

Particulate Flow Simulations with Complex Geometries using the Finite Element-Fictitious Boundary Method



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Related Multiphase Flow Solver



Basic CFD tool – **FEATFLOW** (robust, parallel, efficient)

HPC features:

- Massively parallel
- GPU computing
- Open source





Numerical features:

- Higher order Q2P1 FEM schemes
- FCT & EO FEM stabilization techniques
- Use of unstructured meshes
- Fictitious Boundary (FBM) methods
- Dynamic adaptive grid deformation
- Newton-Multigrid solvers



FEM-based simulation tools for the accurate prediction of multiphase flow problems, particularly with liquid-(rigid) solid interfaces

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Consider the flow of N solid particles in a fluid with density ρ and viscosity μ . Denote by $\Omega_f(t)$ the domain occupied by the fluid at time t, by $\Omega_i(t)$ the domain occupied by the ith-particle at time t and let $\overline{\Omega} = \overline{\Omega}_f \cup \overline{\Omega}_i$.



The fluid flow is modelled by the **Navier-Stokes equations**:

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \cdot \nabla u\right) - \nabla \cdot \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{f}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$$

where σ is the total stress tensor of the fluid phase:

$$\mathbf{\nabla}(\mathbf{X},\mathbf{t}) = -\mathbf{p}\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{\nabla}\mathbf{u} + (\nabla\mathbf{u})^{\mathsf{T}}$$



Mesh Setup

- Hierachical unstructured meshes
- Domain decomposition:
 - → Grid hierarchy on each subdomain
- Mapping from spatial coordinates to mesh cells (indices) generally not possible for unstructured meshes

 $f:p(x,y,z) \rightarrow cellIndex$

- <u>Overlay an additional structured grid layer</u> (hashed uniform grids) to obtain position to mesh cell mapping
- Direct mapping from positions crucial for fast computations involving the mesh or the geometry represented by the mesh











The motion of particles can be described by the **Newton-Euler equations**. A particle moves with **a translational velocity** U_i and **angular velocity** ω_i

 $M_{i}\frac{dU_{i}}{dt} = F_{i} + F_{i}' + \left(\begin{array}{c} \triangleleft \\ M \end{array}_{i} \right)g, \qquad I_{i}\frac{d}{dt} + \exists \times \left(I_{i} \exists \right) = T_{i},$

- M_i : mass of the i-th particle (i=1,...,N)
 - I_i : moment of inertia tensor of the i-th particle
- ΔM_i : mass difference between M_i and the mass of the fluid
- F_i : hydrodynamic force acting on the i-th particle
- T_i : hydrodynamic torque acting on the i-th particle



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which satisfiy:



The position and orientation of the i-th particle are obtained by integrating the **kinematic equations**:

$$\frac{\mathrm{dX}_{i}}{\mathrm{dt}} = \mathbf{U}_{i}, \ \frac{\mathrm{d} \mathbf{\Phi}_{i}}{\mathrm{dt}} = \mathbf{A}_{i}, \ \frac{\mathrm{d} \mathbf{A}_{i}}{\mathrm{dt}} = \mathbf{I}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{T}_{i}$$

which can be done numerically by an explicit Euler scheme:

$$X_i^{n+1} = X_i^n + \underset{\textbf{tl}}{\textbf{d}} \quad \stackrel{n}{i} \quad \exists_{l}^{n+1} = \exists_{l}^n + \underset{\textbf{t}}{\textbf{d}} \left(I_i^{-1} T_i^n \right) \quad \underset{\textbf{t}}{\textbf{d}}_{l}^{n+1} = \underset{\textbf{t}}{\textbf{d}}_{l}^n + \underset{\textbf{t}}{\textbf{d}}_{l}^n \quad \stackrel{n}{\textbf{d}}_{l}^{n+1} = \underbrace{\textbf{d}}_{l}^n + \underbrace{\textbf{d}}_{l}^n \quad \underset{\textbf{t}}{\textbf{d}}_{l}^{n+1} = \underbrace{\textbf{d}}_{l}^n + \underbrace{\textbf{d}}_{l}^n \quad \underset{\textbf{t}}{\textbf{d}}_{l}^n + \underbrace{\textbf{d}}_{l}^n + \underbrace{\textbf{d}}_{l}^n \quad \underset{\textbf{t}}{\textbf{d}}_{l}^n + \underbrace{\textbf{d}}_{l}^n + \underbrace{\textbf{d}}_{l}^n \quad \underset{\textbf{t}}{\textbf{d}}_{l}^n + \underbrace{\textbf{d}}_{l}^n + \underbrace{\textbf{d$$

