# Numerical simulation of the full non-linear behaviour of Wave Energy Converters



Alejandro J. C. Crespo, M. Brito, J.M. Domínguez, R.B. Canelas, M. Hall, C. Altomare, M. Wu, V. Stratigaki, P. Troch, L. Cappietti, R.M. Ferreira, M. Gómez-Gesteira

Universida<sub>de</sub>Vigo







### OUTLINE

**Objective:** Numerical modelling of WECs

# **SPH modelling: DualSPHysics software**

- Wave generation, propagation and absorption
- Wave-structure interaction
- Coupling with MoorDyn
- Coupling with Project Chrono

# **Application to different WECs**

- Oscillating Water Column (OWC)
- Oscillating Wave Surge Converter (OWSC)
- Point absorber
- Others (WaveStar, M4)

# **Conclusions & Future work**

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### **MAIN OBJECTIVE:**

To develop a numerical tool that helps in the design and testing of WECs (*not only the efficiency but also the survivability*)

#### **CHALLENGES:**

NWT (Numerical Wave Tank):

How to mimic wave flumes and basins and real sea state?

FSI (Wave-structure interaction):

How to solve large deformations of fixed and floating devices under extreme wave conditions?

PTO (POWER TAKE-OFF):

How to solve numerically the mechanical constraints?



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# **Conclusions & Future work**

#### **Navier-Stokes equations**

Mass  
conservation 
$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\rho}{\mathrm{d}t} = -\rho \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}$$
  $\left\langle \frac{\mathrm{d}\rho}{\mathrm{d}t} \right\rangle = \sum_{j} m_{j} \left( \mathbf{v}_{i} - \mathbf{v}_{j} \right) \cdot \nabla_{i} W_{ij}$ 

Momentum conservation  $\frac{\mathrm{d} \mathbf{v}}{\mathrm{d} t} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p + \mathbf{F}$   $\left\langle \frac{\mathrm{d} \mathbf{v}}{\mathrm{d} t} \right\rangle = \sum_{j} m_{j} \left( \frac{p_{j}}{\rho_{j}^{2}} + \frac{p_{i}}{\rho_{i}^{2}} \right) \nabla_{i} W_{ij}$ 

> Continuous notation (INTEGRALS)

**Discrete notation** (SUMMATIONS)



#### **State equation for barotropic fluids**

 $P = F(\rho)$ 

nearly incompressible fluids (small density variations)!

#### **Navier-Stokes equations**













#### **ADVANTAGES** comparing with mesh-based CFD codes:

- ✓ Efficient treatment of the large deformation of free surfaces since there is no mesh distortion and no need for a special treatment of the surface
- ✓ Handling **complex geometries** and **high deformation**
- ✓ Distinguishing **between phases** due to holding material properties at each particle
- ✓ Natural incorporation of coefficient discontinuities and **singular forces**

#### **DISADVANTAGES** comparing with mesh-based CFD codes:

- ✓ There is still no unanimity to choose the best solid **boundary conditions**.
- ✓ **Turbulence treatment** is still an open field and more research is needed.
- ✓ **Time computation is expensive** comparing with other methods

#### **OPEN-SOURCE CODE**

#### AVAILABLE FOR FREE

#### COLLABORATIVE PROJECT

#### LGPL LICENSE

#### HIGHLY PARALLELISED

#### PRE- & POST-PROCESSING

#### APPLIED TO REAL PROBLEMS

**OPEN PROJECT** 

#### DualSPHysics

FAQ References Downloads Validation Animations SPHysics GPU Computing Features WIKI GUI Visualization Developers Contact Forum News

DualSPHysics is based on the Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics model named

DualSPHysics is based on the Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics model named SPHysics (www.sphysics.org).

The code is developed to study free-surface flow phenomena where Eulerian methods can be difficult to apply, such as waves or impact of dam-breaks on off-shore structures. **DualSPHysics** is a set of C++, CUDA and Java codes designed to deal with real-life engineering problems.

