



# Pressure Boundaries for Implicit Incompressible SPH

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Implicit incompressible SPH (IISPH) solves a pressure Poisson equation (PPE). While the solution of the PPE provides pressure at fluid samples, the embedded boundary handling does not compute pressure at boundary samples. Instead, IISPH uses various approximations to remedy this deficiency. In this article, we illustrate the issues of these IISPH approximations. We particularly derive Pressure Boundaries, a novel boundary handling that overcomes previous IISPH issues by the computation of physically meaningful pressure values at boundary samples. This is basically achieved with an extended PPE. We provide a detailed description of the approach that focuses on additional technical challenges due to the incorporation of boundary samples into the PPE. We therefore use volume-centric SPH discretizations instead of typically used density-centric ones. We further analyze the properties of the proposed boundary handling and compare it to the previous IISPH boundary handling. In addition to the fact that the proposed boundary handling provides physically meaningful pressure and pressure gradients at boundary samples, we show further benefits, such as reduced pressure oscillations, improved solver convergence, and larger possible time steps. The memory footprint of fluid samples is reduced and performance gain factors of up to five compared to IISPH are presented.

CCS Concepts: • **Computing methodologies** → **Physical simulation**; *Massively parallel and high-performance simulations*;

Additional Key Words and Phrases: Physically based animation, fluid animation, smoothed particle hydrodynamics, boundary handling

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

Incompressible SPH (ISPH) has recently gained attention in the graphics community as a promising alternative to previous non-iterative (e.g., Becker and Teschner (2007) and Müller et al. (2003)) or iterative state-equation solvers (e.g., He et al. (2012), Shao and Lo (2003), and Solenthaler and Pajarola (2009)). ISPH solves a

pressure Poisson equation (PPE) to compute pressure values at fluid samples in a global way (e.g., Cummins and Rudman (1999), Goswami et al. (2010), Ihmsen et al. (2014a), and Takahashi et al. (2016)). As outlined in Ihmsen et al. (2014b), various source terms can be used in the PPE that either encode the predicted density error or the predicted divergence of the velocity field. These formulations can also be combined in various ways. For example, Bender and Koschier (2017) indicate that a combination of two pressure solvers that resolve both density deviations and the divergence of the velocity field can improve the overall performance of the pressure computation. In this article, we build upon implicit incompressible SPH (IISPH) with the density invariance condition as source term (Ihmsen et al. 2014a).

*Related Work.* Representing solid boundaries with particles is popular in SPH fluids (Bender and Koschier 2017; Ihmsen et al. 2014a; Monaghan 2005; Takahashi et al. 2016), since particle-based representations are very flexible and can handle arbitrarily shaped geometries. For example, in Monaghan (2005), boundary particles exert penalty forces on the surrounding fluid samples as soon as they are within a certain distance. Penalty forces should prevent fluid samples from penetrating the boundary. However, small time steps are required to produce a smooth pressure field, since these forces also lead to large pressure variations within the fluid. To achieve larger time steps, the direct forcing method has been proposed in Becker et al. (2009). In this method, one- and two-way-coupled solid objects are handled by computing control forces and velocities with a predictor-corrector-scheme. But, due to an incomplete support domain, approximating field variables at boundaries is problematic with SPH. As a result, fluid samples tend to stick to the boundary if the direct forcing method or a distance-based penalty force is used. Ghost particles (Colagrossi and Landrini 2003; Schechter and Bridson 2012; Yildiz et al. 2009) are another technique to treat boundaries. For fluid samples that are located at a certain distance to the boundary, a ghost particle is generated, which has the same viscosity, mass, density, and pressure as its associated fluid sample. For complex geometries, however, generating such ghost particles is challenging. In addition, the sampling of the boundary has a significant influence on the numerical stability and quality of the simulation. While simple objects can be easily represented by uniformly distributed samples (e.g., Adami et al. (2012)), complex objects cannot. Based on the concept of the number density, Akinci et al. (2012), Ott and Schnetter (2003), and Solenthaler and Pajarola (2008) treat irregular samplings by computing volume contributions and by mirroring the hydrodynamic quantities of a fluid sample, i.e., density and pressure, onto its neighboring boundary samples. While adhering to the concept of SPH, this approach is efficient to compute and allows a versatile coupling of fluids and solid objects.

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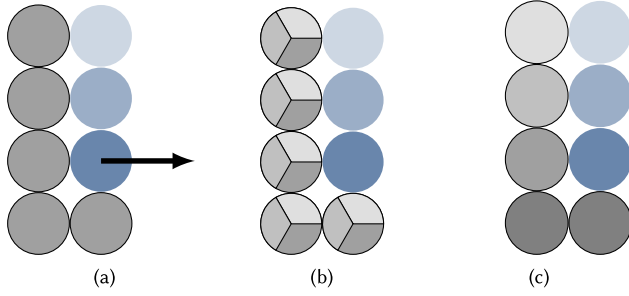


Fig. 1. The illustrations show boundary samples (gray) and fluid samples (blue). Pressure is color-coded. (a) IISPH erroneously assumes equal pressure values at all boundary samples adjacent to the same fluid sample. The arrow indicates the limitation that the resulting pressure force exerted from boundary samples only varies in magnitude, but not in direction. (b) At the same time, IISPH assumes several, potentially inconsistent pressure values at one boundary sample if this sample is adjacent to several fluid samples. (c) In contrast, the proposed Pressure Boundary method computes unique and physically meaningful pressure values at boundary samples.

Employing a Moving Least Squares technique, Band et al. (2017) extended the boundary handling of Akinci et al. (2012) to improve the accuracy of the density estimate and normal computation in planar regions. They try to locally reconstruct the surface of the true boundary by fitting boundary particles to a plane, resulting in a smooth representation of the boundary. Recently, an implicit representation of static and dynamic rigid boundaries has been proposed (Koschier and Bender 2017). This approach allows an efficient density and boundary normal evaluation based on a pre-computed density map. All these techniques, however, do not solve a system to compute consistent pressure at the boundary.

**Our Contribution.** We propose Pressure Boundaries, a novel boundary handling for IISPH that computes pressure values at boundary samples using the PPE. In contrast to IISPH, approximate or inconsistent assumptions are avoided. Instead, pressure values are computed that realize a physically meaningful pressure gradient at the discretized fluid-solid interface. This improves the robustness of the boundary handling, in particular the number of required solver iterations is reduced compared to IISPH. Performance gain factors of up to five have been achieved in the presented experiments. The proposed solution also works with larger time steps compared to IISPH. Further, Pressure Boundaries reduce artificial pressure oscillations that can occur in IISPH due to simplifying assumptions on boundary pressures.

**Differences and Benefits over IISPH.** IISPH mirrors pressure values from fluid samples to adjacent boundary samples, which has various issues. First, the pressure gradient is not correct at fluid-solid interfaces. Second, a boundary sample can have different pressure values mirrored from adjacent fluid samples. Third, all boundary samples adjacent to a fluid particle have the same pressure value. These issues are addressed in the proposed approach by computing unique, physically meaningful pressure values at boundary samples. Figures 1(a) and 1(b) illustrate the issues of the IISPH boundary handling. Figure 1(c) indicates the desired pressure distribution that we achieve with the proposed Pressure Boundaries.

## 2 METHOD

Here, we first recapitulate the general idea of ISPH, followed by the specific PPE discretization of IISPH. Issues in the boundary handling of IISPH are explained and the proposed boundary handling is motivated. Afterwards, the concept and details of the proposed boundary handling are described.

