

Fluids for Computer Graphics

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Overview

- Some terms...
- Incompressible Navier-Stokes Equations
- Boundary conditions
- Lagrange vs. Euler
- Eulerian approaches
- Lagrangian approaches
- Shallow water
- Conclusions

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Some terms

- Advect:
evolve some quantity forward in time using a velocity field. For example particles, mass, etc.
- Convect:
transfer of heat by circulation of movement of fluid.

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Some terms

- Lagrangian:
methods that move fluid mass (for example by advecting particles)
- Eulerian:
fluid quantities are defined on a grid that is fixed (the quantities can vary over time)



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Equations

Fluids are governed by the incompressible Navier-Stokes Equations

$$\frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial t} + \vec{u} \cdot \nabla \vec{u} + \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p = \vec{g} + \nu \nabla^2 \vec{u} \quad (1)$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{u} = 0 \quad (2)$$

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Equations

- $\vec{u} = (u, v, w)$ *velocity* of the fluid [m/s]
- ρ (rho) fluid *density* [kg/m³]
 water ~1000
 air ~1.3
- $p = \frac{\vec{F}}{A}$ *pressure* [Pa]
 force per unit area that the fluid exerts

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Equations

- $\vec{g} = (0, -9.81, 0)$ *accel. due gravity* [m/s⁻²]
 (assuming:
 z – points to you, y – is up, x – is right)
- ν (upsilon) *kinematics viscosity*
 how difficult it is to stir

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Equations

The momentum equation ($\vec{F} = m\vec{a}$)
 How the fluid accelerates due to the forces acting on it

$$\frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial t} + \vec{u} \cdot \nabla \vec{u} + \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p = \vec{g} + \nu \nabla^2 \vec{u}$$

Diagram illustrating the forces acting on the fluid in the momentum equation:

- acceleration**: points to $\frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial t}$
- convection (internal movement)**: points to $\vec{u} \cdot \nabla \vec{u}$
- pressure**: points to $\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p$
- viscosity**: points to $\nu \nabla^2 \vec{u}$
- gravity and other external forces**: points to $\vec{g}$
- drag**: points to the right-hand side of the equation (representing external forces)

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Equations

The momentum equation ($\vec{F} = m\vec{a}$)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial u^2}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial uv}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial uw}{\partial z} &= -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + g_x + \nu \left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} \right) \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial vu}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v^2}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial vw}{\partial z} &= -\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + g_y + \nu \left(\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial z^2} \right) \\ \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial wu}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial wv}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial w^2}{\partial z} &= -\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + g_z + \nu \left(\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial z^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

acceleration convection pressure drag gravity

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Equations

- Balance of momentum.
Internal + external forces = change in momentum.
- Conservation of energy.
Kinetic + internal energy = const.

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Equations

Conservation of mass

Advecting mass through the velocity field cannot change total mass.

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{u} = 0$$

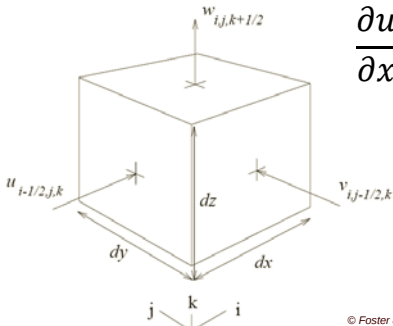
$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = 0$$

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Equations

Conservation of mass

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = 0$$


© Foster & Metaxas, 1996

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Boundary Conditions

- Three types
 - Solid walls
 - Free surface
 - Other fluids

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Boundary Conditions

- Solid boundaries
 - Normal component of fluid velocity = 0

$$\vec{u} \cdot \hat{n} = 0$$
- Ideal fluids (slip boundary)
 - The tangential component is unchanged.
- Viscous fluids (no-slip boundary)
 - The tangential component is set to zero.

