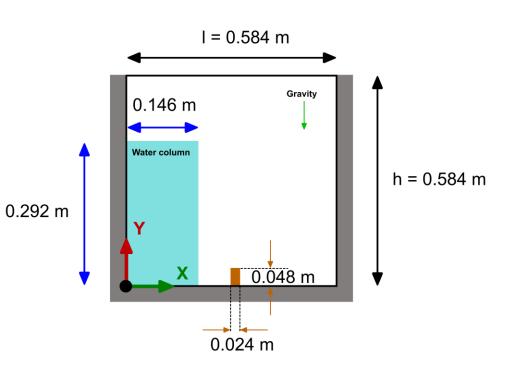
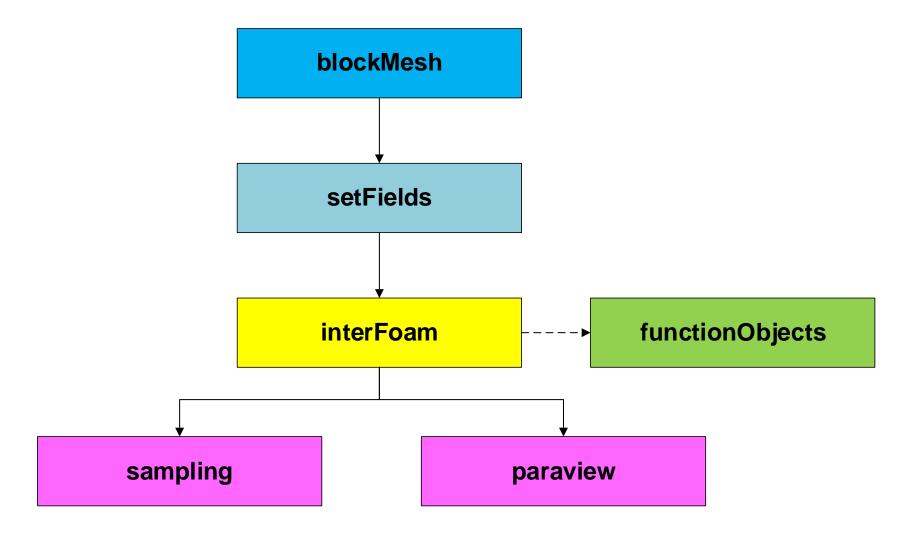
#### Dam break free surface flow



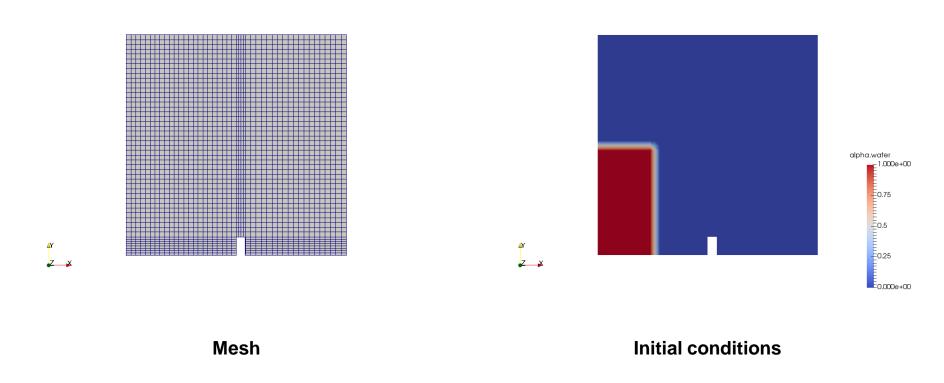
# Physical and numerical side of the problem:

- In this case we are going to use the VOF method. This method solves the incompressible Navier-Stokes equations plus an additional equation to track the volume fraction (free surface location).
- We are going to work in a 2D domain but the problem can be extended to 3D easily.
- As this is a multiphase case, we need to define the physical properties for each phase involved (viscosity, density and surface tension).
- Additionally, we need to define the gravity vector and initialize the two flows.
- This is an unsteady case.