Boundary Conditions

We apply the velocity u(X) as no-slip boundary condition at the interface $\partial \Omega_i$ between the i-th particle and the fluid, which for $X \in \Omega_i$ is defined by:

$$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{U}_{i} + \mathbf{\exists} \times (\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_{i})$$



Hydrodynamic Forces





• Only first order accuracy



Alternative:

Replace the surface integral by a volume integral



Numerical Force Evaluation



Define an *indicator function* α_i:

$$abla (\mathsf{X}) = egin{cases} 1 & ext{for } \mathsf{X} \in \mathsf{C} \ 0 & ext{for } \mathsf{X} \in \mathsf{C} \ \end{bmatrix}$$

Remark: The gradient of α_i is zero everywhere except at the surface of the i-th Particle and approximates the normal vector (in a weak sense), allowing us to write:

$$F_{i} = -\int_{G_{T}} \triangleright \nabla \overrightarrow{q} d\mathbf{G}, \quad T_{i} = -\int_{G_{T}} (X - X_{i}) \times (\triangleright \nabla \overrightarrow{q}) d\mathbf{G}$$

On the finite element level we can compute this by:

$$\begin{split} F_{i} &= -\sum_{T \in T_{h,i}} \int_{\Omega_{T}} \ \mathfrak{P}_{h} \cdot \nabla \ \mathfrak{P}_{h,i} d\mathbf{C}, \\ T_{i} &= -\sum_{T \in T_{h,i}} \int_{\mathbf{C}_{T}} \left(X - X_{i} \right) \times \left(\ \mathfrak{P}_{h} \cdot \nabla \ \mathfrak{P}_{h,i} \right) d\mathbf{C} \\ \mathfrak{a}_{h,i} (x) : \text{finite element interpolant of } \mathfrak{a}(x) \\ T_{h,i} &: \text{elements intersected by i-th particle} \end{split}$$

Advantages:

- Constant mesh/data structure → GPU
- Increased resolution in regions of interest
- PDE approach is **not** necessary → anisotropic 'umbrella' smoother
- Straightforward usage in 3D unstructured meshes
 Quality of the method depends on the construction of the monitor function
- Geometrical description (solid body, interface triangulation)
- Monitor function based on distance information
- Field oriented description (steep gradients, fronts) \rightarrow numerical stabilization

Validation: 2.5D Rising bubble – light setup



Testing: 3D Rising bubble - hard setup



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- Contact force calculation realized as a three step process
 - → Broadphase
 - → Narrowphase
 - → Contact/Collision force calculation
- Worst case complexity for collision detection is O(n²)
 - → Computing contact information is expensive
 - \rightarrow Reduce number of expensive tests \rightarrow Broad Phase
- Broad phase
 - \rightarrow Simple rejection tests exclude pairs that cannot intersect
 - → Use hierarchical spatial partitioning
- Narrow phase
 - → Uses Broadphase output
 - \rightarrow Calculates data neccessary for collision force calculation



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Benchmarking and Validation (I)



Free fall of particles:

- Terminal velocity
- Different physical parameters
- Different geometrical parameters







Source: Glowinski et al. 2001

Sedimentation Benchmark









Re	u_{max}/u_{∞}	u_{max}/u_{∞}	u_{max}/u_{∞}
		ten Cate	exp
1.5	0.945	0.894	0.947
4.1	0.955	0.950	0.953
11.6	0.953	0.955	0.959
31.9	0.951	0.947	0.955

Tab. 1 Comparison of the u_{max}/u_{∞} ratios between the FEM-FBM, ten Cate's simulation and ten Cate's experiment



Comparison

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Source: 13th Workshop on Two-Phase Flow Predictions 2012 Acknowledgements: Ernst, M., Dietzel, M., Sommerfeld, M.



Multi-level Analysis

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FEM-Multigrid Framework

- Increasing the mesh resolution produces more accurate results
 Test performed at different mesh levels
 - Maximum velocity is approximated better
 - Shape of the velocity curve matches better





Oscillating Cylinder

- Measure Drag/Lift Coefficients for a sinusoidally oscillating cylinder
- Compare results for FBM, adapted FBM and adapted FBM + boundary projection/parametrization





Nodes concentrated near liquid-solid interface Nodes projected and parametrized on boundary plus concentration of nodes near boundary

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Oscillating Cylinder Results









Highly smooth results when the vertices are projected directly onto the geometry

Distance Maps for Fast MinDist



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- Data structure for fast distance calculation
- Equidistant structured mesh surrounding the object
- Precompute and store distance, normals
- Transform quantities into distance map, use precomputed values
- Algorithm maps excellently to the GPU
- Provides fast distance computation and collision queries for comlex geometries





Car representation by the computation mesh



- Details may be lost without adaptation
- Better resolution with the same number of DOFs
- Mesh adaptation equivalent to at least one refinement level