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Boundary Conditions

- Free surface
 Interface between the fluid and “nothing” (air)
 - Volume-of-fluid tracking (for Eulerian)
 - Mesh tracking (tracks evolving mesh)
 - Particle fluids (Lagrangian)
 - Level sets:
 advects a signed distance function

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Solutions

- Lagrangian:
 - The world is a particle system
 - Each particle has an ID and properties (position, velocity, acceleration, etc.)
- Eulerian:
 - The point in space is fixed
 - Measure stuff as it flows past
- Analogy - temperature:
 - Lagrangian: a balloon floats with the wind
 - Eulerian: on the ground wind blows past

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Incompressibility

- Real fluids are compressible
that is why we hear under water
- Not important for animation and
expensive to calculate

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Eulerian Approach

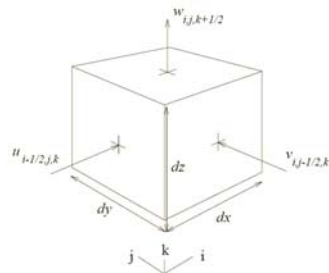
Nick Foster and Dimitri Metaxas (1996) Realistic animation of liquids. *Graph. Models Image Process.* 58, 5 (September 1996), 471-483.

- Space discretization
 - Uses fixed 3D regular grid (voxels)
(two of them)
 - Each cell has pressure p in the middle
 - Each cell has its state:
 - FULL of fluid
 - SOLID material
 - EMPTY air
 - SURFACE boundary cell

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Eulerian Approach

- Each wall stores the velocity vector



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Eulerian Approach

- Discretization of the NS momentum equation gives new velocity $\tilde{u}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{u}_{i+1/2,j,k} = & u_{i+1/2,j,k} + \delta t \{ (1/\delta x) [(u_{i,j,k})^2 - (u_{i+1,j,k})^2] \\ & + (1/\delta y) [(uv)_{i+1/2,j-1/2,k} - (uv)_{i+1/2,j+1/2,k}] \\ & + (1/\delta z) [(uw)_{i+1/2,j,k-1/2} - (uw)_{i+1/2,j,k+1/2}] + g_x \\ & + (1/\delta x)(p_{i,j,k} - p_{i+1,j,k}) + (\nu/\delta x^2)(u_{i+3/2,j,k} \\ & - 2u_{i+1/2,j,k} + u_{i-1/2,j,k}) + (\nu/\delta y^2)(u_{i+1/2,j+1,k} \\ & - 2u_{i+1/2,j,k} + u_{i+1/2,j-1,k}) + (\nu/\delta z^2)(u_{i+1/2,j,k+1} \\ & - 2u_{i+1/2,j,k} + u_{i+1/2,j,k-1}) \}, \end{aligned}$$

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Eulerian Approach

- Time step and the
- Convergence condition

$$1 > \max\left[u \frac{\delta t}{\delta x}, v \frac{\delta t}{\delta y}, w \frac{\delta t}{\delta z}\right]$$

- $\partial x, \partial y, \partial z$ are given,
so we can only decrease the time step
- This causes the simulation to slow down over time.

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Eulerian Approach

- The divergence fluid ("missing mass")

$$D_{i,j,k} = -((1/\delta x)(u_{i+1/2,j,k} - u_{i-1/2,j,k}) + (1/\delta y)(v_{i,j,k+1/2} - v_{i,j,k-1/2}) + (1/\delta z)(w_{i,j,k+1/2} - w_{i,j,k-1/2})).$$

- Is a finite difference approx. of $\nabla \cdot \vec{u} = 0$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = 0$$

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Eulerian Approach

$\vec{u}$

$\nabla \cdot \vec{u}$

init
iteration 1
iteration n

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Eulerian Approach

- Change of the mass causes change of the pressure

$$\partial p = \beta D$$

$$\beta = \beta_0 / 2\delta t \left(\frac{1}{\partial x^2} + \frac{1}{\partial y^2} + \frac{1}{\partial z^2} \right)$$