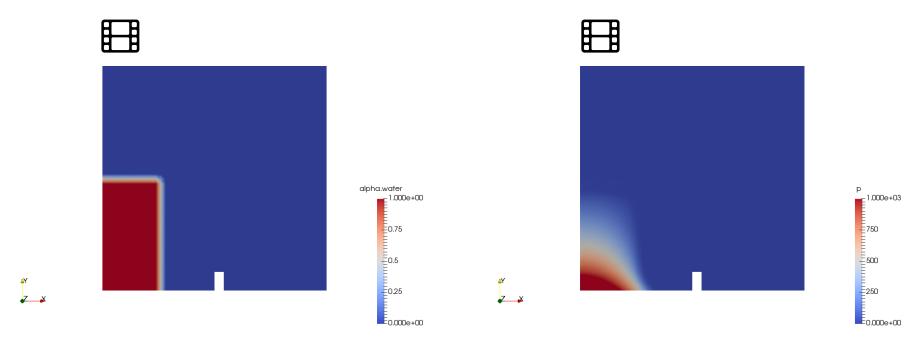
#### Workflow of the case



## At the end of the day you should get something like this



## At the end of the day you should get something like this



**VOF Fraction** 

 $\underline{www.wolfdynamics.com/wiki/dambreak/ani1.gif}$ 

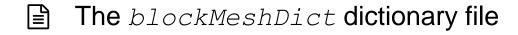
Hydrostatic pressure

www.wolfdynamics.com/wiki/dambreak/ani2.gif

## What are we going to do?

- We will use this case to introduce the multiphase solver interFoam.
- interFoam is a solver for 2 incompressible, isothermal immiscible fluids using a VOF (volume of fluid) phase-fraction based interface capturing approach
- We will define the physical properties of two phases and we are going to initialize these phases.
- We will define the gravity vector in the dictionary g.
- After finding the solution, we will visualize the results. This is an unsteady case so now we are going to see things moving.
- We are going to briefly address how to post-process multiphase flows.

## Let's explore the case directory

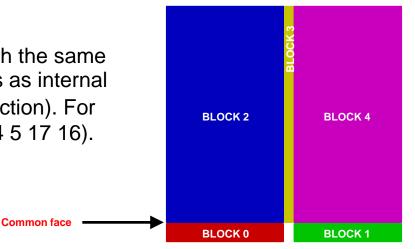


```
convertToMeters 0.146;
18
        vertices
             (0\ 0\ 0)
                                              //Vertex0
             (2 \ 0 \ 0)
             (2.16438 \ 0 \ 0)
             (4 \ 0 \ 0)
             (0 0.32876 0)
             (2 0.32876 0)
             (2.16438 0.32876 0)
             (4 0.32876 0)
             (0 \ 4 \ 0)
30
             (2 \ 4 \ 0)
             (2.1643840)
             (4 \ 4 \ 0)
             (0\ 0\ 0.1)
             (2 \ 0 \ 0.1)
             (2.16438 0 0.1)
             (4 \ 0 \ 0.1)
             (0 0.32876 0.1)
             (2 0.32876 0.1)
             (2.16438 0.32876 0.1)
             (4 0.32876 0.1)
41
             (0 \ 4 \ 0.1)
             (2 \ 4 \ 0.1)
43
             (2.16438 4 0.1)
44
             (4 \ 4 \ 0.1)
                                              //Vertex 23
        );
```

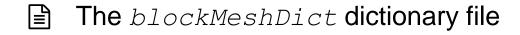
- This dictionary is located in the system directory.
- We are using scaling (line 17).
- In lines 19-45, we define the vertices coordinates.

## The blockMeshDict dictionary file

- In this case we are defining five blocks.
- In the common faces, the blocks share vertices with the same index number, blockMesh recognizes these faces as internal (we do not need to define them in the boundary section). For example, block 0 and block 2 share the vertices ( 4 5 17 16).
- We are using uniform grading in all blocks.
- All edges are straight lines by default.

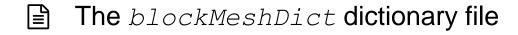


```
47
      blocks
48
           hex (0 1 5 4 12 13 17 16) (23 8 1) simpleGrading (1 1 1)
                                                                             //Block 0
49
           hex (2 3 7 6 14 15 19 18) (19 8 1) simpleGrading (1 1 1)
                                                                             //Block 1
50
           hex (4 5 9 8 16 17 21 20) (23 42 1) simpleGrading (1 1 1)
                                                                             //Block 2
51
52
           hex (5 6 10 9 17 18 22 21) (4 42 1) simpleGrading (1 1 1)
                                                                             //Block 3
53
           hex (6 7 11 10 18 19 23 22) (19 42 1) simpleGrading (1 1 1)
                                                                             //Block 4
54
      );
55
56
      edges
57
58
       );
```



```
boundary
61
            leftWall
                 type wall;
                 faces
                     (0 12 16 4)
                     (4 16 20 8)
                );
            rightWall
73
                 type wall;
74
                faces
75
                     (7 19 15 3)
                     (11 23 19 7)
                );
            lowerWall
82
                 type wall;
                faces
                     (0\ 1\ 13\ 12)
                     (2 \ 3 \ 15 \ 14)
                );
```