Example: Virtual Wind Tunnel

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- Numerical simulation of complex geometries
- Use of a regular base mesh
- Resolution of small scale details by mesh adaptation



(A)

Swimming by Reciprocal Motion at Low Reynolds Number

Tian Qiu, Tung-Chun Lee, Andrew G. Mark, Konstantin I. Morozov, Raphael Münster, Otto Mierka, Stefan Turek, Alexander M. Leshansky and Peer Fischer

Nature Communications, November 2014



mm/s

39

20

slow opening half-cycle





Microswimmer Example(II)

Application to microswimmers:

- Exp: Cooperation with Prof. Fischer (MPI IS Stuttgart)
- Analysis with respect to shear thickening/thinning
- Use of grid deformation to resolve s/l interface









Contact/Collision Modelling



- Contact determination for rigid bodies A and B:
 - \rightarrow Distance d(A,B)
 - → Relative velocity $v_{AB} = (v_A + \omega_A \times r_A (v_B + \omega_B \times r_B))$
 - \rightarrow Collision normal N = (X_A (t) X_B (t))
 - → Relative normal velocity N · ($v_A + \omega_A \times r_A (v_B + \omega_B \times r_B)$)
 - distinguishes three cases of how bodies move relative to each other:
 - \rightarrow Colliding contact : N · v_{AB} < 0
 - \rightarrow Separation : N · v_{AB} > 0

 \rightarrow Touching contact : N · v_{AB} = 0



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Single Body Collision Model



For a single pair of colliding bodies we compute the impulse f that causes the velocities of the bodies to change:

$$f = \frac{-(1+\epsilon)(n_1(v_1 - v_2) + \omega_1(r_{11} \times n_1) - \omega_2(r_{12} \times n_1))}{m_1^{-1} + m_2^{-1} + (r_{11} \times n_1)^T I_1^{-1}(r_{11} \times n_1) + (r_{12} \times n_1)^T I_2^{-1}(r_{12} \times n_1)}$$

Using the impulse f, the change in linear and angular velocity can be calculated:

$$v_{1}(t + \Delta t) = v_{1}(t) + \frac{fn_{1}}{m_{1}}, \omega_{1}(t + \Delta t) = \omega_{1}(t) + I_{1}^{-1}(r_{11} \times fn_{1})$$
$$v_{2}(t + \Delta t) = v_{2}(t) - \frac{fn_{1}}{m_{2}}, \omega_{2}(t + \Delta t) = \omega_{2}(t) - I_{2}^{-1}(r_{12} \times fn_{1})$$



Multi-Body Collision Model(I)



In the case of **multiple colliding bodies** with *K* contact points the impulses influence each other. Hence, they are combined into a system of equations that involves the following matrices and vectors:

- N: matrix of contact normals
- C: matrix of contact conditions
- M: rigid body mass matrix
- f: vector of contact forces (f_i≥0)
- f^{ext}: vector of external forces(gravity, etc.)

$$\frac{N^{\mathsf{T}}C^{\mathsf{T}}M^{-1}CN}{A} \cdot \underbrace{\triangleleft}_{tf} \overset{t+\triangleleft}{tf} + \underbrace{N^{\mathsf{T}}C^{\mathsf{T}}\left(u^{t} + \underbrace{\triangleleft}_{tM} \overset{-1}{tH} + f^{ext}\right)}_{b} \ge 0, f \ge 0$$

A problem of this form is called a **linear complementarity problem** (LCP) which can be solved with efficient iterative methods like the **Projected Gauss-Seidel solver (PGS)**.

Kenny Erleben, Stable, Robust, and Versatile Multibody Dynamics Animation



Multi-Body Collision Model (II)





k,η: material constants

Multi-Body Collision Model (III)

Collision forces

Forces acting on each particle

Sum up for each collision

 $T_{i,c} = \sum \left(r_i \times \left(F_{i,s} + F_{i,d} + F_{i,t} \right) \right)$

 $F_{i,c} = \sum \left(F_{i,s} + F_{i,d} + F_{i,t}\right)$

collisions(i)

collisions(i)

- Use a DEM approach that can be easily evaluated in parallel
- Consider only the 3x3x3 neighbouring cells for each particle



Can be extended to rigid bodies Details: GPU Gems 3 (Takahiro Harada)





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Examples







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Fluidized Bed Example







DGS Configuration







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Extensions & Future Activities

Fluidics

- Viscoelastic fluids
- Turbulence
- Multiphase problems
 - → Liquid-Liquid-Solid
 - → Liquid-Gas-Solid

Hardware-Oriented Numerics

- Improve parallel efficiency of collision detection and force computation on GPU
- Implement core CFD-Solver Modules on GPU
- Complete dynamic grid adaptation on GPU
- Hydrodynamic forces on GPU