$$\beta_0 \in [1, 2]$$

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Eulerian Approach

- The face vortices are then updated

$$u_{i+1/2,j,k} = u_{i+1/2,j,k} + (\delta t / \delta x) \delta p,$$

$$u_{i-1/2,j,k} = u_{i-1/2,j,k} - (\delta t / \delta x) \delta p,$$

$$v_{i,j+1/2,k} = v_{i,j+1/2,k} + (\delta t / \delta y) \delta p,$$

$$v_{i,j-1/2,k} = v_{i,j-1/2,k} - (\delta t / \delta y) \delta p,$$

$$w_{i,j,k+1/2} = w_{i,j,k+1/2} + (\delta t / \delta z) \delta p,$$

$$w_{i,j,k-1/2} = w_{i,j,k-1/2} - (\delta t / \delta z) \delta p,$$

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Eulerian Approach

- Cell pressure is updated

$$\tilde{p} = p + \delta p$$

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Eulerian Approach

Putting this all together:

1. Scene definition (material, sources, sinks)
2. Set initial pressure and velocity
3. In a loop
 - I. Compute $\tilde{u}, \tilde{v}, \tilde{w}$ for all Full cells.
 - II. Pressure iteration for all Full cells.

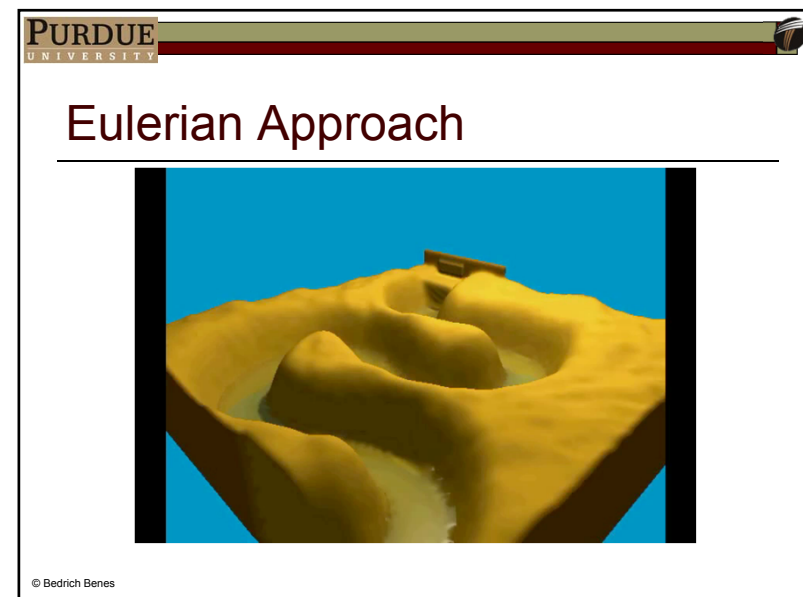
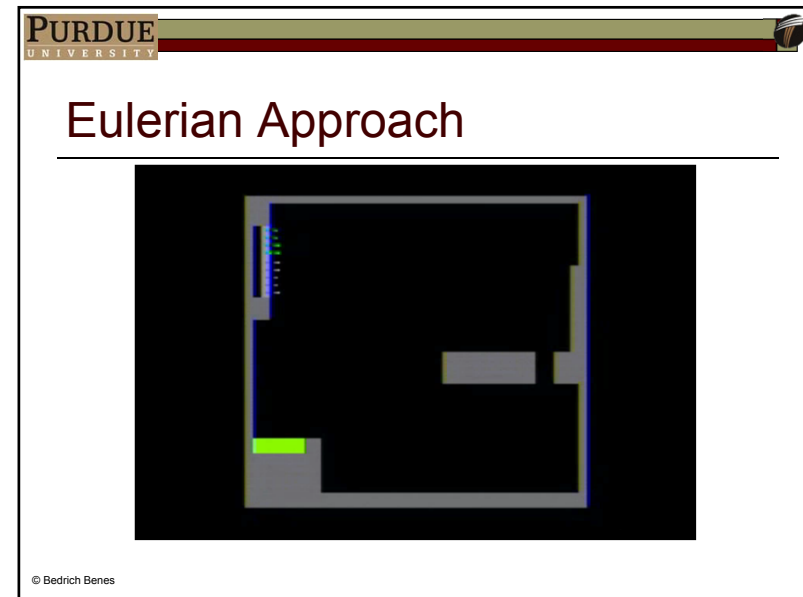
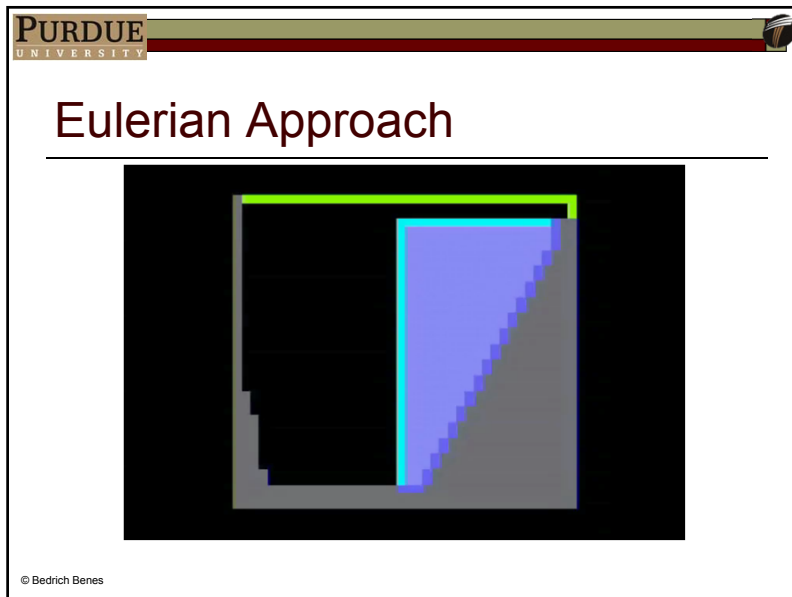
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Eulerian Approach