### 2.1 ISPH

ISPH (Cummins and Rudman 1999) computes the pressure field  $p$  by solving a PPE of the form  $\nabla^2 p = s$  with  $s$  being a source term that either encodes the divergence of a predicted velocity field, a predicted density deviation, or a combination of both. As the pressure field is computed from a global formulation, it is typically rather smooth, which positively affects the stability compared to, e.g., state-equation solvers (Adams et al. 2007; Monaghan 1994; Müller et al. 2005). One option to derive a PPE with density invariance as source term is to start with the mass conservation law:

$$\frac{D\rho(t + \Delta t)}{Dt} + \rho(t + \Delta t) \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}(t + \Delta t) = 0. \quad (1)$$

$\mathbf{v}$  denotes the velocity,  $\rho$  denotes the density,  $t$  and  $\Delta t$  denote time and time step. Introducing the constraint  $\rho(t + \Delta t) = \rho^0$ , with  $\rho^0$  denoting the rest density, using a backward difference for  $\frac{D\rho(t + \Delta t)}{Dt}$  and

$$\mathbf{v}(t + \Delta t) = \underbrace{\mathbf{v}(t) + \Delta t \mathbf{a}^{\text{non-P}}(t)}_{\mathbf{v}^*(t + \Delta t)} - \Delta t \frac{1}{\rho^0} \nabla p(t), \quad (2)$$

with  $\mathbf{a}^{\text{non-P}}(t)$  denoting all non-pressure accelerations, we get

$$\frac{\rho(t + \Delta t) - \rho(t)}{\Delta t} + \rho^0 \nabla \cdot \left( \mathbf{v}^*(t + \Delta t) - \Delta t \frac{1}{\rho^0} \nabla p(t) \right) = 0. \quad (3)$$

This equation can be written as

$$\frac{\rho^0 - (\rho(t) - \Delta t \rho^0 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}^*(t + \Delta t))}{\Delta t} - \Delta t \nabla^2 p(t) = 0. \quad (4)$$

The term  $\rho^*(t + \Delta t) = \rho(t) - \Delta t \rho^0 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}^*(t + \Delta t)$  is an approximation of the predicted density at time  $t + \Delta t$ , resulting in the following form of the PPE:

$$\Delta t^2 \nabla^2 p(t) = \rho^0 - \rho^*(t + \Delta t). \quad (5)$$

Solving this PPE results in pressure values  $p(t)$  and respective velocity changes  $-\Delta t \frac{1}{\rho^0} \nabla p(t)$  that correct the predicted density deviation  $\rho^0 - \rho^*(t + \Delta t)$  to make the fluid incompressible.

### 2.2 IISPH

IISPH (Ihmsen et al. 2014a) is a specific discretization of  $\Delta t^2 \nabla^2 p(t)$  that is motivated by two reasons. First, it addresses the issue of operator inconsistency in SPH. As the SPH discretization of  $\nabla^2 p$  is generally not equal to the SPH discretization of  $\nabla \cdot \nabla p$ , i.e.,  $\langle \nabla^2 p \rangle \neq \langle \nabla \cdot \langle \nabla p \rangle \rangle$ , IISPH discretizes  $\langle \nabla \cdot \langle \nabla p \rangle \rangle$  rather than  $\langle \nabla^2 p \rangle$ .

According to Cummins and Rudman (1999), the IISPH discretization is an accurate projection scheme, which is in contrast to approximate projection schemes that discretize  $\langle \nabla^2 p \rangle$ . The convergence of IISPH and one particular approximate projection has been compared in, e.g., Ihmsen et al. (2014a). In the respective test scenarios, IISPH required less solver iterations than the approximate projection variant. Ihmsen et al. argue that the consideration

of second-ring neighbors in IISPH improves its convergence. Another reason could be the fact that the same discretization  $\langle \nabla p \rangle$  is consistently used in the computation of the pressure acceleration  $\mathbf{a}^p_f(t) = -\frac{1}{\rho_f} \nabla p(t)$ . It can also be speculated that the formulation and the discretization of the source term in IISPH positively affect the iteration count. In addition to the comparatively low iteration count of the IISPH solver, a second motivation is the performance compared to other pressure solvers and the comparatively low memory consumption of IISPH in combination with a simple implementation. Although IISPH considers neighbors of neighbors, it can be implemented in a matrix-free way. The experiments in Ihmsen et al. (2014a) indicate that IISPH is faster than iterative state-equation solvers for large scenarios, while the matrix-free implementation of the relaxed Jacobi technique for solving the PPE just requires the storage of seven additional scalar values per sample. Accordingly, IISPH uses the following two discretizations at a fluid sample position  $f$ :

$$-\frac{1}{\rho_f^0} \nabla p_f(t) = \mathbf{a}^p_f(t) = - \sum_{f_f} m_{f_f} \left( \frac{p_f(t)}{\rho_f^2(t)} + \frac{p_{f_f}(t)}{\rho_{f_f}^2(t)} \right) \nabla W_{ff_f}(t) - \sum_{f_b} m_{f_b} \frac{p_f(t)}{\rho_f^2(t)} \nabla W_{ff_b}(t), \quad (6)$$

with  $f_f$  denoting fluid neighbors and  $f_b$  denoting boundary neighbors of  $f$  and

$$\Delta t^2 \nabla^2 p_f(t) = \Delta t^2 \sum_{f_f} m_{f_f} \left( \mathbf{a}^p_f(t) - \mathbf{a}^p_{f_f}(t) \right) \cdot \nabla W_{ff_f}(t) + \Delta t^2 \sum_{f_b} m_{f_b} \mathbf{a}^p_f(t) \cdot \nabla W_{ff_b}(t) = \rho_f^0 - \rho_f^*(t + \Delta t), \quad (7)$$

which gives the PPE discretization.

Boundaries in IISPH are handled by pressure mirroring as proposed in, e.g., Akinci et al. (2012). As can be seen in Equation (6), IISPH computes the pressure acceleration at fluid samples  $f$  due to boundary neighbors  $f_b$  with  $\sum_{f_b} m_{f_b} \frac{p_f(t)}{\rho_f^2(t)} \nabla W_{ff_b}(t)$ , which is an approximation of  $\sum_{f_b} m_{f_b} \frac{p_{f_b}(t)}{\rho_{f_b}^2(t)} \nabla W_{ff_b}(t)$ . This approximation is obtained from the mirroring assumptions  $p_{f_b}(t) = p_f(t)$  and  $\rho_{f_b}(t) = \rho_f(t)$ . Further, since the computation of the pressure acceleration at a boundary sample is more involved (as all pressure forces at boundary samples have to be accumulated first to finally predict the next state of the boundary samples) IISPH uses the simplifying assumption that boundary samples  $b$  are not accelerated; i.e.,  $\mathbf{a}^p_b(t) = 0$ . This can be seen in Equation (7), where the term  $\Delta t^2 \sum_{f_b} m_{f_b} \mathbf{a}^p_{f_b}(t) \cdot \nabla W_{ff_b}(t)$  is a simplification of  $\Delta t^2 \sum_{f_b} m_{f_b} (\mathbf{a}^p_f(t) - \mathbf{a}^p_{f_b}(t)) \cdot \nabla W_{ff_b}(t)$  due to  $\mathbf{a}^p_{f_b}(t) = 0$ . However, this simplification is correct for one-way coupled static and kinematic boundaries.

The mirroring assumptions lead to the artifacts illustrated in Figure 1. From the perspective of a fluid sample, all adjacent boundary samples have the same pressure (see Figure 1(a)). Further, different pressure values are considered at a boundary sample, if this sample has more than one fluid neighbor (see Figure 1(b)).

### 2.3 IISPH with Pressure Boundaries

To avoid the illustrated artifacts and to realize a consistent pressure gradient at boundary samples (see Figure 1(c)), we propose a novel PPE discretization that introduces changes to Equations (6) and (7). Section 2.3.1 derives the novel PPE discretization at fluid and boundary samples. Section 2.3.2 describes the computation; i.e., the implementation of all quantities that are required to solve the PPE. Section 2.3.3 motivates the employed notation where we prefer to work with sample volumes instead of densities.