- The boundary patches leftWall, rightWall and lowerWall are of base type wall.
- Notice that each boundary patch groups many faces.
- Remember, we assign the primitive type boundary conditions (numerical values), in the field files found in the directory o



```
atmosphere
                type patch;
                     (8 20 21 9)
                     (9 21 22 10)
                     (10 22 23 11)
100
               );
101
102
       );
103
104
       mergePatchPairs
105
106
       );
```

- The boundary patch atmosphere is of base type patch.
- Notice that we do not define the front and back patches, these patches are automatically group in the boundary patch defaultFaces of base type empty.
- Remember, we assign the **primitive type**boundary conditions (numerical values), in the
  field files found in the directory o
- We do not need to merge faces.

## The boundary dictionary file

- This dictionary is located in the constant/polyMesh directory.
- This file is automatically created when generating or converting the mesh.
- In this case, we do not need to modify this file. All the **base type** boundary conditions and **name** of the patches were assigned in the blockMeshDict file.
- The defaultFaces boundary patch contains all patches that we did not define in the boundary section.
- If you change the name or the base type of a boundary patch, you will need to modify the field files in the directory 0.

```
47
       defaultFaces
48
49
            type
                             empty;
50
            inGroups
                             1 (empty);
51
                             4563;
            nFaces
52
                             4640;
            startFace
53
        }
```

- The constant directory
- In this directory, we will find the following compulsory dictionary files:
  - g
  - transportProperties
  - turbulenceProperties
- q contains the definition of the gravity vector.
- transportProperties contains the definition of the physical properties of each phase.
- turbulenceProperties contains the definition of the turbulence model to use.

## Arr The g dictionary file

```
FoamFile
10
          version
                       2.0;
11
          format
                       ascii;
          class
                       uniformDimensionedVectorField;
13
          location
                       "constant";
14
          object
15
17
18
      dimensions
                       [O 1 -2 0 0 0 01;
19
```

- This dictionary file is located in the directory constant.
- For multiphase flows, this dictionary is compulsory.
- In this dictionary we define the gravity vector (line 19).
- Pay attention to the class type (line 12).

## The transportProperties dictionary file

Primary phase

```
18
      phases (water air);
19
20
      water
21
22
          transportModel Newtonian;
23
                                -1 0 0 0 0] 1e-06;
24
          rho
                           [1 -3 0 0 0 0 0] 1000;
25
26
27
      air
28
29
          transportModel Newtonian;
30
                           [0 2 -1 0 0 0 0] 1.48e-05;
31
          rho
                           [1 -3 0 0 0 0 0] 1;
32
33
34
                       [1 0 -2 0 0 0 0] 0.07;
```

- This dictionary file is located in the directory constant.
- We first define the name of the phases (line 18).
   In this case we are defining the names water and air. The first entry in this list is the primary phase (water).
- The name of the phases is given by the user.
- In this file we set the kinematic viscosity (nu), density (rho) and transport model (transportModel) of the phases.
- We also define the surface tension (sigma).

- The turbulenceProperties dictionary file
- In this dictionary file we select what model we would like to use (laminar or turbulent).
- This dictionary is compulsory.
- · As we do not want to model turbulence, the dictionary is defined as follows,

18 simulationType laminar;

- The 0 directory
- In this directory, we will find the dictionary files that contain the boundary and initial conditions for all the primitive variables.
- As we are solving the incompressible laminar Navier-Stokes equations using the VOF method, we will find the following field files:
  - alpha.water (volume fraction of water phase)
  - p\_rgh (pressure field minus hydrostatic component)
  - U (velocity field)

## The file 0/alpha.water

```
17
      dimensions
                        [0 0 0 0 0 0 0];
18
19
      internalField
                       uniform 0;
20
21
      boundaryField
22
23
          leftWall
24
25
               type
                                zeroGradient;
26
27
28
           rightWall
29
30
                                zeroGradient:
               type
31
32
33
          lowerWall
34
35
               type
                                zeroGradient;
36
37
38
           atmosphere
39
40
                                inletOutlet:
               type
               inletValue
                                uniform 0;
41
42
               value
                                uniform 0;
43
44
45
           defaultFaces
46
47
               type
                                empty;
48
49
```

- This file contains the boundary and initial conditions for the non-dimensional scalar field alpha.water
- This file is named alpha.water, because the primary phase is water (we defined the primary phase in the transportProperties dictionary).
- Initially, this field is initialize as 0 in the whole domain (line 19). This means that there is no water in the domain at time 0. Later, we will initialize the water column and this file will be overwritten with a nonuniform field for the internalField.
- For the leftWall, rightWall, and lowerWall patches
  we are using a zeroGradient boundary condition (we
  are just extrapolating the internal values to the
  boundary face).
- For the atmosphere patch we are using an inletOutlet boundary condition. This boundary condition avoids backflow into the domain. If the flow is going out it will use zeroGradient and if the flow is coming back it will assign the value set in the keyword inletValue (line 41).
- The defaultFaces patch is of primitive type empty.

