## Floating Oscillating Water Column (OWC) with meshless SPH method





### Universida<sub>de</sub>Vigo



Alejandro J. C. Crespo Universidade de Vigo Ourense, Spain alexbexe@uvigo.es

Corrado Altomare Ghent University – Flanders Hydraulics Research Ghent, Belgium corrado.altomare@ugent.be

Vasiliki Stratigaki Ghent University Ghent, Belgium Vicky.Stratigaki@ugent.be Matthew Hall Univ. of Prince Edward Island Charlottetown, Canada mthall@upei.ca

Minghao Wu Ghent University Ghent, Belgium Minghao.Wu@ugent.be

Peter Troch Ghent University Ghent, Belgium Peter.Troch@ugent.be José M. Domínguez Universidade de Vigo Ourense, Spain imdominguez@uvigo.es

Tim Verbrugghe Ghent University Ghent, Belgium TimL.Verbrugghe@ugent.be

Moncho Gómez-Gesteira Universidade de Vigo Ourense, Spain mggesteira@uvigo.es



### **OBJECTIVES**

1) Develop and validate the numerical tool to simulate floating WECs

2) Design more efficient floating WECs

3) Study survivability under extreme conditions

### NUMERICAL MODELLING

### Wave Energy Converters (WECs)



**SPH method** was invented for <u>astrophysics during the seventies</u>, but now it is applied in many different fields including fluid dynamics and solid mechanics.

Fluid is represented using particles which move according to the governing dynamics.



SPH interactions are carried out between a given particle and its moving neighbours.

### SPH is based on integral interpolants

The fundamental principle is to approximate any function  $F(\mathbf{r})$  by (kernel approximation)



#### **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 boundary** evolution
- ✓ Distinguishing **between phases** due to holding material properties at each individual particle
- ✓ Natural incorporation of coefficient discontinuities and **singular forces** into the numerical scheme
- ✓ Capable of being **coupled with other** mesh dependent and meshless techniques









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

- ✓ The interpolation method used in SPH is very simple and it will be strongly affected by particle disorder.
  SPH gives reasonable results for the first order gradients, but they can be worse for higher order derivatives.
- ✓ **Turbulence treatment** is still an open field and more research is needed.
- ✓ Boundary condition implementation is a hard task and fluid particles penetration into boundaries must be avoided. There is no unanimity to choose the best boundary conditions approach.
- ✓ **Time computation is expensive** comparing with other meshbased methods or CFD software.

cpu gpu DualSPHysics



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 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

- OPEN-SOURCE CODE
- AVAILABLE FOR FREE
- COLLABORATIVE PROJECT
- LGPL LICENSE
- HIGHLY PARALLELISED
- PRE- & POST-PROCESSING
- APPLIED TO REAL PROBLEMS
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Version	# downloads
v1	701
v2	6472
v3	6982
v4	7827

**TOTAL ~ 22,000 downloads** 

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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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Dr Benedict D. Rogers Dr Athanasios Mokos Dr Georgios Fourtakas Prof. Peter Stansby Alex Chow Annelie Baines

Prof. Moncho Gómez Gesteira Dr Alejandro J.C. Crespo Dr Jose M. Domínguez Dr José González Cao Orlando G. Feal Andrés Vieira

Prof. Rui Ferreira Dr Ricardo Canelas Moisés Brito



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LGPL can be used in **commercial** applications Software can be incorporated into both:

- free software and
- proprietary software

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#### **Graphical User Interface**







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**APPLIED TO REAL PROBLEMS** 

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS





Papers by DSPH team 2011-2017 http://dual.sphysics.org/index.php/references/



34 papers in peer-reviewed SCI journals that have been cited 1055 times (>30 cites/paper) (SCOPUS 12/06/2018)

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http://en.openei.org/

**OFFSHORE** OWC

Falcao, A.F. de O. (2010). Wave energy utilization: A review of the technologies. Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews 14, 899–918.



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Backward Bend Duck Buoy (BBDB): Ocean Energy Buoy





### 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

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER, UNITED KINGDOM UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI FIRENZE, ITALY



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### Simonetti et al., 2017



### EXPERIMENT IN GENT UNIVERSITY: FLOATING MOORED OWC



### Numerical simulation of floating moored OWC needs:

- Wave generation, wave propagation and wave absorption
- Interaction between waves and fixed structures
- Interaction between waves and floating structures
- Interaction between waves and floating moored structures

#### Altomare et al., 2017

### Wave generation, wave propagation and wave absorption



### **Interaction between waves and fixed structures**

Assessment of wave loadings on the dikes and storm return walls in the Blankenberge Marina (Belgium)







#### Altomare et al., 2015

0.04 m 0.06 m

### **Interaction between waves and fixed structures**





### **Interaction between waves and fixed structures**

Experiment carried out in the IH-Cantabria of regular waves impacting with a fixed OWC



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Experiment carried out in the IH-Cantabria of regular waves impacting with a fixed OWC



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Experiment carried out in the IH-Cantabria of regular waves impacting with a fixed OWC



Elevation inside the chamber: **Experiment** vs Time-domain vs IHFoam vs DualSPHysics

### **Interaction between waves and floating structures Floating BOX subjected to REGULAR WAVES**



### **Interaction between waves and floating structures Floating BOX subjected to REGULAR WAVES**



Time: 0.00 s



## **Interaction between waves and floating moored structures** Coupling with **MoorDyn** library

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





### EXPERIMENT IN GENT UNIVERSITY: FLOATING BOX



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



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



### Interaction between waves and floating moored structures





### Numerical simulation of floating moored OWC needs:

- Wave generation, wave propagation and wave absorption
- Interaction between waves and fixed structures
- Interaction between waves and floating structures
- Interaction between waves and floating moored structures
- AIR PHASE INSIDE THE CHAMBER





### EXPERIMENT IN GENT UNIVERSITY: OWC





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











### VALIDATION WITH EXPERIMENT IN GENT UNIVERSITY



**Experimental Moment of Inertia of OWC ???** 





heave -  $\eta_{OWC}$ 



RELATIVE MOTION BETWEEN HEAVE AND WATER ELEVATION INSIDE OWC

heave -  $\eta_{OWC}$ 

### **CONCLUSIONS & FUTURE WORK**

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The **DualSPHysics** code is **successfully** coupled with the MoorDyn model in order to simulate floating devices/structures moored to the seabed

Validation is carried out using experimental data of a floating BOX and floating OWC

- 3D simulations
- including mooring tensions (important for survivability)

Future work would focus on the simulation of the **air phase** inside the OWC chamber

### **CONCLUSIONS & FUTURE WORK**

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The OWC designed here was important for:

- Validation of the numerical model
- Facing problems in physical tests with floating moored structures

We want to collaborate with researchers that are designing WECs

## We want to simulate your WEC!!!



SPANISH GOVERNMENT. RETOS 2016 WELCOME: Numerical design of floating Wave Energy COnverter MEchanisms: efficiency and survivability





Runnie Cooler Hunnie Cooler Bardt Print Ba



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



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