Contact E-Mail: dualsphysics@gmail.com

Youtube Channel: www.youtube.com/user/DualSPHysics

Twitter Account: @DualSPHysics



### www.dual.sphysics.org





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#### **Industrial interest:**

NASA JSC, BAE Systems, Volkswagen AG, McLaren Racing Ltd, Forum NOKIA, NVIDIA, AECOM, HDR Engineering, ABPmer, DLR, CFD-NUMERICS, BMT Group, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Rainpower Norway, Shell Company, ABB, FEMTO Engineering ...

#### Wave energy companies:

American Wave Machines, Carnegie Clean Energy Ltd, Maine Marine Composites, National Renewable Energy Laboratory in U.S.A., Atria Power Corporation Ltd., Global Hydro Energy, WavePower

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#### **DEVELOPERS:**

Universidade de Vigo, Spain The University of Manchester, UK Instituto Superior Tecnico, Lisbon, Portugal Università degli studi di Parma, Italy Flanders Hydraulics Research, Belgium New Jersey Institute of Technology, USA



#### **COLLABORATORS:**

Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain TECNALIA. Inspiring Business, Spain Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya Imperial College London, UK Universiteit Gent, Belgium University of Salerno, Italy New Jersey Institute of Technology, USA Universidad de Guanajuato, Mexico

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LGPL (Lesser General Public License) can be used in **commercial** applications

Software can be incorporated into both:

- free software and
- proprietary software



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Graphical User Interface FX FreeCAD

Open Source parametric 3D CAD modele

### Advanced visualisation *islander*



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**OPEN PROJECT** 

# DualSPHysics Package <a href="http://dual.sphysics.org">http://dual.sphysics.org</a>



#### DualSPHysics Code on GitHub

#### **OPEN-SOURCE CODE**

#### AVAILABLE FOR FREE

#### COLLABORATIVE PROJECT

#### LGPL LICENSE

#### HIGHLY PARALLELISED

#### PRE- & POST-PROCESSING

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#### **OPEN PROJECT**

https://	github.com/DualSPH	ysics/DualSPHysics
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# Wave propagation and absorption

#### Altomare et al., 2017



**Regular waves with Passive Absorption (SPONGE)** 

**Regular waves with Active Absorption (AWAS)** 

INCIDENT WAVE + REFLECTED WAVE

### Wave propagation and absorption

#### Altomare et al., 2017

#### Regular waves: *H*=0.1m, *T*=1.3s



### Interaction between waves and fixed structures: RUN-UP

DualSPHysics was validated using **TIME SERIES of Run-up!!!** 



Experiments performed in the CIEMito wave flume at LIM-UPC (Barcelona) Web: http://ciemlab.upc.edu/



UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA DE CATALUNYA BARCELONATECH

### **Interaction between waves and fixed structures: RUN-UP** AMOUR BLOCK DIKE





### **Interaction between waves and fixed structures: RUN-UP** AMOUR BLOCK DIKE

Initial particle distance: dp=0.008 m with h/dp=2.6 Wendland kernel with interaction distance of 2h Total number of particles with depth=0.25 leads to 1,133,955 Physical time to be simulated: 20 seconds Computational time using GeForce RTX 2080 Ti GPU card was 15.4h (160,130 steps) Piston motion following external file (time and x-position) Exact position of the blocks in STL file





### **Interaction between waves and fixed structures: RUN-UP**



CIEMito experiment: Run-up over breakwater

Zhang et al., 2017



#### Zhang et al., 2017

### **Wave-structure interaction**

# Interaction between waves and fixed structures: RUN-UP

AMOUR BLOCK DIKE Case#7: H=0.08 m, T=0.87 s, d=0.25 m



Time series of the experimental and numerical surface elevation

#### Zhang et al., 2017

# Interaction between waves and fixed structures: RUN-UPAMOUR BLOCK DIKECase#7: H=0.08 m, T=0.87 s, d=0.25 m



#### Time series of the experimental and numerical RUNUP

#### Crespo et al., 2018

### **Wave-structure interaction II**

Surge [m]