## The file 0/p\_rgh

```
17
      dimensions
                        [1 -1 -2 0 0 0 0];
18
19
      internalField
                        uniform 0:
20
21
      boundaryField
22
23
          leftWall
24
25
               type
                                 fixedFluxPressure;
26
               value
                                 uniform 0;
27
          rightWall
29
30
31
                                 fixedFluxPressure:
               type
32
               value
                                 uniform 0:
33
35
          lowerWall
36
37
               type
                                 fixedFluxPressure;
38
               value
                                 uniform 0;
39
41
           atmosphere
42
43
                                 totalPressure:
               type
                                 uniform 0:
               0q
46
               phi
                                 phi;
47
               rho
                                 rho;
48
               psi
                                 none:
49
               gamma
50
               value
                                 uniform 0;
51
53
           defaultFaces
54
55
               type
                                 empty;
56
57
```

- This file contains the boundary and initial conditions for the dimensional field p\_rgh. The dimensions of this field are given in Pascal (line 17)
- This scalar field contains the value of the static pressure field minus the hydrostatic component.
- This field is initialize as 0 in the whole domain (line 19).
- For the leftWall, rightWall, and lowerWall patches
  we are using a fixedFluxPressure boundary
  condition (refer to the source code or doxygen
  documentation to know more about this boundary
  condition).
- For the atmosphere patch we are using the totalPressure boundary condition (refer to the source code or doxygen documentation to know more about this boundary condition).
- The defaultFaces patch is of primitive type empty.

## The file 0/U

```
17
      dimensions
                         [0 \ 1 \ -1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0];
18
19
       internalField
                        uniform (0 0 0);
20
21
      boundaryField
22
23
           leftWall
24
25
                type
                                 fixedValue;
26
               value
                                 uniform (0 0 0);
27
           }
28
           rightWall
29
30
                                 fixedValue:
                type
31
               value
                                 uniform (0 0 0);
32
33
           lowerWall
34
35
                type
                                 fixedValue;
36
                value
                                 uniform (0 \ 0 \ 0);
37
38
           atmosphere
39
40
                type
                                 pressureInletOutletVelocity;
                                 uniform (0 0 0);
41
                value
42
43
           defaultFaces
44
45
                type
                                 empty;
46
47
```

- This file contains the boundary and initial conditions for the dimensional vector field U.
- We are using uniform initial conditions and the numerical value is (0 0 0) (keyword internalField in line 19).
- The leftWall, rightWall, and lowerWall patches are no-slip walls, therefore we impose a fixedValue boundary condition with a value of (0 0 0) at the wall.
- For the outlet patch we are using a zeroGradient boundary condition (we are just extrapolating the internal values to the boundary face).
- For the **atmosphere** patch we are using the **pressureInIterOutletVelocity** boundary condition (refer to the source code or doxygen documentation to know more about this boundary condition).
- The **defaultFaces** patch is of **primitive type empty**.

- The **system** directory
- The system directory consists of the following compulsory dictionary files:
  - controlDict
  - fvSchemes
  - fvSolution

- controlDict contains general instructions on how to run the case.
- fvSchemes contains instructions for the discretization schemes that will be used for the different terms in the equations.
- fvSolution contains instructions on how to solve each discretized linear equation system.

## The controlDict dictionary

```
18
       application
                        interFoam;
19
20
       startFrom
                        startTime;
21
22
       startTime
                        0:
23
24
                        endTime;
       stopAt
25
26
       endTime
                        1:
27
28
       deltaT
                        0.001;
29
30
       writeControl
                        adjustableRunTime;
31
32
       writeInterval
                       0.05;
33
34
       purgeWrite
35
36
       writeFormat
                        ascii;
37
38
       writePrecision
39
40
       writeCompression uncompressed;
41
42
       timeFormat
                        general;
43
44
       timePrecision
45
46
       runTimeModifiable yes;
47
48
       adjustTimeStep yes;
49
50
51
       maxAlphaCo
                        1:
52
       maxDeltaT
                        1;
```

- This case starts from time 0 (startTime).
- It will run up to 1 second (endTime).
- The initial time step of the simulation is 0.001 seconds (**deltaT**).
- It will write the solution every 0.05 seconds (writeInterval) of simulation time (runTime). It will automatically adjust the time step (adjustableRunTime), in order to save the solution at the precise write interval.
- It will keep all the solution directories (purgeWrite).
- It will save the solution in ascii format (writeFormat).
- The write precision is 8 digits (writePrecision). It will only save eight digits in the output files.
- And as the option runTimeModifiable is on, we can modify all these entries while we are running the simulation.
- In line 48 we turn on the option **adjustTimeStep**. This option will automatically adjust the time step to achieve the maximum desired courant number (lines 50-51). We also set a maximum time step in line 52.
- Remember, the first time step of the simulation is done using the value set in line 28 and then it is automatically scaled to achieve the desired maximum values (lines 50-51).