- Where is the free level?
 - Use marching cubes
 - Use Marker Particles – particles that are advected with the velocity Markers and Cells (MAC)

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Stability

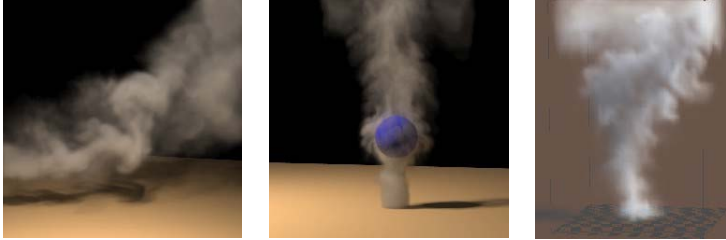
- Slowing down because of stability
- Some iterations for divergence needed
- Addressed by Jos Stam. 1999. Stable fluids. In *Proceedings of the 26th annual conference on Computer graphics and interactive techniques* (SIGGRAPH '99).
- Demo

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Follow up works

- Ronald Fedkiw, Jos Stam, and Henrik Wann Jensen. 2001. Visual simulation of smoke. In *Proceedings of the 28th annual conference on Computer graphics and interactive techniques* (SIGGRAPH '01).



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Follow up works

- Douglas Enright, Stephen Marschner, and Ronald Fedkiw. 2002. Animation and rendering of complex water surfaces. *ACM Trans. Graph.* 21, 3 (July 2002), 736-744.

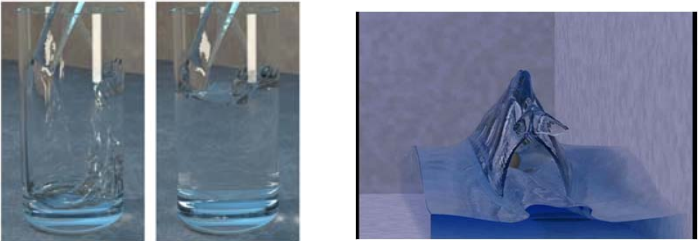


Figure 1: Water being poured into a glass (55x120x55 grid cells).