**2.3.1 Proposed PPE Discretization.** In contrast to Equation (6), we propose to compute the pressure acceleration at a fluid sample  $f$  in a unified way. Omitting time indices, we use

$$\mathbf{a}^p_f = -\frac{V_f}{m_f} \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} (p_f + p_{f_j}) \nabla W_{ff_j}, \quad (8)$$

with  $V_f$  denoting the actual volume of sample  $f$ . This discretization has been used in, e.g., Colagrossi and Landrini (2003), and is a variant of the so-called generalized SPH derivative operators as discussed, e.g., in Price (2012). An alternative derivation of this discretization is outlined in Appendix A. Note that the sum in Equation (8) processes all fluid and boundary neighbors  $f_j$  of the fluid sample  $f$  in the same way. Approximating assumptions on boundary pressures as in Equation (6) are avoided and linear momentum is preserved.

In contrast to IISPH, we propose a PPE discretization that does not only consider unknown pressure at fluid samples, but also at boundary samples. That is, the system consists of one equation per unknown pressure at a fluid sample and one equation per unknown pressure at a boundary sample. This novel formulation overcomes the mirroring assumptions of IISPH. It computes pressure values at boundary samples, which are consistent with pressures at adjacent fluid samples (see Figure 1(c)). At fluid samples, we use

$$\Delta t^2 \sum_{f_f} V_{f_f} (\mathbf{a}^p_f - \mathbf{a}^p_{f_f}) \cdot \nabla W_{ff_f} + \Delta t^2 \sum_{f_b} V_{f_b} \mathbf{a}^p_f \cdot \nabla W_{ff_b} = 1 - \frac{V_f^0}{V_f} + \Delta t \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_f^*, \quad (9)$$

with  $V_f^0$  denoting the rest volume of sample  $f$ . This equation is closely related to Equation (7) and derived in Appendix A. The velocity divergence  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_f^*$  is discretized with Equation (16). It is a variant of the generalized SPH derivative operators (Price 2012) and commonly used as SPH divergence operator. Despite the similarity to Equation (7), Equations (7) and (9) differ in the computation of the pressure accelerations  $\mathbf{a}^p_f$  (Equation (6) vs. Equation (8)). The additional equations at boundary samples can be derived from Equation (9) by using  $\mathbf{a}^p_b(t) = 0$ , as in IISPH:

$$-\Delta t^2 \sum_{b_f} V_{b_f} \mathbf{a}^p_{b_f} \cdot \nabla W_{bb_f} = 1 - \frac{V_b^0}{V_b} + \Delta t \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_b^*. \quad (10)$$

Here, the velocity divergence  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_b^*$  is discretized with Equation (17) analogous to the divergence operator used in Equation (9). Equations (9) and (10) constitute the proposed PPE discretization

$A\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{s}$  with  $\mathbf{p}$  denoting the vector of all pressure values at fluid and boundary samples. Accordingly, Equation (9) and (10) can be denoted as  $(A\mathbf{p})_f = s_f$  and  $(A\mathbf{p})_b = s_b$ , respectively.

**2.3.2 Computation of Required Quantities.** To solve the system, various quantities have to be computed: pressure accelerations  $\mathbf{a}_f^p$  at fluid samples, rest volumes  $V_f^0$  of fluid and  $V_b^0$  of boundary samples, actual volumes  $V_f$  of fluid and  $V_b$  of boundary samples and also velocity divergences  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_f^*$  at fluid and  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_b^*$  at boundary samples.

**Rest Volumes.** The rest volume of a fluid sample is computed as

$$V_f^0 = h^3, \quad (11)$$

with  $h$  being the initial sample distance, i.e., the edge length of a cube-shaped fluid sample that is typically used for the initial sampling of the fluid body. The rest volume of a boundary sample is computed as

$$V_b^0 = \frac{\gamma}{\sum_{b_b} W_{bb_b}}. \quad (12)$$

It is intuitively clear that this computation only processes boundary neighbors as the rest volume of a boundary sample does not depend on possibly adjacent fluid samples. The coefficient  $\gamma$  is inspired by Akinci et al. (2012) and accounts for an incomplete neighborhood of boundary samples, as we only use one layer of boundary samples to represent the surface of boundaries. In our experiments, we use  $\gamma = 0.7$  in combination with a cubic spline kernel (Monaghan 2005) with a smoothing length of  $2h$ . This is motivated by the fact that  $\frac{0.7}{\sum_{b_b} W_{bb_b}} = h^3$  for boundary samples that are evenly sampled in a plane with distance  $h$ . Interestingly, Equation (12) can consider adjacent boundary samples from different boundary objects. This allows the handling of intersecting objects. Equation (12) can also be used to update the rest volume during a simulation if intersecting boundary objects move relative to each other.

**Actual Volumes.** If all samples had the same rest volume, then the actual volume of a sample could be computed as  $V_i = \frac{1}{\sum_{ij} W_{ii_j}}$ . Due to the flexible boundary sampling, however, this is not the case. According to Rosswog (2015), the volume of a sample can be computed as  $V_i = \frac{V_i^0}{\sum_{ij} V_{ij}^0 W_{ii_j}}$ , which results in

$$V_f = \frac{V_f^0}{\sum_{ff} V_{ff}^0 W_{ff} + \sum_{fb} V_{fb}^0 W_{ff_b}} \quad (13)$$

for the actual volume of a fluid sample. The actual volume of a boundary sample could be computed with the same equation. Analogous to the rest volume computation, however, we consider the incomplete neighborhood boundary samples and compute the actual volume as

$$V_b = \frac{V_b^0}{\sum_{bf} V_{bf}^0 W_{bb_f} + \sum_{bb} V_{bb}^0 W_{bb_b} + \beta}. \quad (14)$$

We use  $\beta = 0.15 \cdot h^3$ , which models a planar boundary sampling where only one side can be in contact with fluid. For planar boundaries where both sides can be in contact with fluid, the offset  $\beta$

would be zero. Assuming that the neighboring boundary samples  $b_b$  of boundary samples  $b$  are uniformly distributed on a plane, i.e.,  $V_b^0 = V_{b_b}^0$ , and using Equation (12) allows us to simplify Equation (14) to

$$V_b = \frac{V_b^0}{\sum_{bf} V_{bf}^0 W_{bb_f} + \gamma + \beta}. \quad (15)$$

This simplification saves memory and computation time as there is nothing to compute for boundary samples that have no fluid neighbors.

**Velocity Divergences.** The velocity divergence at a fluid sample is computed as

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_f^* = & - \sum_{ff} V_{ff} (\mathbf{v}_f^* - \mathbf{v}_{ff}^*) \cdot \nabla W_{ff} \\ & - \sum_{fb} V_{fb} (\mathbf{v}_f^* - \mathbf{v}_{fb}^*) \cdot \nabla W_{ff_b}. \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

For one-way coupled static objects, the velocity  $\mathbf{v}_{fb}^*$  of a boundary neighbor  $fb$  is zero. For one-way coupled kinematic objects,  $\mathbf{v}_{fb}^*$  is user-defined. Hence, one-way coupled objects are accurately handled. For two-way coupled dynamic objects without prescribed velocities, we make the simplifying assumption that the pressure solver does not change the velocity  $\mathbf{v}_{fb}^*$ ; i.e.,  $\mathbf{v}_{fb}^*$  is computed by applying all non-pressure forces, including collision handling to the respective solid object. This assumption introduces an error to the two-way coupling with solid objects. Nevertheless, it still allows for a plausible simulation of two-way coupled solids, e.g., see Akinci et al. (2012), Bender and Koschier (2017), and Ihmsen et al. (2014a). The opposite of the pressure force at a fluid sample due to a boundary sample is simply applied to the boundary sample, accumulated and then applied to the solid object.