#### **Interaction between waves and floating structures**

Floating BOX subjected to REGULAR WAVES



#### Crespo et al., 2018

### **Wave-structure interaction II**

#### **Interaction between waves and floating structures**



### **Coupling with MoorDyn**

**MoorDyn** is an open-source dynamic mooring line model that uses a lumped-mass formulation for modelling axial elasticity, hydrodynamics, and bottom contact.



#### http://www.matt-hall.ca/moordyn/

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# **Coupling with MoorDyn**

### VALIDATION: EXPERIMENTS IN GHENT UNIVERSITY



# **Coupling with MoorDyn**

### VALIDATION: EXPERIMENTS IN GHENT UNIVERSITY

Floating moored BOX Regular waves; H=0.12 m, T=1.6s, d=0.5m

Time: 0.00 s

Crespo et al., 2018



# **Coupling with MoorDyn**

### VALIDATION: EXPERIMENTS IN GHENT UNIVERSITY



DualSPHysics		
<b>BOX</b> Dimensions	20 x 20 x 13.2 cm <sup>3</sup>	
BOX Weight	3  kg + 0.6  kg(extra)	
BOX Centre of gravity	(0, 0, -1.26) cm	
BOX Lip draught	7.86 cm	

MoorDyn		
MOORING Diameter	3.656 mm	
MOORING Weight	0.607 g/cm	
MOORING Length	145.5 cm	
Water depth	50 cm	

Crespo et al., 2018

# **Coupling with MoorDyn**

### VALIDATION: EXPERIMENTS IN GHENT UNIVERSITY



# **Coupling with MoorDyn**

### VALIDATION: EXPERIMENTS IN GHENT UNIVERSITY



Project Chrono is an open-source multi-physics simulation engine



- Wide set of joints: spherical, revolute joint, prismatic, glyph, etc.
- Unilateral constraints
- Exact Coulomb friction model, for precise stick-slip of bodies
- Springs and dampers, even with non-linear features

http://projectchrono.org



### VALIDATION: Chandra and Asai, 2016





Comparison between numerical and experimental rotation angle of **spring pendulum** in air and water and **gravity pendulum** in air and water



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# **Conclusions & Future work**

# **Oscillating Water Column (OWC)**

### OFFSHORE FLOATING MOORED OWC

# **EsflOWC**

Efficiency and survivability of floating Oscillating Water Column Wave Energy Converters moored to the seabed

#### GHENT UNIVERSITY (COORDINATOR), BELGIUM

UNIVERSIDADE DE VIGO, SPAIN IST - UNIVERSIDADE DE LISBOA, PORTUGAL THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER, UNITED KINGDOM UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI FIRENZE, ITALY



A MARINET2 TRANSNATIONAL ACCESS PROJECT (EU H2020 PROGRAMME UNDER GRANT AGREEMENT NO 731094) SUPPORTED ALSO BY THE RESEARCH FOUNDATION FLANDERS (FWO), BELGIUM - FWO.0PR.2.0 - FWO RESEARCH PROJECT NO. 3G029114

> INFRASTRUCTURES: LABIMA-UNIFI, WAVE-CURRENT FLUME (WCF) AND COASTAL ENGINEERING RESEARCH GROUP OF GHENT UNIVERSITY, LARGE WAVE FLUME









# **Oscillating Water Column (OWC)**

# **Floating and moored OWC** EXPERIMENT IN GENT UNIVERSITY: FLOATING MOORED OWC



# **Oscillating Water Column (OWC)**

### **Floating and moored OWC**

OWC with different materials but total MASS is 2.593 kg SPH particles of density 578 kg/m<sup>3</sup>