## The controlDict dictionary

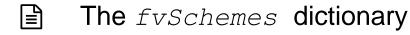
```
58
       functions
59
63
       minmaxdomain
64
65
           type fieldMinMax;
66
67
           functionObjectLibs ("libfieldFunctionObjects.so");
68
69
           enabled true; //true or false
70
71
           mode component;
72
73
           outputControl timeStep;
74
           outputInterval 1;
75
76
           log true;
78
           fields (p U alpha.water);
79
109
       };
```

- Let's take a look at the functionObjects definitions.
- In lines 63-79 we define the fieldMinMax functionObject which computes the minimum and maximum values of the field variables (p U alpha.water).

## The controlDict dictionary

```
58
       functions
59
84
       water in domain
85
86
                            cellSource;
87
           functionObjectLibs ("libfieldFunctionObjects.so");
88
           enabled
                            true;
89
90
           //outputControl
                                 outputTime;
91
           outputControl
                           timeStep;
92
           outputInterval 1;
93
94
           log
                            true;
95
96
           valueOutput
                            false:
97
98
                            all;
           source
99
100
           operation
                            volIntegrate;
101
           fields
102
103
               alpha.water
104
           );
105
109
       };
```

- Let's take a look at the functionObjects definitions.
- In lines 84-105 we define the **cellSource functionObject** which computes the volume integral (**volIntegrate**) of the field variable **alpha.water** in all the domain.
- Basically, we are monitoring the quantity of water in the domain.



```
18
      ddtSchemes
19
20
          default
                           Euler;
21
22
23
      gradSchemes
24
25
          default.
                           Gauss linear:
26
27
28
      divSchemes
29
30
          div(rhoPhi,U) Gauss linearUpwind grad(U);
31
          div(phi,alpha) Gauss vanLeer;
32
          div(phirb,alpha) Gauss linear;
33
          div(((rho*nuEff)*dev2(T(grad(U))))) Gauss linear;
34
35
36
      laplacianSchemes
37
38
          default
                           Gauss linear corrected:
39
40
41
      interpolationSchemes
42
43
          default
                           linear;
44
45
46
      snGradSchemes
47
48
          default
                           corrected:
49
```

- In this case, for time discretization (ddtSchemes) we are using the Euler method.
- For gradient discretization (gradSchemes) we are using the Gauss linear method.
- For the discretization of the convective terms (divSchemes)
  we are using linearUpwind interpolation method for the term
  div(rhoPhi,U).
- For the term div(phi,alpha) we are using vanLeer interpolation. For the term div(phirb,alpha) we are using linear interpolation. These terms are related to the volume fraction equation.
- For the term div(((rho\*nuEff)\*dev2(T(grad(U))))) we are using linear interpolation (this term is related to the turbulence modeling).
- For the discretization of the Laplacian (laplacianSchemes and snGradSchemes) we are using the Gauss linear corrected method
- This method is second order accurate but oscillatory.
- Remember, at the end of the day we want a solution that is second order accurate.

## The fvSolution dictionary

```
18
      solvers
19
20
           "alpha.water.*"
21
22
               nAlphaCorr
23
               nAlphaSubCycles
24
               cAlpha
25
26
               MULESCorr
                                yes;
27
               nLimiterIter
                                3:
28
29
               solver
                                smoothSolver:
30
               smoother
                                symGaussSeidel;
31
                                1e-8:
               tolerance
32
               relTol
                                0;
33
          }
34
35
          pcorr
36
37
               solver
                                PCG;
38
               preconditioner DIC;
39
               tolerance
                                1e-8;
40
               relTol
                                0 ;
41
          }
42
43
          p_rgh
44
45
                                PCG:
               solver
46
                                DIC;
               preconditioner
47
               tolerance
                                1e-06;
48
               relTol
                                0.01;
49
```

- To solve the volume fraction or alpha.water (lines 20-33) we are using the smoothSolver method.
- In line 26 we turn on the semi-implicit method MULES. The keyword nLimiterIter controls the number of MULES iterations over the limiter.
- To have more stability it is possible to increase the number of loops and corrections used to solve alpha.water (lines 22-23).
- The keyword cAlpha (line 24) controls the sharpness of the interface (1 is usually fine for most cases).
- In lines 35-41 we setup the solver for **pcorr** (pressure correction).
- In lines 43-49 we setup the solver for p\_rgh.
- FYI, in this case pcorr is solved only one time at the beginning of the computation.