Equation (16) considers the divergence with respect to adjacent fluid and boundary samples. In contrast, the computation of the velocity divergence at a boundary sample does not consider adjacent boundary samples. This corresponds to the fact that there is no relative movement between boundary samples. While this is true for samples of the same solid object, the assumption does not hold for adjacent boundary samples that belong to different objects. As the rest volume is updated with Equation (12) in this case, however, there is generally no density change at a boundary sample due to the relative movement of boundary samples of another object. Therefore, it is correct to compute the velocity divergence at a boundary sample as

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_b^* = - \sum_{bf} V_{bf} (\mathbf{v}_b^* - \mathbf{v}_{bf}^*) \cdot \nabla W_{bb_f}. \quad (17)$$

**Summary.** Equations (11) to (17) describe the computations of all terms of the proposed PPE discretization  $A\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{s}$  in Equation (9) and (10).

**2.3.3 Discussion of the Employed Notation.** With our volume-centric notation, we follow, e.g., Rosswog (2015) and Solenthaler and Pajarola (2008). As shown in Solenthaler and Pajarola (2008), the density computation at interfaces requires special treatments, which can be avoided by using the volume instead. Accordingly,



Solenthaler and Pajarola (2008) employ a volume-centric formulation for the pressure force.

## 2.4 Solver

Here, we follow Ihmsen et al. (2014a) and use relaxed Jacobi. This is motivated by two reasons. On the one hand, Ihmsen et al. (2014a) and Takahashi et al. (2016) reported issues when using Conjugate Gradients. On the other hand, the usage of the same solver in IISPH and in the proposed pressure-boundary formulation enables comparisons that focus on the concept instead of the solver implementation. Pressure values  $p_i^0$  are initialized with zero at all fluid and boundary samples and then iteratively updated with

$$p_i^{l+1} = \max\left(p_i^l + \omega_i \frac{s_i - (Ap^l)_i}{a_{ii}}, 0\right), \quad (18)$$

where  $l$  denotes the iteration number. As negative pressures can cause instabilities due to attractive forces, we clamp negative pressure to zero in each iteration. The relaxation factor  $\omega_i$  can vary for each sample. We use  $\omega_i = 0.5 \frac{V_i^0}{h^3}$  in our experiments, i.e.,  $\omega_f = 0.5$  and  $\omega_b = 0.5 \frac{V_b^0}{h^3 \sum_{b_b} W_{bb_b}}$ , which is motivated by the fact that we experienced convergence issues for constant relaxation factors in case of large volume ratios of fluid and boundary samples, i.e., very small boundary samples. The term  $a_{ii}$  indicates the  $i$ -th diagonal element of  $A$ . Its derivation is outlined in Appendix B. For a fluid sample, we get

$$a_{ff} = -\Delta t^2 \frac{V_f}{m_f} \left\| \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} \nabla W_{ff_j} \right\|^2 - \Delta t^2 V_f \sum_{f_f} V_{f_f} \frac{V_{f_f}}{m_{f_f}} \left\| \nabla W_{ff_f} \right\|^2, \quad (19)$$

and for a boundary sample, we get

$$a_{bb} = -\Delta t^2 V_b \sum_{b_b} V_{b_b} \frac{V_{b_b}}{m_{b_b}} \left\| \nabla W_{bb_b} \right\|^2. \quad (20)$$

**Convergence Criterion.** In ISPH fluid simulations, the average deviation from the rest density is commonly used as the pressure solver's termination criterion, cf. Ihmsen et al. (2014b). However, our proposed form of the PPE also includes equations for boundary samples and, therefore, boundary samples must be considered too in the evaluation of the solver's termination criterion. As mentioned above, we have a notion of a boundary sample's volume rather than its density. Thus, we terminate the Jacobi solver if it has reached a specified average volume error  $V^{\text{error}}$ . This error can be efficiently calculated in each Jacobi iteration from the residuals  $r_i^l = (Ap^l)_i - s_i$ . The source term  $s_i = 1 - \frac{V_i^0}{V_i} + \Delta t \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_i^*$  represents a relative volume deviation: the first part represents the current relative volume deviation, while the second term describes a predicted relative volume deviation due to the divergence of the predicted velocity  $\mathbf{v}_i^*$ . The solver computes a pressure field  $p^l$  such that  $Ap^l$  accounts for the relative volume deviation in the source term; i.e.,  $(Ap^l)_i$  is also a relative volume deviation. Thus, we can compute the relative volume error of sample  $i$  from the residual  $r_i^l$ . Computing the average of all residuals of all samples provides us

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### ALGORITHM 1: IISPH with Pressure Boundaries

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#### procedure COMPUTE SOURCE TERM

##### for each boundary sample $b$ do

compute rest volume  $V_b^0$   $\triangleright$  Equation (12)

compute volume  $V_b$   $\triangleright$  Equation (15)

##### for each fluid sample $f$ do

compute volume  $V_f$   $\triangleright$  Equation (13)

##### for each fluid sample $f$ do

predict velocity  $\mathbf{v}_f^* = \mathbf{v}_f + \Delta t \mathbf{a}_f^{\text{non-p}}$

##### for each sample $i$ do

compute source term  $s_i$   $\triangleright$  RHS of Equations (9) and (10)

compute diagonal element  $a_{ii}$   $\triangleright$  Equations (19) and (20)

initialize pressure  $p_i$

#### procedure SOLVE PPE

##### while not converged do

##### for each fluid sample $f$ do

compute pressure acceleration  $(\mathbf{a}_f^p)^l$   $\triangleright$  Equation (8)

##### for each sample $i$ do

compute  $(Ap^l)_i$   $\triangleright$  LHS of Equations (9) and (10)

update pressure  $p_i^{l+1}$   $\triangleright$  Equation (18)

#### procedure INTEGRATION

##### for each fluid sample $f$ do

$\mathbf{v}_f(t + \Delta t) = \mathbf{v}_f^* + \Delta t \mathbf{a}_f^p$

$\mathbf{x}_f(t + \Delta t) = \mathbf{x}_f + \Delta t \mathbf{v}_f(t + \Delta t)$

---

with the average relative volume error,

$$V^{\text{error}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N |r_i^l|. \quad (21)$$

Please note that the volume error  $V^{\text{error}}$  can be easily converted to a density error and, hence, both error variants are equivalent.

## 2.5 Implementation

The term  $(Ap^l)_i$  is computed in two steps. First, the pressure accelerations  $(\mathbf{a}_f^p)^l$  are computed for fluid samples with Equation (8). Then, the left-hand sides of Equation (9) and (10) are computed to get  $(Ap^l)_f$  and  $(Ap^l)_b$  for fluid and boundary samples. Algorithm 1 summarizes the simulation update.

**IISPH.** To compare Pressure Boundaries with IISPH, we focus on the concept of computing individual pressure values for boundary samples rather than on specific implementation details. Therefore, our implementation of IISPH is also based on the volume formulation of the PPE; i.e., we use Equation (9) as the building block for the IISPH pressure solver instead of Equation (7). It is also interesting to note that the pressure update in Equation (18) is much easier to read and requires less floating point operations and thus is faster to compute than Equation (16) in the original IISPH article (Ihmsen et al. 2014a). Therefore, we update the pressure values of fluid samples in our IISPH implementation as in Equation (18). In summary, our implementation of IISPH is optimized in the same way as our implementation of Pressure Boundaries. This means

that the presented performance gain factors in Section 3 would be larger if we would have used the original IISPH implementation from Ihmsen et al. (2014a).