# **Oscillating Water Column (OWC)**

## **Floating and moored OWC**



DualSPHysics		
<b>OWC</b> Dimensions	$20 \text{ x } 20 \text{ x } 44 \text{ cm}^3$	
OWC Weight	2.593 kg	
OWC Centre of gravity	(-0.91, 0, -10.8) cm	

MoorDyn		
<b>MOORING</b> Diameter	3.656 mm	
MOORING Weight	0.607 g/cm	
MOORING Length	145.5 cm	
Water depth	50 cm	

# **Oscillating Water Column (OWC)**

### **Floating and moored OWC**



# **Oscillating Water Column (OWC)**

### **Floating and moored OWC**



# **Oscillating Water Column (OWC)**

### **Floating and moored OWC**



RELATIVE MOTION BETWEEN HEAVE AND WATER ELEVATION INSIDE OWC heave -  $\eta_{OWC}$ 

# **Oscillating Wave Surge Converter (OWSC)**

Brito et al., 2019

Experimental set up at the Marine Research Group's hydraulics laboratory at Queen's University Belfast.



# **Oscillating Wave Surge Converter (OWSC)**



(a)

**Regular waves:** d=0.825, T=2s, H=0.15m d=0.825, T=2s, H=0.25m d=0.825, T=3s, H=0.20m

Brito et al., 2019





### Brito et al., 2019

# **Oscillating Wave Surge Converter (OWSC)**



u (m/s) -0.50 -0.25 0 0.25 0.50



# **Oscillating Wave Surge Converter (OWSC)**

#### Brito et al., 2019

### **VALIDATION:**

Numerical and experimental time series of angular velocity of the flap



# **Oscillating Wave Surge Converter (OWSC)**

#### **CWR:** capture width ratio Influence of the PTO system $F_f^{smooth}(t) = \sigma_0 z_d(t) + \sigma_1 \dot{z}_d(t) +$ $\sigma_2 \dot{x}(t)$ **Viscous friction coefficient** 0.45 H = 0.15 m; T = 2 s H = 0.25 m; T = 2 s0.3 CWR (-) 0.15 0 1000 200 400 600 800 1200 0 $\sigma_2 (N \text{ s m}^{-1})$ $F_p^{smooth}(t) = \left[ K_p \dot{x}(t)^2 + I_p \ddot{x}(t) \right] A$ **Pressure loss coefficient** 0.25 0.2 CWR (-) 0.15 0.1 12 0 3 6 9 15 18 $K_p$ (Pa s<sup>2</sup>) $\times 10^{5}$

Brito et al., 2019

#### Brito et al., 2019

# **Oscillating Wave Surge Converter (OWSC)**

### **Influence of the PTO system**



#### Brito et al., 2019

# **Oscillating Wave Surge Converter (OWSC)**

### **Influence of flap inertia**

**CWR:** capture width ratio





Zang Z, Zhang Q, Qi Y, Fu X, 2018. Hydrodynamic responses and efficiency analyses of a heaving-buoy wave energy converter with PTO damping in regular and irregular waves. Renewable Energy, 116: 527-542

# PTO is modelled as a linear damper

 $F_{PTO} = \mathbf{c} \cdot vel.z$ 

Buoy: cylinder with only-heave motion:

Diameter D=0.5 m Mass M=21.6 kg Draft B=0.11 m

Regular waves:

H=0.16 m, T=1.5 s, d=1.1 m

Linear damper with CHRONO: rest\_length=0.99 m, k(stiffness)=0



Regular waves: H=0.16 m, T=1.5 s, d=1.1 m Spring-damper with CHRONO: rest\_length=0.99 m, k=0



### VALIDATION

Regular waves: H=0.16 m, T=1.5 s, d=1.1 m Spring-damper with CHRONO: rest\_length=0.99 m, k=0

c=0







# WaveStar

## Revolute and spherical joints on the articulated arms and buoys.



#### Canelas et al., 2018

# WaveStar

### Revolute and spherical joints on the articulated arms and buoys.



#### Canelas et al., 2018

# WaveStar

Forces on the buoy link



# **Multi-floater M4**



#### **M4** is a moored three-float line absorber WEC

Stansby P, Carpintero-Moreno E, Stallard T, 2017. Large capacity multi-float configurations for the wave energyconverter M4 using a time-domain linear diffraction model. Applied Ocean Research, 68: 53-64.