## The fvSolution dictionary

```
51
          p rghFinal
52
53
               $p rgh;
               relTol
                                0 :
55
56
57
          "(U|Ufinal)"
58
59
               solver
                                smoothSolver:
60
               smoother
                                symGaussSeidel;
61
               tolerance
                                1e-06:
               relTol
                                0;
70
71
72
73
      PIMPLE
74
75
          momentumPredictor
76
          nOuterCorrectors
                                1;
77
          nCorrectors
78
          nNonOrthogonalCorrectors 0;
79
      }
80
81
      relaxationFactors
82
83
          fields
84
85
               ".*" 1;
86
87
          equations
88
89
               ".*" 1;
90
91
```

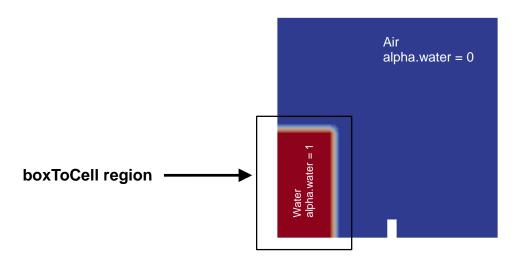
- In lines 51-55 we setup the solver for p\_rghFinal. This
  correspond to the last iteration in the loop (we can use a tighter
  convergence criteria to get more accuracy without increasing
  the computational cost)
- In lines 57-70 we setup the solver for U.
- In lines 73-79 we setup the entries related to the pressurevelocity coupling method used (PIMPLE in this case). Setting the keyword nOuterCorrectors to 1 is equivalent to running using the PISO method.
- To gain more stability we can increase the number of correctors (lines 76-78), however this will increase the computational cost.
- In lines 81-91 we setup the under relaxation factors related to te PIMPLE method. By setting the coefficients to one we are not under-relaxing.

- The **system** directory
- In the system directory you will find the following optional dictionary files:
  - decomposeParDict
  - setFieldsDict
  - probesDict
- decomposeParDict is read by the utility decomposePar. This dictionary
  file contains information related to the mesh partitioning. This is used when
  running in parallel.
- setFieldsDict is read by the utility setFields. This utility set values on selected cells/faces.
- probesDict is read by the utility probeLocations. This utility sample field values at a given location.

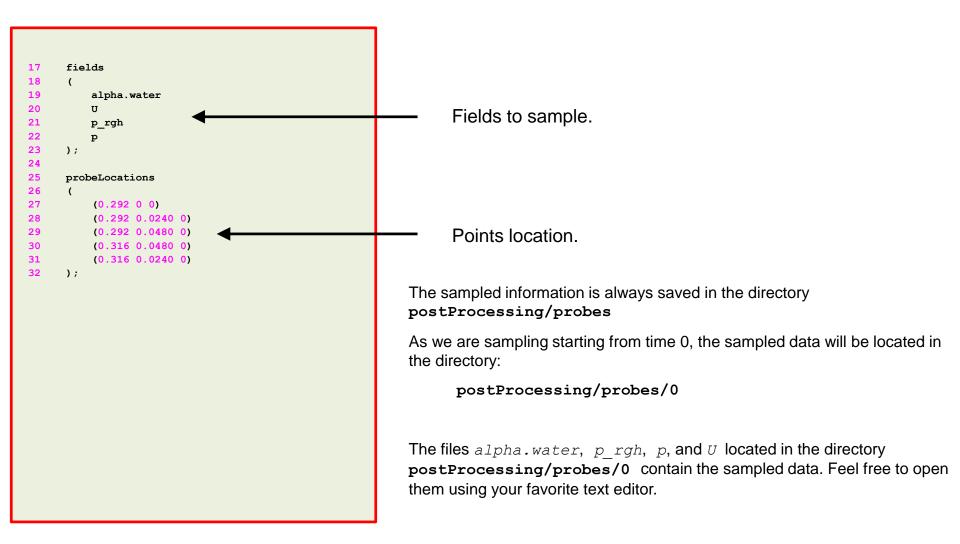
## The setFieldsDict dictionary

```
18
      defaultFieldValues
19
20
          volScalarFieldValue alpha.water 0
21
      );
22
23
      regions
24
25
          boxToCell
26
27
               box (0\ 0\ -1) (0.1461\ 0.292\ 1);
28
               fieldValues
29
30
                   volScalarFieldValue alpha.water 1
31
              );
32
33
      );
```