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Follow up works

- Erosion simulation

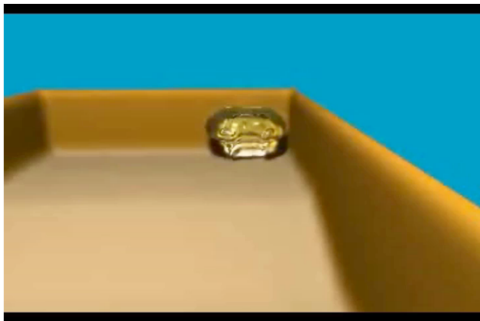


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Follow up works

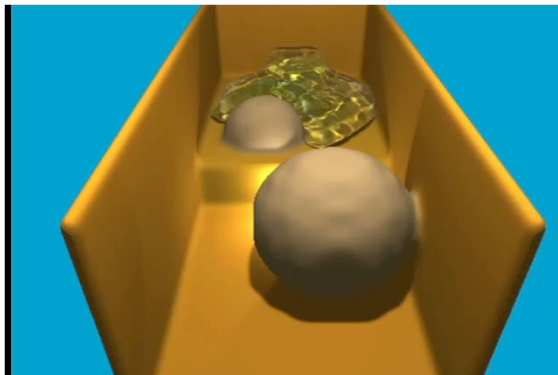
- Erosion



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More...



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Lagrangian approaches

- Lagrangian: methods that move fluid mass (for example by advecting particles)

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Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics (SPH)

- R.A. Gingold and J.J. Monaghan, (1977) Smoothed particle hydrodynamics: theory and application to non-spherical stars, Mon. Not. R. Astron. Soc., Vol 181, pp. 375–89.
- M. Desbrun, and M-P. Cani. (1996). Smoothed Particles: a new paradigm for animating highly deformable bodies. In Proceedings of Eurographics Workshop on Computer Animation and Simulation

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SPH

- Fluid is divided into discrete particles
- Particles advect mass
- The values of different properties in the space where no particles are present are calculated by using *smoothing functions*

$$\phi = \sum_j m_j \frac{\phi_j}{\rho_j} W(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_j)$$

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SPH

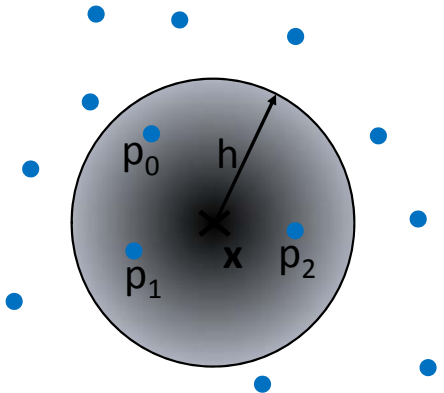
$$\phi = \sum_j m_j \frac{\phi_j}{\rho_j} W(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_j, h)$$

ϕ – the physical value at location $\mathbf{x}$
 m_j – mass of the j –th particle
 ϕ_j – the physical value of the j –th particle
 $\mathbf{x}_j$ – location of the j –th particle
 W – the smoothing kernel
 h – radius of influence