Interaction waves-structure Mechanical constraint "hinge" Pneumatic actuator or damper Mooring line SPH CHRONO CHRONO MOORDYN

# **Multi-floater M4**



### M4 is patented and has been supported by:

- EPSRC Supergen Marine Challenge grant Step WEC (EP/K012487/1) provided by the UK government
- The Energy Sustainability Conacyt-SENER fund provided by the Mexican government
- The EU Marinet2 Transnational Access programme (project M4WW)





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# **Conclusions & Future work**

# **Conclusions & Future work**

- ✓ DualSPHysics code has been validated with experimental data to prove the capability to simulate wave-structure interactions (fixed and floating structures).
- ✓ DualSPHysics is **successfully coupled with the other models**:
  - $\checkmark$  MoorDyn to simulate mooring lines
  - ✓ Project Chrono to simulate the behaviour of PTO
- ✓ It can be used to study not only the efficiency of WECs but also the survivability under extreme waves (high energetic sea states).
- ✓ Source code and examples are **available in DualSPHysics v4.4**

# **Conclusions & Future work**

### SOURCE CODE AND EXAMPLE IN DUALSPHYSICS V4.4



### https://dual.sphysics.org/
### REFERENCES

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### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

COST Action CA17105, COST Association WECANet: A pan-European Network for Marine Renewable Energy



### SPANISH GOVERNMENT. RETOS 2016

WELCOME: Numerical design of floating Wave Energy COnverter MEchanisms: efficiency and survivability



MARINET2 EsflOWC: Efficiency and survivability of floating OWC moored to the seabed









# **Thanks a lot for your attention**



# Grazie per la vostra attenzione

### MORE...

#### **SPHERIC** organisation

<image>

ERCOFTAC SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP FOR SPH

#### Welcome to SPHERIC

SPHERIC is the international organisation representing the community of researchers and industrial users of Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics (SPH).

As a purely Lagrangian technique, SPH enables the simulation of highly distorting fluids and solids. Fields including free-surface flows, solid mechanics, multi-phase, fluid-structure interaction and astrophysics where Eulerian methods can be difficult to apply represent ideal applications of this meshless method.



Annual Workshops

http://spheric-sph.org/

## MORE...

### **SPHERIC** organisation

**SPHERIC** is the international organisation representing the community of researchers and industrial users of Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics (SPH) **UNIVERSIDADE DE VIGO is member of SPHERIC since 2006** 

#### **Objectives of SPHERIC**

To develop the fundamental basis of SPH. To discuss current and new concepts. To foster communication between industry and academia. To communicate experience in the application of the technology. To investigate accelerating simulations and visualisation. To provide access to existing software and methods. To define benchmark test cases. To identify future needs of SPH.



#### **SPHERIC STEERING COMMITTEE:**

Prof. Moncho Gómez Gesteira (2006-2013) Dr Alejandro J. C. Crespo (2014-TODAY) WEBMASTER

### http://spheric-sph.org/

### MORE...

### **DualSPHysics Users Workshop**

1st DualSPHysics Users Workshop, University of Manchester, U.K., 8-9 September 2015 2nd DualSPHysics Users Workshop, University of Manchester, U.K., 6-7 December 2016 3rd DualSPHysics Users Workshop, University of Parma, Italy, 13-15 November 2017 4th DualSPHysics Users Workshop, Instituto Superior Técnico, Lisboa, 22-24 October 2018

#### **5th DualSPHysics Users Workshop, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Barcelona, 2020**

