

Diving into SPH

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① SPH: What I've understood

Recap
Equations

② Postprocessing

③ What I tried

A Simple Solver
Problem Statement

Navier-Stokes Equations

(Still N-S!)

The key idea is unchanged. You want to approximate the N-S equations as before, but not discretize your solution on a mesh. This is like any Lagrangian method. To recap the equations for continuum flow:

- Continuity Equation:

$$\frac{D\rho}{Dt} = -\rho \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}$$

- Momentum Equation:

$$\frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla P + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f}$$

Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics (SPH)

What makes it different

- SPH is mesh-free! Treatment of complex and/or moving geometries is easier
- Free surface flows that are challenging in Eulerian methods are more or less natural in SPH
- Exact (and simultaneous) conservation of mass and momentum
- Inherent parallelism

Kernels

Mathematical Form

In 3D and 4th order (also what I've used)

$$W(q) = \frac{21}{64\pi h^3} \cdot \begin{cases} (2-q)^4(1+2q) & \text{if } 0 \leq q \leq 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where:

- Kernels just convolve over the function, and aim to be an approximation to the Dirac Delta function
- It has compact support, which means the tail is not infinite, it takes a certain range of particles around it
- A kernel function must be consistent, i.e.:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} W(q) dq = 1 \quad (2)$$

SPH Equations

Continuity

The approach in SPH is to sum up contributions from neighbours.

$$\rho_a = \sum_b m_b \frac{W(\mathbf{r}_{ab}, h)}{\rho_b} \quad (3)$$

where:

- W is the smoothing kernel function.
- \mathbf{r}_{ab} is the vector from particle a to b .
- h is the smoothing length.

SPH Equations

Momentum

The kernel functions can be differentiated - and this is used in the gradient for pressure in the momentum equation. Pressure is calculated from the equation of state.

$$\frac{D\mathbf{v}_a}{Dt} = - \sum_b m_b \left(\frac{P_a}{\rho_a^2} + \frac{P_b}{\rho_b^2} \right) \nabla_a W_{ab}(h) + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}_a + \mathbf{f}_a \quad (4)$$

where:

- P_a and P_b , ρ_a and ρ_b are the pressures and densities of the current particle and its neighbours
- $\nabla_a W_{ab}(h)$ is the gradient of the smoothing kernel between particles a and b with smoothing length h .

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Numerical quantities

Kernel Weighted Interpolation

- Postprocessing of SPH would involve interpolation of the same nature to obtain a numerical quantity from particle quantities
- We renormalize the interpolation using a Shepherd summation in the denominator
- For instance, the numerical pressure P_a at particle a can be computed as a weighted sum of neighbour particles

$$P_a = \frac{\sum_b P_b \frac{m_b}{\rho_b} W_{ab}}{\sum_b \frac{m_b}{\rho_b} W_{ab}}$$

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A Simple Solver

Pressure Force

```
for(const auto& other : particles)
{
    if(&p != &other)
    {
        double r = distance(p, other);
        if(r > 0)
        {
            double pj = calculatePressureTait(other);
            double rhoj = other.density;

            double w_press = wendlandGradient2D(r);

            pressureForceX +=
                other.mass * (pi / (rhoi * rhoi) + pj / (rhoj * rhoj)) * w_press;
            pressureForceY +=
                other.mass * (pi / (rhoi * rhoi) + pj / (rhoj * rhoj)) * w_press;
        }
    }
}
```

A Simple Solver

Density

```
double calculateDensity(const std::vector<Particle>& particles, const
    Particle& p)
{
    double density = 0.0;
    for(const auto& other : particles)
    {
        double r = distance(p, other);
        density += other.mass * wendlandKernel2D(r);
    }
    return density;
}
```

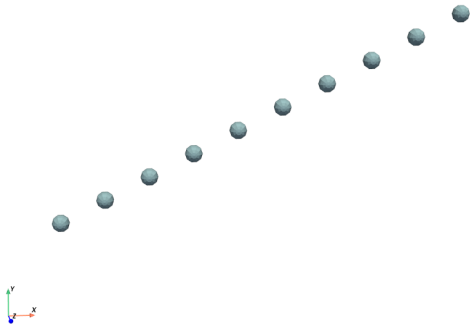
A Simple Solver

Main loop

```
for(auto& p : particles)
{
    // From https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~scoros/cs15467-s16/lectures/11-fluids2.pdf
    p.vx += dt * p.fx / p.density;
    p.vy += dt * (p.fy / p.density - g); //add gravity here
    p.x += dt * p.vx;
    p.y += dt * p.vy;
    //recalculate forces in the next step
    p.fx = 0.0;
    p.fy = 0.0;
}
// Calculate density and pressure forces
for(auto& p : particles)
{
    p.density = calculateDensity(particles, p);
}
calculatePressureForce(particles);
```