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SPH

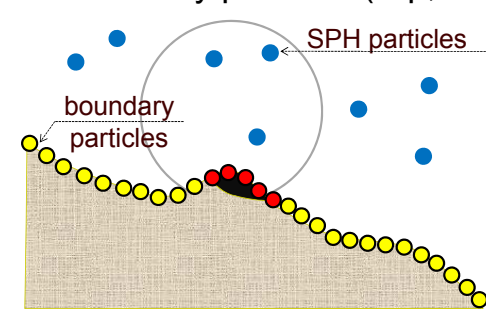


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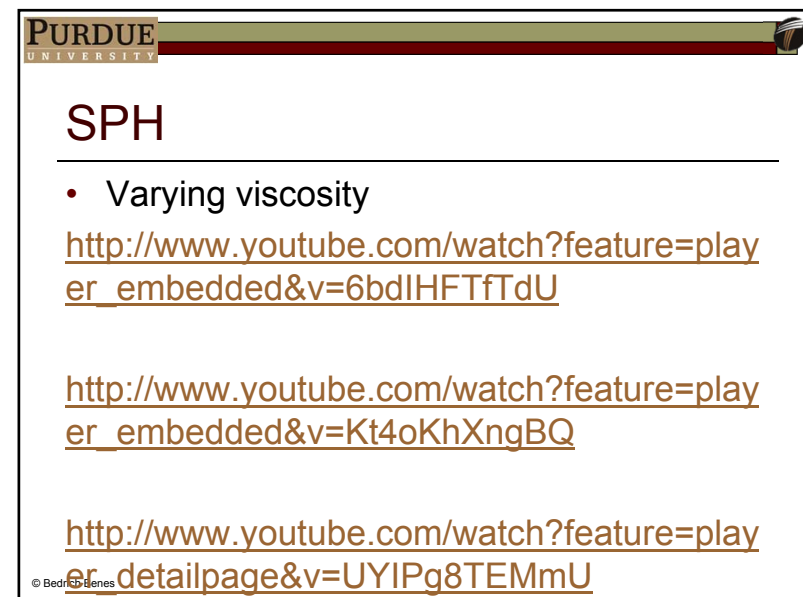
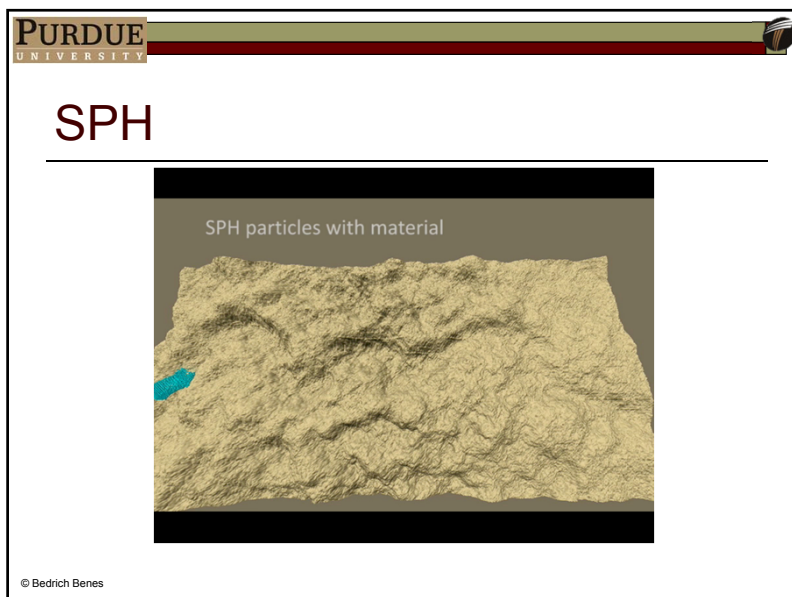
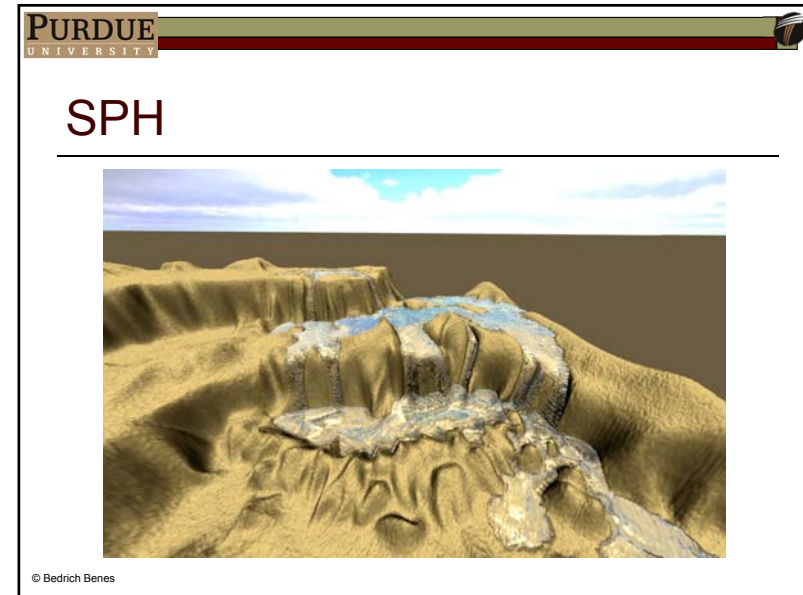
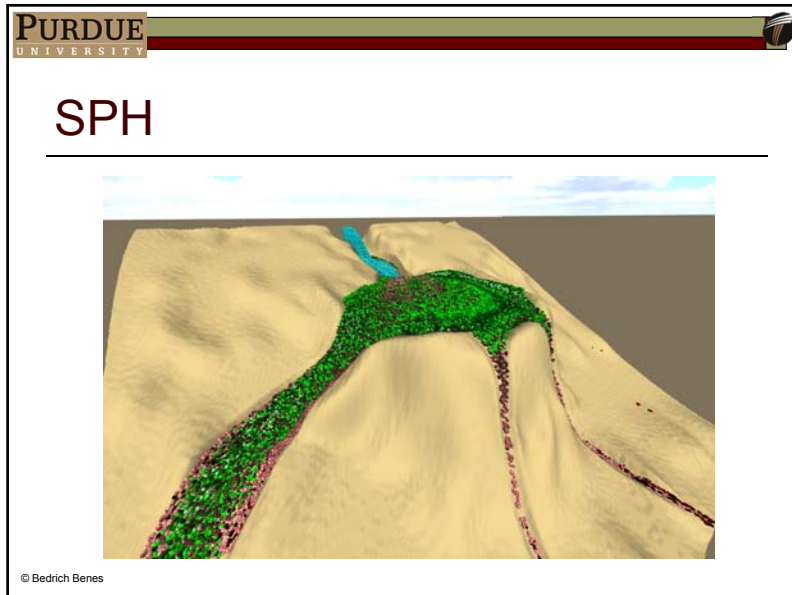
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Boundary