*Differences to IISPH.* In contrast to IISPH (Ihmsen et al. 2014a), we store only five additional scalar values per fluid sample instead of seven: one for the diagonal element  $a_{ff}$ , one for the source term  $s_f$ , and three for the pressure acceleration  $a_f^p$ . Since we incorporate pressure values of boundary samples into the PPE, we require two additional loops over boundary samples in the COMPUTESOURCETERM procedure to compute their actual volumes, diagonal elements, and source terms; i.e., we also have to store three additional scalar values for each boundary sample: the actual volume  $V_b$ , the diagonal element  $a_{bb}$ , and the source term  $s_b$ . In the relaxed Jacobi iterations, we require one additional loop over boundary samples to update their pressure values. As the loops have no data dependencies, they are well suited for parallel architectures.

### 3 RESULTS

In this section, we compare the proposed Pressure Boundaries with standard IISPH (Ihmsen et al. 2014a). All presented scenarios have been computed on a 12-core 2.6GHz Intel Xeon E5-2690 with 32GB of RAM.

In our implementation, we employ compact hashing (Ihmsen et al. 2011) for finding particle neighbors. For the SPH interpolation, we use the cubic spline kernel (Monaghan 2005) with a support of  $2h$ . Furthermore, we model surface tension and drag forces as proposed in Akinci et al. (2013) and Gissler et al. (2017), respectively. To demonstrate the applicability of our approach to two-way coupled dynamic objects, we integrated the Bullet physics library (Coumans, Erwin 2017) in our simulation framework. All computations are parallelized with Intel Threading Building Blocks (Pheatt 2008). We used (FIFTY2 Technology 2017) to reconstruct the fluid surface. The ray-traced images were rendered with Side Effects Software (2017).

#### 3.1 Pillar

For the comparisons of the proposed Pressure Boundaries to standard IISPH, we use a fluid pillar within a box-shaped boundary of size  $0.25\text{m} \times 0.25\text{m} \times 10\text{m}$  and a sample size of  $10^{-6}\text{m}^3$ . The scenario consists of 480 k fluid samples and 100 k boundary samples. The convergence criterion is set to a relative average volume error of 0.01%. The rest density of the fluid is set to  $1,000\text{kg m}^{-3}$ . In all tests, we use XSPH viscosity (Schechter and Bridson 2012) with a coefficient of 0.05 and a time step of 0.1ms, if not stated otherwise.

*Pressure Oscillations.* Figure 2 shows the average pressure over time for both methods. It can be seen that Pressure Boundaries reduce erroneous oscillations in the pressure field. In the same context, Figure 3 shows improved values for the kinetic energy, which is smaller and less fluctuating for Pressure Boundaries compared to IISPH.

*Performance Aspects.* The reduced pressure oscillations result in an improved solver convergence for Pressure Boundaries. Table 1 shows that that IISPH requires about 37 iterations per simulation step, while the Pressure Boundary technique requires about 10 iterations. The reduced iteration count, however, is partially

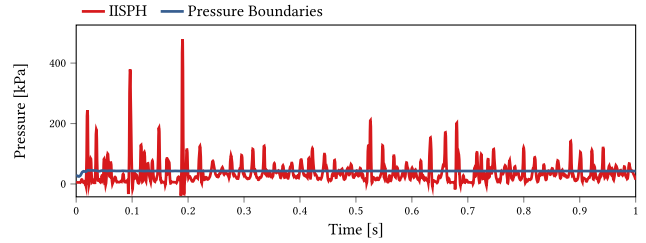


Fig. 2. Oscillations of the average pressure in the fluid pillar.

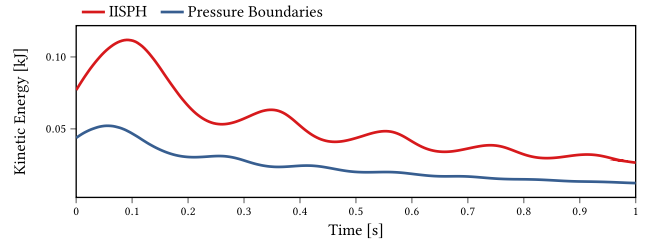


Fig. 3. Kinetic energy in the fluid pillar.

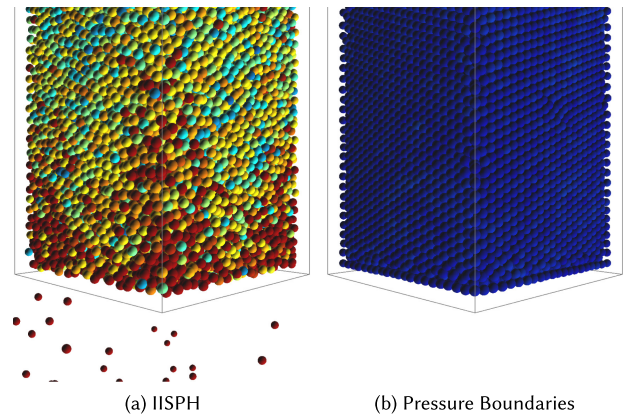


Fig. 4. Pressure Boundaries work with a time step of up to 0.35ms, while IISPH is unstable and suffers from leakage. Velocities are color-coded with blue corresponding to minimal and red corresponding to maximal velocity.

neutralized by the fact that Pressure Boundaries solve a larger PPE compared to IISPH. Nevertheless, the Pressure Boundary method computes the pressure field in 92ms, while IISPH needs 320ms. Figure 4 indicates that Pressure Boundaries are stable for larger time steps compared to IISPH. In the pillar scenario, it is possible to increase the time step from 0.1 to 0.35ms for Pressure Boundaries, while IISPH tends to get unstable for time steps larger than 0.1ms.

*Solver Parameters.* The relaxation coefficient  $\omega$  governs the convergence of the Relaxed Jacobi solver in Equation (18). As indicated in Figure 5, larger values of  $\omega$  reduce the required number of solver iterations. However, we could not arbitrarily increase  $\omega$ , since only values in the range  $0 < \omega \leq 0.5 \frac{V^0}{h^3}$  resulted in stable solutions for our Pressure Boundary formulation. As shown in Figure 6, the average and maximum pressure of the computed pressure field have approximately equal values for varying relaxation coefficients  $\omega$ .

Table 1. Measurements for the Scenarios

Scene	Particles	$h$	avg. $\Delta t$	Iterations		Avg. pressure computation time/ $\Delta t$	
				IISPH	Pressure Boundaries	IISPH	Pressure Boundaries
Pillar	480,000	10mm	0.10ms	36.6	10.4	320ms	92ms
Breaking Dam	6.4 million	20mm	1.50ms	226.8	39.8	20,946ms	3757ms
Tank	17.5 million	5mm	0.47ms	10.2	4.4	2,763ms	1469ms
Gear	5.5 million	1.25mm	0.02ms	2	2	264ms	271ms

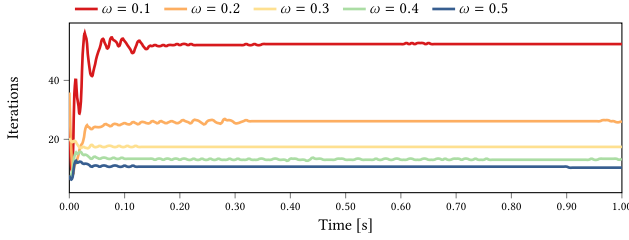


Fig. 5. Solver iterations for varying relaxation coefficients  $\omega$  for the fluid pillar. We generally use a spatially adaptive relaxation coefficient  $0 < \omega \leq 0.5 \frac{V_i^0}{h^3}$ . In the pillar scenario, however, all boundary and fluid samples have the same initial volume  $V_i^0 = h^3$ , which results in the same coefficient for all boundary and fluid samples.