- This dictionary file is located in the directory **system**.
- In lines 18-21 we set the default value to be 0 in the whole domain (no water).
- In lines 25-32, we initialize a rectangular region (**box**) containing water (**alpha.water 1**).
- In this case, setFields will look for the dictionary file alpha.water and it will overwrite the original values according to the regions defined in setFieldsDict.
- If you are interested in initializing the vector field U, you can proceed as follows volVectorFieldValue U (0 0 0)



## The probesDict dictionary



## Running the case

- You will find this tutorial in the directory \$PTOFC/1010F/damBreak
- In the terminal window type:

```
1. | $> foamCleanTutorials
```

- $2. \mid \$ > blockMesh$
- 3. | \$> checkMesh
- 4. | \$> cp 0/alpha.water.org 0/alpha.water
- 5. | \$> setFields
- 6. | \$> paraFoam
- 7. | \$> interFoam > log.interFoam | tail -f log.interFoam
- 8. | \$> probeLocations
- 9. | \$> paraFoam

## Running the case

- In step 2 we generate the mesh.
- In step 3 we check the mesh quality.
- In step 4 we copy the information of the backup file alpha.water.org to the file alpha.water. We do this because in the next step the utility setFields will overwrite the file alpha.water, so it is a good idea to keep a backup.
- In step 5 we initialize the solution using the utility setFields. This utility reads the dictionary setFieldsDict located in the system directory.
- In step 6 we use paraFoam to visualize the initialization. Remember to select the field alpha.water in paraFoam.
- In step 7 we run the simulation.
- In step 8 we use the utility probeLocations to sample field values at given locations. This utility reads the dictionary probesDict.
- Finally, in step 9 we visualize the solution.

 To plot the sampled data using gnuplot you can proceed as follows. To enter to the gnuplot prompt type in the terminal:

```
1. | $> gnuplot
```

Now that we are inside the gnuplot prompt, we can type,

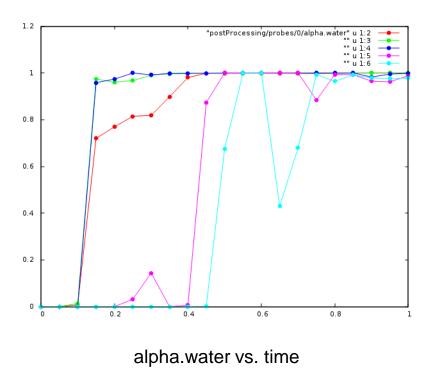
```
    gnuplot> plot [][0:1.2] "postProcessing/probes/0/alpha.water" u 1:2 pt 7 w lp,
        " " u 1:3 pt 7 w lp, " " u 1:4 pt 7 w lp,
        " " u 1:5 pt 7 w lp, " " u 1:6 pt 7 w lp

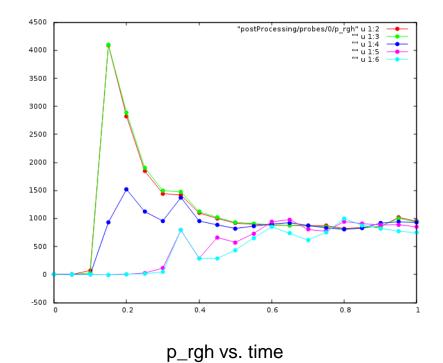
gnuplot> plot [][] "postProcessing/probes/0/p_rgh" u 1:2 pt 7 w lp,
        " " u 1:3 pt 7 w lp, " " u 1:4 pt 7 w lp,
        " " u 1:5 pt 7 w lp, " " u 1:6 pt 7 w lp

gnuplot> plot [][] "postProcessing/probes/0.05/p" u 1:2 pt 7 w lp,
        " " u 1:3 pt 7 w lp, " " u 1:4 pt 7 w lp,
        " " u 1:5 pt 7 w lp, " " u 1:6 pt 7 w lp

gnuplot> exit
To exit gnuplot
```