Just gravity

(Not much, but I'm glad I could get something basic up)



*Using PyVista for this

Dam Break

PyVista Visualization

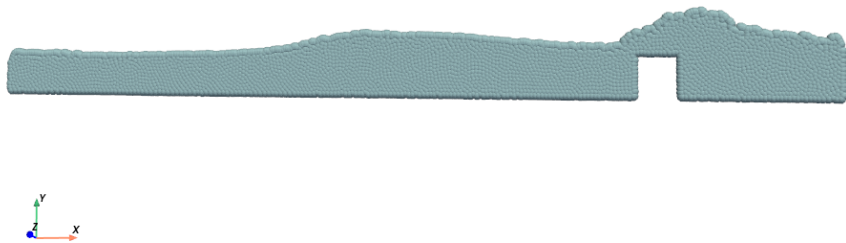


Figure: Domain at the end of the run

Dam Break

Generating CV Mesh

```
def write_to_stl():  
    x_resolution = 10  
    y_resolution = 10  
  
    x = np.linspace(0.07, 0.17, x_resolution)  
    y = np.linspace(0.07, 0.17, y_resolution)  
    z = np.zeros(1) # 2D box, so z dimension has only one value  
  
    grid = pv.RectilinearGrid()  
    grid.x = x  
    grid.y = y  
    grid.z = z  
  
    mesh = grid.cast_to_structured_grid().extract_surface()  
    mesh.save("output.stl")  
    mesh.plot("show_edges=True")
```

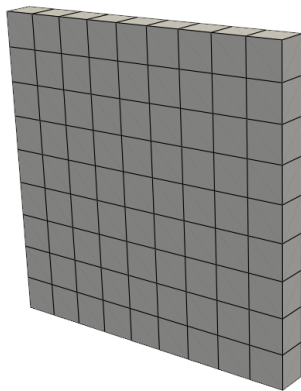



Figure: Creating a control volume of the dimensions and location of the leftmost box

Dam Break

Recovering Surface Mesh in Nemo

```
def read_into_nemo(): #note I could only read back an STL, so it's going to be
    triangulated..
    mesh = n.Mesh.load(n.File("output.stl"))
    segmentcloud = mesh.data
    areas = mesh.get_surface_area_per_segment()
    normals = segmentcloud.get_segment_normals()

    # print(segmentcloud.point_attributes) #-->empty dict, how to proceed?
    # print(segmentcloud.point_attributes["face_normal"])# KeyError: 'face_normal'

    #Riemann sum of a unit vector
    dot_product = np.sum(normals, axis=1) #horizontally sum across normals -> 1
    riemann_sum = np.sum(dot_product * areas)

    print('Riemann sum is:')
    print(mesh.get_surface_area())
    print(riemann_sum)
```

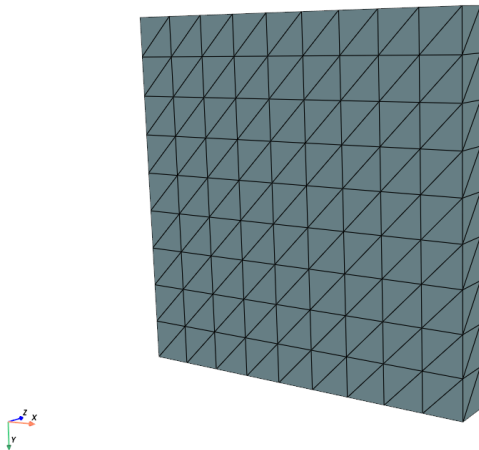


Figure: Displaying the triangulated CV volume. Triangulated because I could only import back an STL and not a structured grid cast to a .vtu

Interpolation

Pseudoalgorithm

(I think the time was beyond the scope for me to implement this, but this is what I considered. This should apply to all quantities - flux and primitives alike)

Pseudoalgorithm

- 1 Define a search radius = smoothing length h for each particle (not sure, but could be a start)
- 2 For each grid segment, look for neighbors within the radius h . Find atleast one point particle.
- 3 Calculate value of numerical quantity using Shephard normalization and use value for grid segment. This is essentially a projection onto the cell centroid.
- 4 Do Riemann sum over grid for total value on surface

Interpolation

Considerations

- Using the closest point (Voronoi) may not be the best way for consistency, instead anything that defines the local neighborhood more accurately
- A Shepherd interpolation, where the sum of the neighbourhood values is 1, can be more consistent for post-processing
- The problem with consistency might be highlighted at flow boundaries (but I need to read more about this to give you a strong opinion)
- In general, and for post-processing, the location of neighbours can be the expensive step, it probably makes sense to have something similar to a k-d tree as a pre-processing step