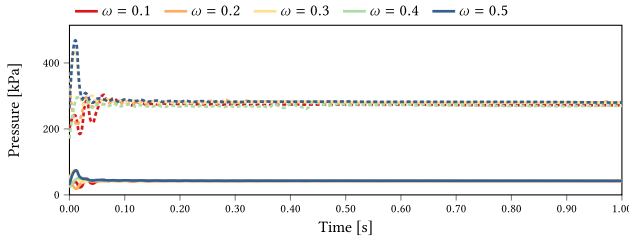


Fig. 6. Average and maximum (dashed) pressure for varying relaxation coefficients  $\omega$  for the fluid pillar.

As shown in Bender and Koschier (2017), the convergence of the solver can be improved by performing a warm start. For this purpose, a second solver parameter is used to initialize the pressure field. For example, initial pressure values  $p_i^0$  can be set as  $p_i^0 = \lambda \cdot p_i(t - \Delta t)$  with  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$ . This parameter influences the solver's performance, since larger values may reduce the iteration count. Note that  $\lambda = 1$  works best for Pressure Boundaries, due to the more accurate pressure computation at boundary samples. In contrast to this, IISPH performs best when multiplying the pressure  $p_i(t - \Delta t)$  of the last simulation step with  $\lambda = 0.5$  (Bender and Koschier 2017; Ihmsen et al. 2014a).

### 3.2 Breaking Dam

To compare the required iteration counts of IISPH to our novel Pressure Boundaries approach, we simulated a breaking dam scenario inside a box-shaped domain of size  $3\text{m} \times 12\text{m} \times 6\text{m}$  with 6.4 million fluid and 625 k boundary samples. The particle spacing was 2mm, and we used different fixed time step sizes. Table 2 summarizes the iteration measurements for a simulation over ten seconds. In our experiment, we measured a smaller iteration ra-

tio for smaller time step sizes, since often the minimum number of iteration was used. However, for larger time step sizes, due to more accurate pressure values at the boundary, Pressure Boundaries outperforms IISPH by a factor of about 5.58. This indicates that Pressure Boundaries scales better compared to IISPH for growing time steps. Furthermore, our approach computes a smooth pressure field over time, as indicated in Figure 7.

*Two-way Coupling.* In another experiment, we placed several rigid bodies into the breaking dam scenario and simulated it for 20s with a variable time step. The results are shown in Figure 8 and in the accompanying video.

### 3.3 Tank

The pressure computation at boundary samples does not only positively affect the robustness and efficiency of the IISPH solver for animation purposes, but it can also be helpful in engineering applications. Figure 9 illustrates a tank scenario ( $7\text{m} \times 1.05\text{m} \times 1.3\text{m}$ ) with different internal geometries with the aim to minimize sloshing. In contrast to standard IISPH, Pressure Boundaries enable the analysis of computed pressure values at the boundary. Each of the three scenarios consists of 17.5 million fluid samples and 1.3 million boundary samples. The particle spacing is 5mm and the average time step is 0.47ms. Each scenario is simulated for 15s. The total computation time per simulation step is 5.1s on average with Pressure Boundaries and 6.4s with IISPH. Each PPE solve of our Pressure Boundaries approach requires 1.46s with an average iteration count of 4.4, whereas IISPH requires 2.76s and 10.2 iterations, respectively.

### 3.4 Gear

Pressure Boundaries are particularly appropriate for fast moving and complex boundary geometries. This is indicated in the scenario in Figure 10 where two gears rotate with 1,200 revolutions per minute. The scene is simulated for 5s and consists of 5.5 million fluid samples and 750 k boundary samples. The particle spacing is 1.25 mm. Since the particles move very fast, considering the CFL condition, the size of the time step is small, i.e., 0.02ms, resulting in two iterations per simulation step. The total computation time per simulation step is 1.22s on average and 271ms for the SolvePPE procedure.

## 4 DISCUSSION

*Performance.* We have presented scenarios where Pressure Boundaries work for larger time steps and require less solver iterations compared to IISPH. As previously discussed in Ihmsen et al. (2014b), however, it is not possible to draw a general conclusion

Table 2. Comparison of IISPH with Pressure Boundaries using Different Time Steps for the Breaking Dam Scenario

$\Delta t$	Iterations		Avg. pressure computation time/ $\Delta t$		Ratio
	IISPH	Pressure Boundaries	IISPH	Pressure Boundaries	IISPH/Pressure Boundaries
0.10ms	2.0	2.0	185ms	189ms	0.98
0.15ms	2.3	2.1	212ms	198ms	1.07
0.25ms	5.6	3.4	518ms	323ms	1.60
0.50ms	21.2	12.2	1,958ms	1,152ms	1.70
0.75ms	44.2	24.3	4,101ms	2,294ms	1.78
1.00ms	72.2	32.9	6,668ms	3,106ms	2.15
1.25ms	104.5	36.7	9,651ms	3,464ms	2.79
1.50ms	226.8	39.8	20,946ms	3,757ms	5.58

The tolerated error was set to 0.01%. The largest ratio in the pressure computation time is marked bold. For time steps larger than 1.5ms, both IISPH and pressure boundaries suffer from leakage.

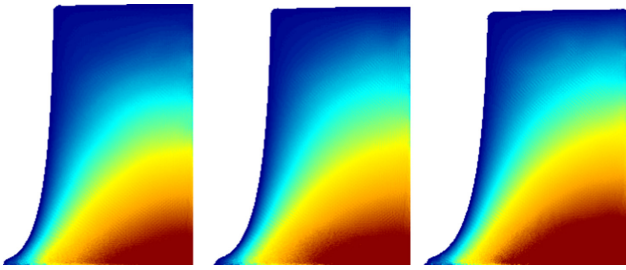


Fig. 7. Smooth color-coded pressure field for three consecutive frames of the Breaking Dam scenario simulated with our approach.

about the performance differences of iterative pressure solvers. This is illustrated by the varying performance differences in Table 2 and by the range of performance differences in the selected scenarios summarized in Table 1.

*Iteration Count.* The number of solver iterations scales with the time-step size and pressure differences in the fluid. One extreme case would be a single fluid particle where standard state-equation SPH, e.g., Becker and Teschner (2007) and Monaghan (1992), certainly has the best performance. Even a huge number of fluid particles could be efficiently simulated with standard state-equation SPH as long as there is, e.g., just one layer of fluid particles on a planar boundary, i.e., small pressure differences. Another extreme case would be a scenario with much more boundary than fluid samples where the larger size of the Pressure Boundary PPE would increase the computation time per solver iteration compared to, e.g., standard IISPH.

Apart from the question whether iterative solvers are always the fastest ones, we would definitely always prefer such a solver over a non-iterative solver for many other reasons, e.g., simple parameterization, guaranteed density deviation, flexibility in terms of particle spacing and versatility in terms of scenarios. They are just easy-to-setup dependable workhorses.

*Convergence.* We can only speculate about aspects that positively influence the solver convergence. One aspect is perhaps the consideration of second-ring neighbors in the discretization. A second aspect could be the source term. It seems to be a