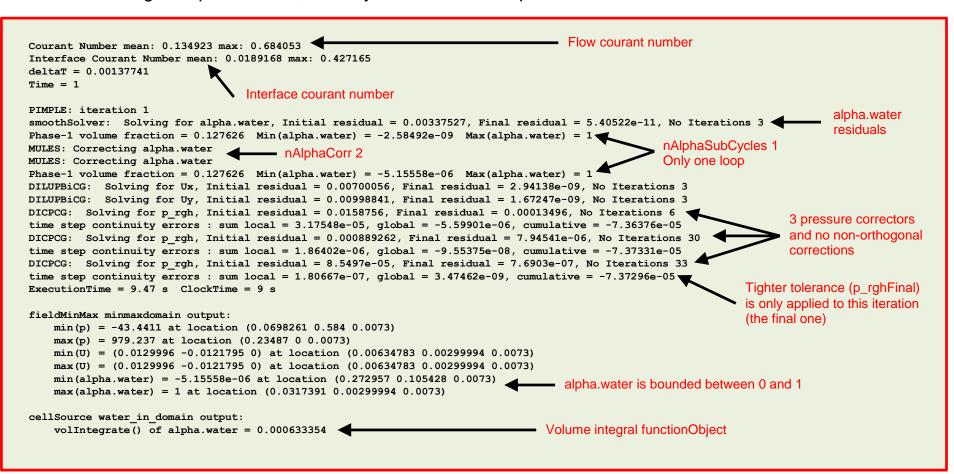
The output of steps 2 and 3 is the following:





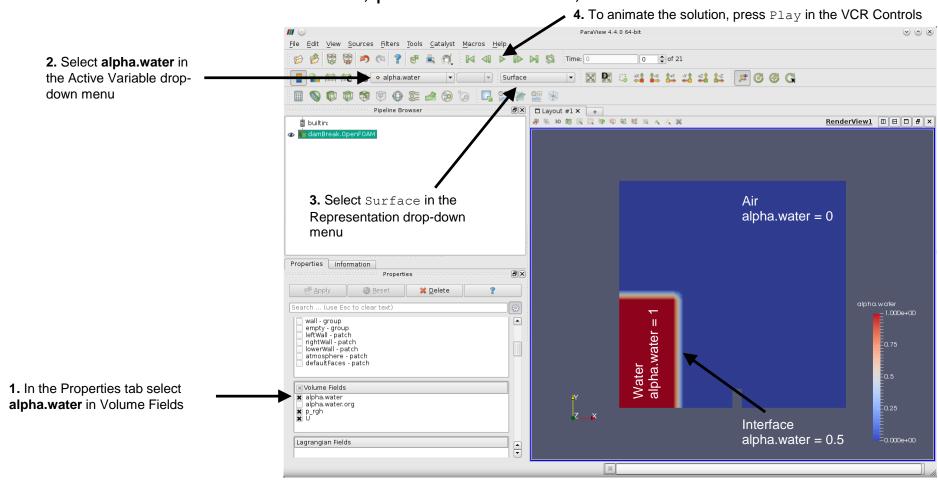
#### The output screen

- This is the output screen of the interFoam solver.
- The interface courant number is more restrictive than the flow courant number.
- When solving multiphase flows, is always desirable to keep the interface courant number less than 1.



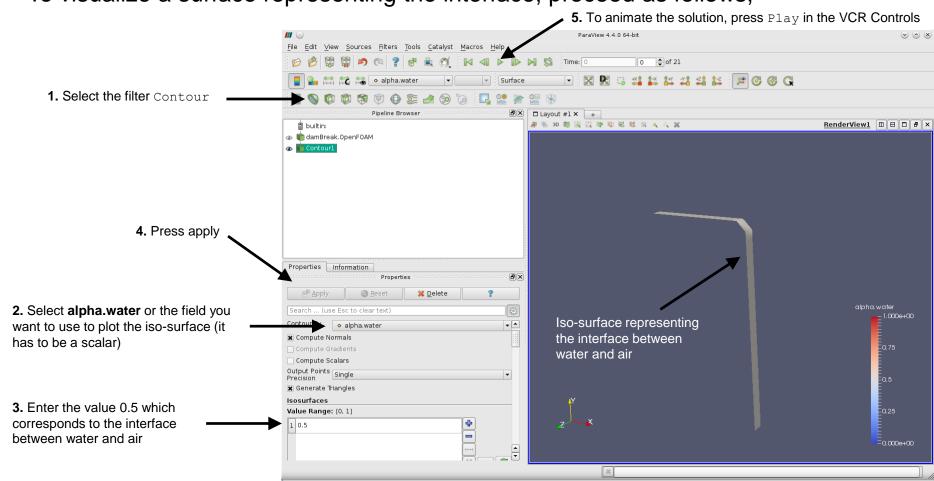
## Post-processing multiphase flows in paraFoam

To visualize the volume fraction, proceed as follows,



## Post-processing multiphase flows in paraFoam

To visualize a surface representing the interface, proceed as follows,



## Post-processing multiphase flows in paraFoam

To visualize all the cells representing the water fraction, proceed as follows,