- Can be represented as a triangular mesh
- or as boundary particles (slip, no-slip)



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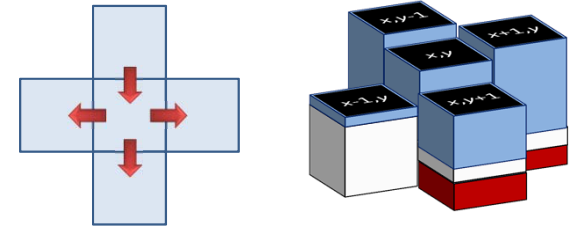
SPH

- Pros
 - No problems with losing material
 - Implicitly saves data (particles are where the fluid is)
 - Splashes are easy...
- Cons
 - Large number of particles is necessary
 - Not as good for GPU as Eulerian (but still pretty good)

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Shallow Water Simulation

- The fluid is a simple 2-D grid with layers
- Neighbor cells are connected by pipes
- Cannot simulate splashes and overhangs
- Good enough for near-still water with boats



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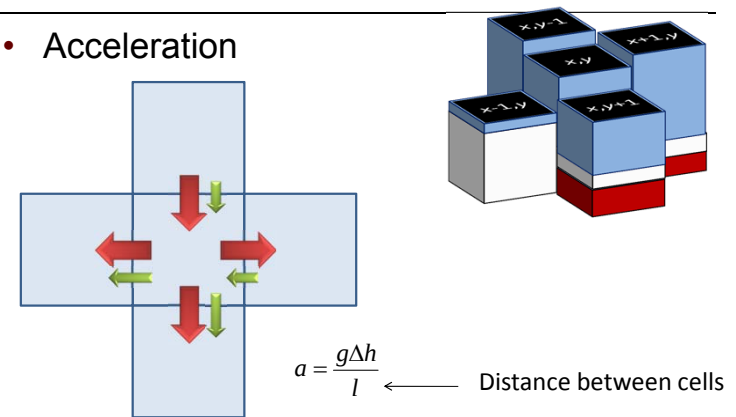
Shallow Water Simulation

