate the **Title** section.

3 From the **Title type** list, choose **None**.

4 In the **Pressure (spf)** toolbar, click **Plot**.

5 Click the **Zoom Extents** button in the **Graphics** toolbar.

The following steps reproduce Figure 4.

Vortex core

1 In the **Home** toolbar, click **Add Plot Group** and choose **3D Plot Group**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **3D Plot Group**, type `Vortex core` in the **Label** text field.

3 Locate the **Title** section. From the **Title type** list, choose **None**.

4 Locate the **Plot Settings** section. Clear the **Plot dataset edges** check box.

Surface 1

1 Right-click **Vortex core** and choose **Surface**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Surface**, locate the **Data** section.

3 From the **Dataset** list, choose **Surface 2**.

4 Locate the **Coloring and Style** section. From the **Coloring** list, choose **Uniform**.

5 From the **Color** list, choose **Gray**.

Line 1

1 In the **Model Builder** window, right-click **Vortex core** and choose **Line**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Line**, locate the **Data** section.

3 From the **Dataset** list, choose **Edge 3D 1**.

4 Locate the **Coloring and Style** section. From the **Coloring** list, choose **Uniform**.

5 From the **Color** list, choose **Custom**.

6 On Windows, click the colored bar underneath, or — if you are running the cross-platform desktop — the **Color** button.

7 Click **Define custom colors**.

8 Set the RGB values to 128, 128, and 128, respectively.

9 Click **Add to custom colors**.

10 Click **Show color palette only** or **OK** on the cross-platform desktop.

Isosurface 1

1 Right-click **Vortex core** and choose **Isosurface**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Isosurface**, click **Replace Expression** in the upper-right corner of the **Expression** section. From the menu, choose **Component 1 (comp1)>Turbulent Flow, v2-f>Velocity and pressure>Vorticity field - 1/s>spf.vorticityz - Vorticity field, z component**.

3 Locate the **Levels** section. From the **Entry method** list, choose **Levels**.

4 In the **Levels** text field, type `90`.

5 Select the **Interactive** check box.

Depending on the boundary conditions, the value may need to be adjusted by sliding the interactive bar. This visualizes the vortex core in Figure 4.

6 Locate the **Coloring and Style** section. From the **Coloring** list, choose **Uniform**.

7 From the **Color** list, choose **Custom**.

8 On Windows, click the colored bar underneath, or — if you are running the cross-platform desktop — the **Color** button.

9 Click **Define custom colors**.

10 Set the RGB values to 0, 128, and 192, respectively.

11 Click **Add to custom colors**.

12 Click **Show color palette only** or **OK** on the cross-platform desktop.

13 Clear the **Color legend** check box.

Vortex core

1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Vortex core**.

2 In the **Vortex core** toolbar, click **Plot**.

3 Click the **Zoom Extents** button in the **Graphics** toolbar.

The following steps reproduce Figure 5.

Swirl velocity

1 In the **Home** toolbar, click **Add Plot Group** and choose **1D Plot Group**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **1D Plot Group**, type `Swirl velocity` in the **Label** text field.

3 Click to expand the **Title** section. From the **Title type** list, choose **Manual**.

4 In the **Title** text area, type `Swirl Velocity`.

5 Locate the **Plot Settings** section. Select the **x-axis label** check box.

6 In the associated text field, type `r (m)`.

7 Select the **y-axis label** check box.

8 In the associated text field, type `Swirl velocity (m/s)`.

Line Graph 1

In the **Swirl velocity** toolbar, click **Line Graph**.

Swirl velocity

1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Swirl velocity**.

2 Locate the **Data** section. From the **Dataset** list, choose **Cut Line 3D 1**.

Line Graph 1

1 In the **Model Builder** window, click **Line Graph 1**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Line Graph**, locate the **y-Axis Data** section.

3 In the **Expression** text field, type `(x*v-y*u)/sqrt(x^2+y^2+eps)`.

4 Locate the **x-Axis Data** section. From the **Parameter** list, choose **Expression**.

5 In the **Expression** text field, type `-x`.

6 In the **Swirl velocity** toolbar, click **Plot**.

7 Click the **Zoom Extents** button in the **Graphics** toolbar.