



Solvers

Miklós  
BALOGH  
and Josh  
DAVIDSON

Floating  
object  
tutorial

Free decay  
experiment

Assignments

# Laboratory Session 7

## Open-Source CFD Course 2021

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2021



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Assignments

- 1 Floating object tutorial
- 2 Free decay experiment
- 3 Assignments



# Floating object tutorial

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Assignments

- During this week's lecture we had a brief look at the floatingObject tutorial
- Your first task for today's lab is to run the floatingObject tutorial and view the outputs in paraView



# Floating object tutorial

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## Steps

- 1 Find the floatingObject tutorial case and make a second copy of it
- 2 Run the *Allrun* script
- 3 Once the simulation has finished open paraView by typing "paraFoam"
- 4 Create the figures in the next three slides
  - Email them to me by Friday for a bonus mark
  - Hint : In the first figure I have changed the "opacity" so I can see the floating object inside the domain
  - Hint : In the second figure I have used the "slice"
  - Hint : In the third figure I deselect all "Mesh parts" except for "floatingObject - wall"



# alpha.water at time = 0s

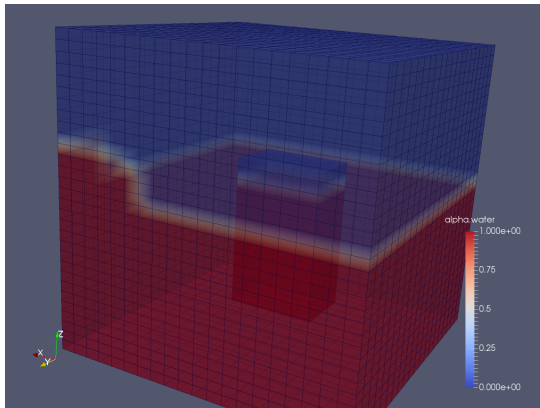
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# alpha.water at time = 0s

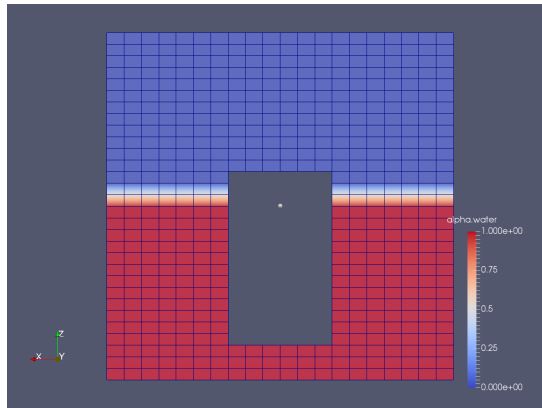
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# Pressure at time = 3s

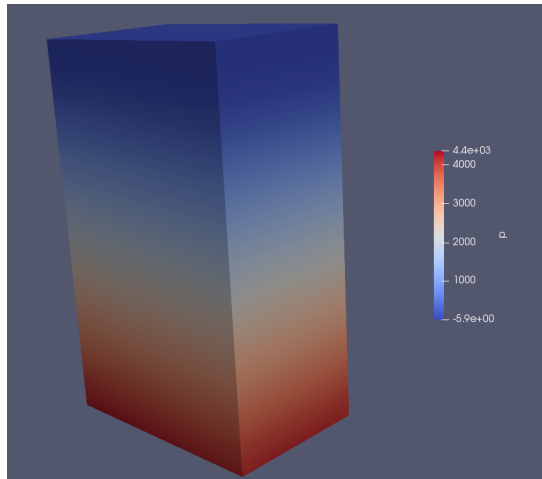
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# Free decay experiment

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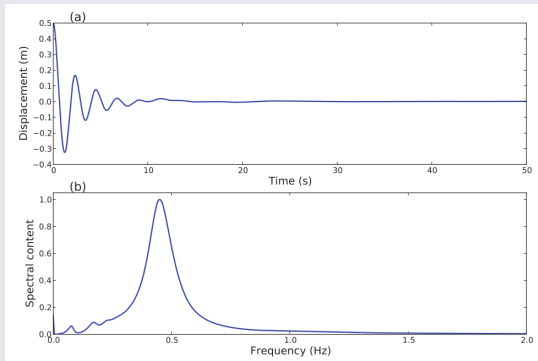
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A free decay experiment involves starting a body displaced from its equilibrium and then running the simulation so that it oscillates back to rest (see Figure (a) below). The frequency of the oscillation corresponds to the natural frequency of the body, so it is a useful experiment to identify the body dynamics (see the Fourier transform in Figure(b) below).