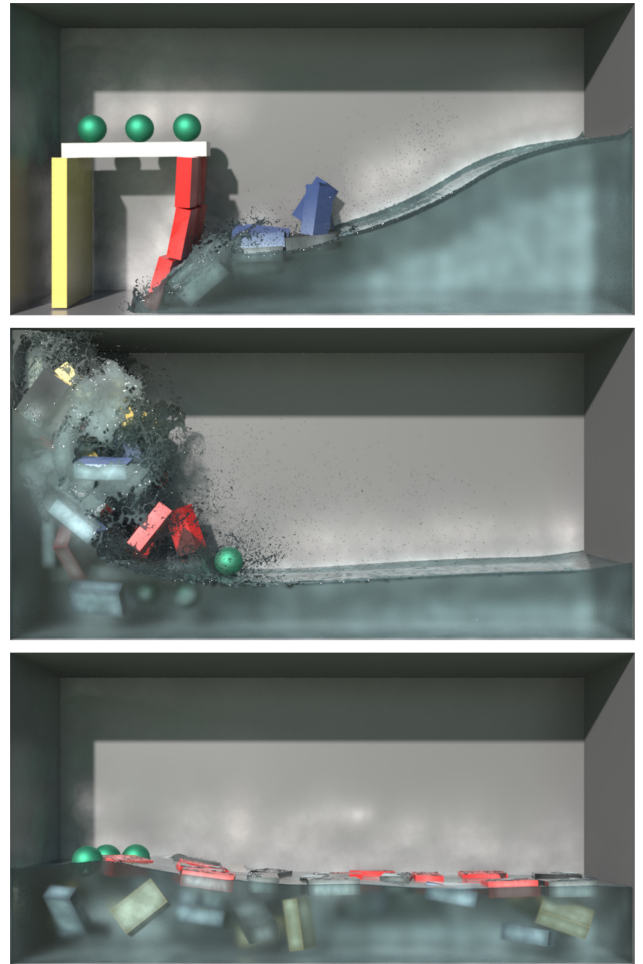


Fig. 8. Breaking Dam with 6.4 million fluid particles and two-way coupled solid objects simulated with our Pressure Boundaries approach. The average simulation time per time step was 1,736ms, whereof the pressure solver required 578ms.



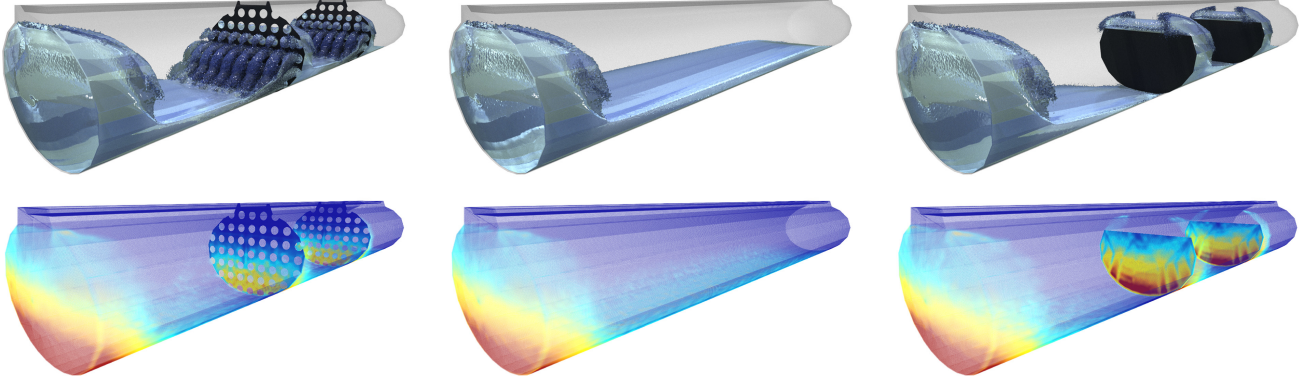


Fig. 9. Tank sloshing scenario with three different geometries (top row). Pressure Boundaries compute pressure values at solid boundaries (bottom row) with color-coded pressure (blue min, red max).

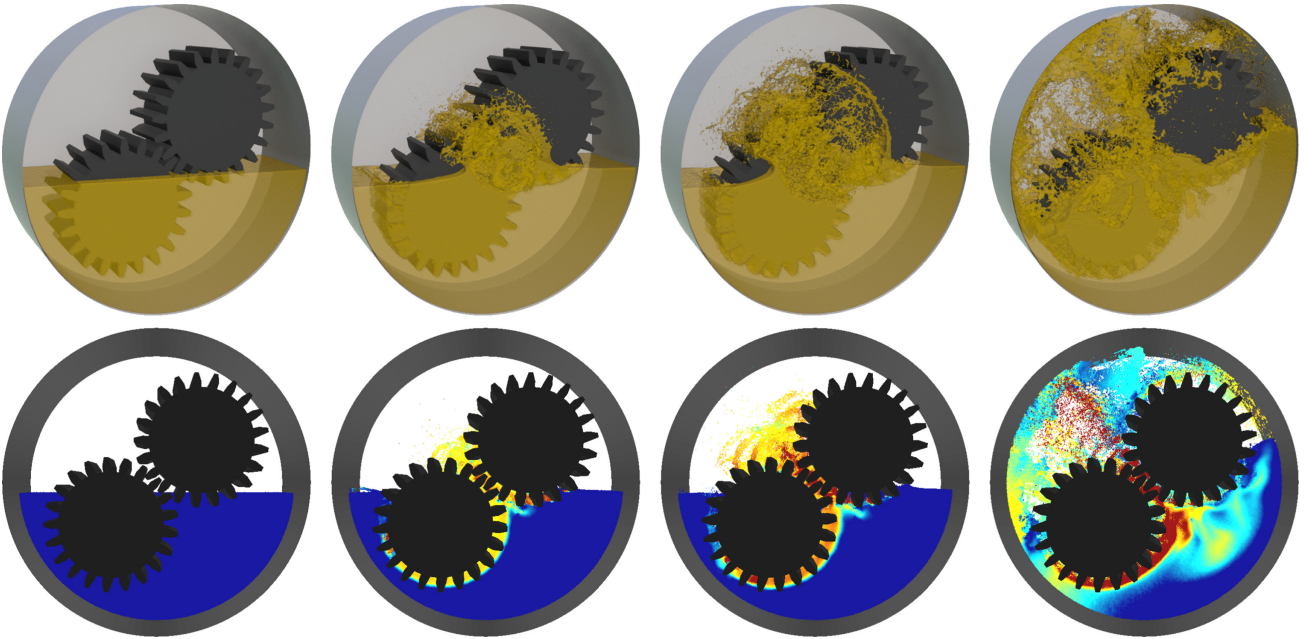


Fig. 10. Gear scene (top row) with color-coded velocities (bottom row). The Pressure Boundary approach is particularly appropriate for fast moving, geometrically complex boundaries.

difference whether current density deviations are taken into account or not. A velocity-divergence source term just considers the predicted velocity divergence, i.e., the predicted density deviation, while a density-invariant source term considers both, the predicted velocity divergence plus the current density error. It is also interesting to note that the pressure update in the first solver iteration with an initial pressure  $p^0 = 0$ , i.e.,  $\lambda = 0$ , is equivalent to a standard state equation. In this case, the divergence of the velocity change due to pressure accelerations would be  $\mathbf{A}p^0 = 0$  and the pressure in Equation (18) would be updated with  $p_i^1 = \max(\frac{\omega_i}{a_{ii}} s_i, 0)$ . The term  $s_i$  is a relative volume error that can easily be translated to a density error and  $\frac{\omega_i}{a_{ii}}$  corresponds to the stiffness constant of the state equation. This seems to indicate that even one

solver iteration should give a reasonable result for a sufficiently small time step.

## 5 CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

We have presented Pressure Boundaries for IISPH. In contrast to the previous IISPH boundary handling, approximate assumptions are avoided. Instead, boundary samples are incorporated into the PPE formulation, which results in physically meaningful pressure values at boundary samples. In the description of Pressure Boundaries, we have used volume-centric SPH formulations that make the processing of arbitrarily sized boundary samples more intuitive compared to density-centric formulations. The presented analyses show an improved solver convergence and larger possible time steps for Pressure Boundaries compared to the original IISPH

boundary handling. Although Pressure Boundaries solves a larger PPE than the original IISPH, its computation is typically faster. While the description of Pressure Boundaries is based on IISPH, it would be interesting to investigate the utility of the proposed boundary handling in combination with other ISPH approaches that use alternative, but generally similar, PPE formulations.