- Algorithm:
 - 1) Get acceleration from unequal levels
 - 2) Calculate flow between cells
 - 3) Change levels of water
 - 4) Go to 1)

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Shallow Water Simulation

- Acceleration

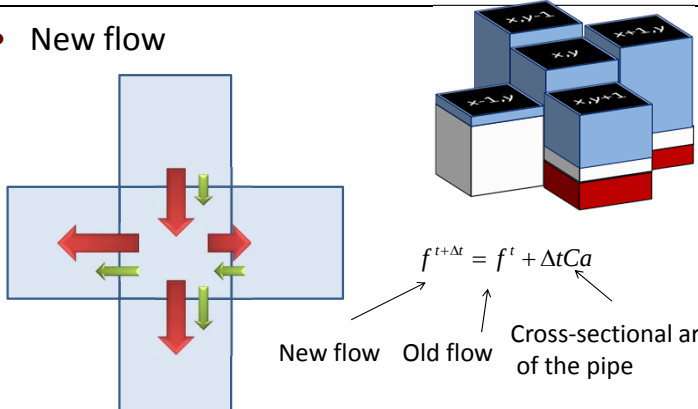


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Shallow Water Simulation

- New flow



The diagram shows a cross-section of a pipe with a central node and four adjacent nodes. Red arrows indicate the flow direction from the central node to the adjacent nodes. Green arrows indicate the flow direction from the adjacent nodes to the central node. A 3D block diagram shows the flow direction and the cross-sectional area of the pipe. The equation $f^{t+\Delta t} = f^t + \Delta t Ca$ is shown, with labels for 'New flow', 'Old flow', and 'Cross-sectional area of the pipe'.

$f^{t+\Delta t} = f^t + \Delta t Ca$

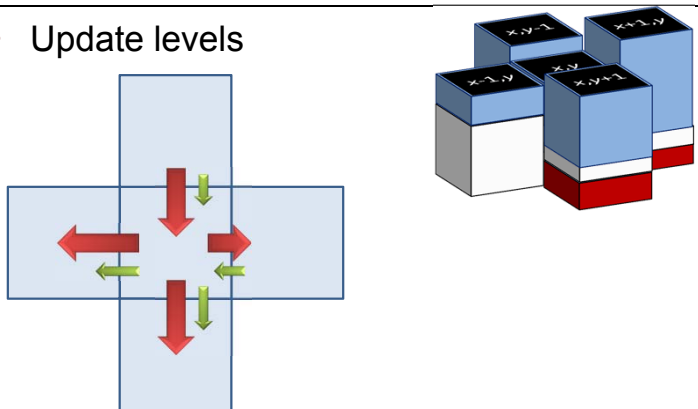
New flow Old flow Cross-sectional area of the pipe

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Shallow Water Simulation

- Update levels



The diagram shows a cross-section of a pipe with a central node and four adjacent nodes. Red arrows indicate the flow direction from the central node to the adjacent nodes. Green arrows indicate the flow direction from the adjacent nodes to the central node. A 3D block diagram shows the flow direction and the cross-sectional area of the pipe.

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Shallow Water Simulation



A 3D visualization of a shallow water simulation showing a river channel with a central node and four adjacent nodes. The water level is represented by the height of the blocks. The flow direction is indicated by red arrows.

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Shallow Water Simulation



A 3D visualization of a shallow water simulation showing a river channel with a central node and four adjacent nodes. The water level is represented by the height of the blocks. The flow direction is indicated by red arrows.

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Conclusions

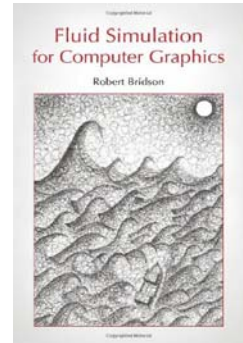
- Fluid simulation is a complex topic
- Fluid simulation for CG uses simplifications that are aimed at
 - Speed
 - Visual quality
- Still an open problem
- lot of work to do...

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Reading

- Robert Bridson
Fluid Simulation for
Computer Graphics
- Siggraph proceedings



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