## Example result



<sup>0</sup> Davidson, Giorgi and Ringwood, *Identification of Wave Energy Device Models From Numerical Wave Tank Data – Part 1: Numerical Wave Tank Identification Tests*, IEEE Transactions on Sustainable Energy, 2016







# Free decay experiment

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Assignments

- 1 Make another copy of the floatingObject tutorial, then modify the case to simulate heave/vertical motion free decay tests
  - 1.1 Remove the extra block of water above the mean surface level, which causes external excitation to the floating object (*system/setFieldsDict*)
  - 1.2 Change the simulation length to 20s (*system/controlDict*)
  - 1.3 Change the mass of the object (*constant/dynamicMeshDict*)
  - 1.4 Change the motion constraints to heave [z-axis] (*constant/dynamicMeshDict*)

# 1.1 system/setFieldsDict

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Assignments

(a) Original

```
10 version 2.0;
11 format ascii;
12 class dictionary;
13 location "system";
14 object setFieldsDict;
15 }
16 // *****
17
18 defaultFieldValues
19 (
20   volScalarFieldValue alpha.water 0
21 );
22
23 regions
24 (
25   boxToCell
26   {
27     box (-100 -100 -100) (100 100 0.5368);
28     fieldValues ( volScalarFieldValue alpha.water 1 );
29   }
30
31   boxToCell
32   {
33     box (0.7 0.8 -100) (100 100 0.65);
34     fieldValues ( volScalarFieldValue alpha.water 1 );
35   }
36 );
37
```

(b) Modified

```
10 version 2.0;
11 format ascii;
12 class dictionary;
13 location "system";
14 object setFieldsDict;
15 }
16 // *****
17
18 defaultFieldValues
19 (
20   volScalarFieldValue alpha.water 0
21 );
22
23 regions
24 (
25   boxToCell
26   {
27     box (-100 -100 -100) (100 100 0.5368);
28     fieldValues ( volScalarFieldValue alpha.water 1 );
29   }
30
31   /* boxToCell
32   {
33     box (0.7 0.8 -100) (100 100 0.65);
34     fieldValues ( volScalarFieldValue alpha.water 1 );
35   }
36   */
37 );
```

# 1.1 system/controlDict

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Assignments

(a) Original

```
10 version 2.0;
11 format ascii;
12 class dictionary;
13 location "system";
14 object controlDict;
15 }
16 // *****
17
18 application interFoam;
19
20 startFrom startTime;
21
22 startTime 0;
23
24 stopAt endTime;
25
26 endTime 6;
27
28 deltaT 0.01;
29
```

(b) Modified

```
10 version 2.0;
11 format ascii;
12 class dictionary;
13 location "system";
14 object controlDict;
15 }
16 // *****
17
18 application interFoam;
19
20 startFrom startTime;
21
22 startTime 0;
23
24 stopAt endTime;
25
26 endTime 20;
27
28 deltaT 0.01;
29
30 writeControl adjustableRunTime;
31
32 writeInterval 5;
```

<sup>0</sup> Note : If you do not have much free space on your harddrive, then change the output write interval to a bigger value (as shown in the blue box)



# 1.3 and 1.4 *constant/dynamicMeshDict*

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Assignments

### (a) Original

```
41 // Cuboid dimensions
42 Lx      0.3;
43 Ly      0.2;
44 Lz      0.5;
45
46 // Density of the cuboid
47 rho     500;
48
49 // Cuboid mass
50 mass    #calc "$rho*$Lx*$Ly*$Lz";
51 L       ($Lx $Ly $Lz);
52 centreOfMass (0 0 0.25);
53 transform (1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1) (0.5 0.45 0.1);
54
55 joint
56 {
57     type          composite;
58     joints
59     (
60         {
61             type Py;
62         }
63         {
64             type Ry;
65         }
66     );
67 }
68
69 patches      (floatingObject);
```

### (b) Modified

```
41 // Cuboid dimensions
42 Lx      0.3;
43 Ly      0.2;
44 Lz      0.5;
45
46 // Density of the cuboid
47 rho     800;
48
49 // Cuboid mass
50 mass    #calc "$rho*$Lx*$Ly*$Lz";
51 L       ($Lx $Ly $Lz);
52 centreOfMass (0 0 0.25);
53 transform (1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1) (0.5 0.45 0.1);
54
55 joint
56 {
57     type          composite;
58     joints
59     (
60         {
61             type Pz;
62         }
63     );
64 }
65
66 patches      (floatingObject);
67
```



# Plot results

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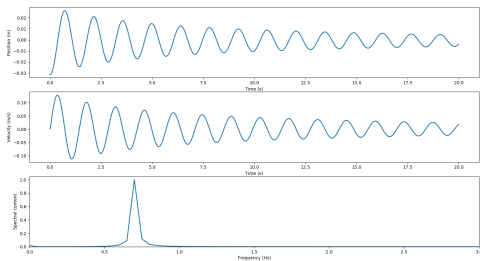
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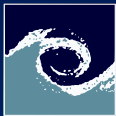
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Assignments

- ② Once the simulation has finished, use the python scripts provided to plot the results like in the graph below <sup>1</sup>.
- 1.1 Copy the *extractData.py* and *plotter.py* files into the case folder
  - 1.2 In the command line, type "python extractData.py", to extract the position and velocity of the floating object at each time step and save as a text file in the created "Results" folder
  - 1.3 In the command line, type "python plotter.py", to read the data, perform a Fourier transform and then plot the results



<sup>1</sup> Advanced post processing methods such as this will be taught in Lecture 5



# Assignments

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Assignments

- 1 What does *topoSet* do in the floating object tutorial?
- 2 How many cells are used in the floating object tutorial?
- 3 For the free decay experiment, if you change the density of the floating object from 800 to  $700 \text{ kg/m}^3$ , what does the natural heave frequency change to?
- 4 What could you modify in the free decay case setup so that there is zero motion from the floating object's initial position?
- 5 Modify the floatingObject tutorial so that it crashes!!!