## APPENDIX

### A VOLUME-BASED FORMULATION

*Pressure Accelerations:* Equation (8) follows from

$$\nabla p_f = \nabla(1 \cdot p_f) = 1 \cdot \nabla p_f + p_f \cdot \nabla 1, \quad (22)$$

see, e.g., Equation (2.31) in Li and Liu (2004). Applying the original SPH approximation results in

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla p_f &= \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} p_{f_j} \nabla W_{ff_j} + p_f \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} \nabla W_{ff_j} \\ &= \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} (p_f + p_{f_j}) \nabla W_{ff_j}. \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

*PPE Discretization:* Equation (9) can be derived, e.g., from the continuity equation at a fluid sample  $f$ :

$$\frac{D\rho_f(t + \Delta t)}{Dt} + \rho_f^0 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_f(t + \Delta t) = 0. \quad (24)$$

Time discretization, assuming incompressibility  $\rho_f(t + \Delta t) = \rho_f^0$ , division by  $\rho_f^0$ , and using  $\mathbf{v}_f(t + \Delta t) = \mathbf{v}_f^*(t + \Delta t) + \Delta t \mathbf{a}_f^p(t)$  (see Equation (2)), we get

$$\frac{1}{\Delta t} - \frac{\rho_f(t)}{\rho_f^0 \Delta t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_f^*(t + \Delta t) + \nabla \cdot \Delta t \mathbf{a}_f^p(t) = 0. \quad (25)$$

Solving for  $\nabla \cdot \Delta t \mathbf{a}_f^p(t)$ , discretizing it with SPH (see, e.g., Equation (2.17) in Monaghan (2005)), and omitting time indices, we get

$$\sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} (\Delta t \mathbf{a}_{ff}^p - \Delta t \mathbf{a}_f^p) \cdot \nabla W_{ff_j} = -\frac{1}{\Delta t} + \frac{\rho_f}{\rho_f^0 \Delta t} - \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_f^*. \quad (26)$$

We multiply by  $-\Delta t$ , replace  $\rho_f = \frac{m_f}{V_f}$  and  $\rho_f^0 = \frac{m_f}{V_f^0}$  to finally get

$$\Delta t^2 \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} (\mathbf{a}_f^p - \mathbf{a}_{ff}^p) \cdot \nabla W_{ff_j} = 1 - \frac{V_f^0}{V_f} + \Delta t \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_f^*. \quad (27)$$

### B DIAGONAL ELEMENTS

*Fluid Samples:* We first extract the coefficients in the pressure accelerations in Equation (8):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{a}_f^p &= -\frac{V_f}{m_f} \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} (p_f + p_{f_j}) \nabla W_{ff_j} \\ &= -\frac{V_f}{m_f} \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} p_f \nabla W_{ff_j} \\ &\quad - \frac{V_f}{m_f} \sum_{f_j \neq f} V_{f_j} p_{f_j} \nabla W_{ff_j} - \frac{V_f}{m_f} V_f p_f \underbrace{\nabla W_{ff}}_{=0} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \underbrace{\left( -\frac{V_f}{m_f} \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} \nabla W_{ff_j} \right)}_{\mathbf{c}_f} p_f \\ &\quad + \sum_{f_j \neq f} \left[ \underbrace{\left( -\frac{V_f}{m_f} V_{f_j} \nabla W_{ff_j} \right)}_{\mathbf{d}_{ff_j}} p_{f_j} \right] \\ &= \mathbf{c}_f p_f + \sum_{f_j \neq f} (\mathbf{d}_{ff_j} p_{f_j}). \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

This formulation is now applied to Equation (9), and we get

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{p})_f &= \Delta t^2 \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} (\mathbf{a}_f^p - \mathbf{a}_{ff}^p) \cdot \nabla W_{ff_j} \\ &\quad + \Delta t^2 \sum_{f_b} V_{f_b} \mathbf{a}_f^p \cdot \nabla W_{ff_b} \\ &= \Delta t^2 \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} \left[ \left( \mathbf{c}_f p_f + \sum_{f_j \neq f} \mathbf{d}_{ff_j} p_{f_j} \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \left( \mathbf{c}_{ff} p_f + \sum_{f_j \neq f} \mathbf{d}_{ff_j} p_{f_j} \right) \right] \cdot \nabla W_{ff_j} \\ &\quad + \Delta t^2 \sum_{f_b} V_{f_b} \left( \mathbf{c}_f p_f + \sum_{f_j \neq f} \mathbf{d}_{ff_j} p_{f_j} \right) \cdot \nabla W_{ff_b}. \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

The pressure coefficient  $\mathbf{a}_{ff}$ , i.e., the diagonal element of  $\mathbf{A}$ , follows as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{a}_{ff} &= \Delta t^2 \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} \mathbf{c}_f \cdot \nabla W_{ff_j} \\ &\quad - \Delta t^2 \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} \mathbf{d}_{ff_j} \cdot \nabla W_{ff_j} \\ &\quad + \Delta t^2 \sum_{f_b} V_{f_b} \mathbf{c}_f \cdot \nabla W_{ff_b}. \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

The derivation of the coefficient from Equation (29) is rather straightforward when we consider that there exist a  $j$  with  $f_j = f$  and that  $\nabla W_{ff_j} = 0$  for  $f_j = f$ . The formulation in Equation (30) requires the computation of a nested sum, which can be avoided. Using the definitions of  $\mathbf{c}$  and  $\mathbf{d}$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{a}_{ff} &= -\Delta t^2 \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} \left( \frac{V_f}{m_f} \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} \nabla W_{ff_j} \right) \cdot \nabla W_{ff_j} \\ &\quad + \Delta t^2 \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} \frac{V_{f_j}}{m_{f_j}} V_f \nabla W_{ff_j} \cdot \nabla W_{ff_j} \\ &\quad - \Delta t^2 \sum_{f_b} V_{f_b} \left( \frac{V_f}{m_f} \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} \nabla W_{ff_j} \right) \cdot \nabla W_{ff_b}. \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

The first sum of fluid neighbors and the third sum of boundary neighbors can be combined to a sum of all neighbors. Further,

$\nabla W_{fff}$  is written as  $-\nabla W_{ffj}$ :

$$a_{ff} = -\Delta t^2 \frac{V_f}{m_f} \sum_{f_j} \left( \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} \nabla W_{ffj} \right) \cdot V_{f_j} \nabla W_{ffj} - \Delta t^2 V_f \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} \frac{V_{f_j}}{m_{f_j}} \nabla W_{ffj} \cdot \nabla W_{ffj}. \quad (32)$$

We finally get the diagonal element of  $\mathbf{A}$  for a fluid sample as

$$a_{ff} = -\Delta t^2 \frac{V_f}{m_f} \left\| \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} \nabla W_{ffj} \right\|^2 - \Delta t^2 V_f \sum_{f_j} V_{f_j} \frac{V_{f_j}}{m_{f_j}} \left\| \nabla W_{ffj} \right\|^2. \quad (33)$$

**Boundary Samples:** We use the notation of Equation (28) to rewrite Equation (10) as

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{A}p)_b &= -\Delta t^2 \sum_{b_f} V_{b_f} a_{b_f}^p \cdot \nabla W_{bbf} \\ &= -\Delta t^2 \sum_{b_f} V_{b_f} \left( c_{b_f} p_{b_f} + \sum_{b_{f_j} \neq b_f} d_{b_f b_{f_j}} p_{b_{f_j}} \right) \cdot \nabla W_{bbf}. \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

As there exists a  $j$  with  $b_{f_j} = b$ , we get

$$a_{bb} = \Delta t^2 \sum_{b_f} V_{b_f} d_{b_f b} \cdot \nabla W_{bbf} = -\Delta t^2 V_b \sum_{b_f} V_{b_f} \frac{V_{b_f}}{m_{b_f}} \left\| \nabla W_{bbf} \right\|^2 \quad (35)$$

for the diagonal element of  $\mathbf{A}$  for a boundary sample.

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