Realistic Animation of Fluids Nick Foster and Dimitris Metaxas

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Previous Work

- Used non physics-based methods (mostly in 2D)
- Hard to simulate effects that rely on physical phenomena and volume; rotational and pressurebased effects
- Hard to make fluid interact with dynamic objects and to simulate the buoyancy force on such objects



Inspiration from CFD

- Computational Fluid Dynamics has been used in engineering problems since the mid '60s
- Very detailed fluid models exist
- Unfortunately most methods are needlessly-complex (for graphics) and scale poorly
- End-user must know what he/she is doing (more than the average animator is interested in)

Main contributions from this paper

- Simulation Solving the Navier-Stokes equations
- Boundary Conditions Initializing fluid boundaries and setting up global behavior
- Surface Tracking Tracking the evolution of the fluid surface for rendering

Simulation: Navier-Stokes (N-S)

- N-S are a set of equations that describe the behavior of various fluids (including gases)
- For graphics the "incompressible Navier-Stokes equations" are sufficient



Next Level Inc.



http://flatrock.org.nz/topics/environment/ass ets/nuclear_bomb_test.jpg

Simulation: Equations

Foster & Metaxas formulation:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} &+ \frac{\partial u^2}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial uv}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial uw}{\partial z} &= -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + g_x + \nu (\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2}) \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} &+ \frac{\partial vu}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v^2}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial vw}{\partial z} &= -\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + g_y + \nu (\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial z^2}) \\ \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} &+ \frac{\partial wu}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial wv}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial w^2}{\partial z} &= -\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + g_z + \nu (\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial z^2}), \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = 0$$

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A vector-based formulation:

$$\mathbf{u}_t = -(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{u} + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} - \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p + \mathbf{f}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

www.cc.gatech.edu/~carlson/papers/carlson-thesis.pdf

- u fluid velocity (vector field) (u, v, w)
- $u_t fluid$ acceleration (vector field) ($\partial u/\partial t$, $\partial v/\partial t$, $\partial w/\partial t$)
- p fluid pressure (scalar field)
- ρ fluid density (~1.0 for water assumed in F&M)
- v viscosity or "fluid thickness" (assumed constant)

Simulation: More N-S detail

www.cc.gatech.edu/~carlson/papers/carlson-thesis.pdf

$$\mathbf{u}_t = -(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{u} + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} - \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p + \mathbf{f}$$

$$a = \frac{F_{net}}{m}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

Mass Conservation: net fluid flow is 0

 $(u \cdot \nabla)u$ Advection: Describes in what direction a "neighboring" region of water pushes water at **u**

 $(v\nabla^2 u)$ Momentum Diffusion: Describes how quickly variations in velocity are damped-out; depends on fluid viscosity

 $(\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p)$

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Pressure Gradient: Describes in which direction fluid at **u** is pushed to reach a lower pressure area

Simulation: Discretization





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Simulation: Velocity field update

$$\begin{split} \tilde{u}_{i+1/2,j,k} &= u_{i+1/2,j,k} + \delta t \{ (1/\delta x) [(u_{i,j,k})^2 - (u_{i+1,j,k})^2] \\ &+ (1/\delta y) [(uv)_{i+1/2,j-1/2,k} - (uv)_{i+1/2,j+1/2,k}] \\ &+ (1/\delta z) [(uw)_{i+1/2,j,k-1/2} - (uw)_{i+1/2,j,k+1/2}] + g_x \\ &+ (1/\delta x) (p_{i,j,k} - p_{i+1,j,k}) + (\nu/\delta x^2) (u_{i+3/2,j,k} \\ &- 2u_{i+1/2,j,k} + u_{i-1/2,j,k}) + (\nu/\delta y^2) (u_{i+1/2,j+1,k} \\ &- 2u_{i+1/2,j,k} + u_{i+1/2,j-1,k}) + (\nu/\delta z^2) (u_{i+1/2,j,k+1} \\ &- 2u_{i+1/2,j,k} + u_{i+1/2,j,k-1}) \}, \end{split}$$

Intimidating, but really means...

$$1 > max[u\frac{\delta t}{\delta x},v\frac{\delta t}{\delta y},w\frac{\delta t}{\delta z}]$$

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CFL Condition: traverse at most one cell in a single time-step

Simulation: Velocity field update (ctd)

$$\begin{split} \tilde{u}_{i+1/2,j,k} &= u_{i+1/2,j,k} + \delta t \{ (1/\delta x) [(u_{i,j,k})^2 - (u_{i+1,j,k})^2] \\ &+ (1/\delta y) [(uv)_{i+1/2,j-1/2,k} - (uv)_{i+1/2,j+1/2,k}] \\ &+ (1/\delta z) [(uw)_{i+1/2,j,k-1/2} - (uw)_{i+1/2,j,k+1/2}] + g_x \\ &+ (1/\delta x) (p_{i,j,k} - p_{i+1,j,k}) + (\nu/\delta x^2) (u_{i+3/2,j,k}) \\ &- 2u_{i+1/2,j,k} + u_{i-1/2,j,k}) + (\nu/\delta y^2) (u_{i+1/2,j+1,k}) \\ &- 2u_{i+1/2,j,k} + u_{i+1/2,j-1,k}) + (\nu/\delta z^2) (u_{i+1/2,j,k+1}) \\ &- 2u_{i+1/2,j,k} + u_{i+1/2,j,k-1}) \}, \end{split}$$

$$1 > max[u\frac{\delta t}{\delta x},v\frac{\delta t}{\delta y},w\frac{\delta t}{\delta z}]$$

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CFL Condition: traverse at most one cell in a single time-step

Intimidating, but really means...

$$u(t+1) = u(t) + h(u_t(t))$$

 $\tilde{u} = u + \cdots$ • Is an Euler step that uses a finite-difference approximation of $u_t(t)$

Maximum value of h is dictated by the CFL

Simulation: Finite differences

$$\begin{split} \tilde{u}_{i+1/2,j,k} &= u_{i+1/2,j,k} + \delta t \{ (1/\delta x) [(u_{i,j,k})^2 - (u_{i+1,j,k})^2] \\ &+ (1/\delta y) [(uv)_{i+1/2,j-1/2,k} - (uv)_{i+1/2,j,k+1/2}] + g_x \\ &+ (1/\delta x) (p_{i,j,k} - p_{i+1,j,k}) + (\nu/\delta x^2) (u_{i+3/2,j,k}) \\ &- 2u_{i+1/2,j,k} + u_{i-1/2,j,k}) + (\nu/\delta x^2) (u_{i+1/2,j+1,k}) \\ &- 2u_{i+1/2,j,k} + u_{i+1/2,j-1,k}) + (\nu/\delta x^2) (u_{i+1/2,j,k+1}) \\ &- 2u_{i+1/2,j,k} + u_{i+1/2,j-1,k}) + (\nu/\delta x^2) (u_{i+1/2,j,k+1}) \\ &- 2u_{i+1/2,j,k} + u_{i+1/2,j-1,k}) + (\nu/\delta x^2) (u_{i+1/2,j,k+1}) \\ &- 2u_{i+1/2,j,k} + u_{i+1/2,j-1,k}) + (\nu/\delta x^2) (u_{i+1/2,j,k+1}) \\ &- 2u_{i+1/2,j,k} + u_{i+1/2,j-1,k}) + (\nu/\delta x^2) (u_{i+1/2,j,k+1}) \\ &- 2u_{i+1/2,j,k} + u_{i+1/2,j-1,k}) + (\nu/\delta x^2) (u_{i+1/2,j,k+1}) \\ &- 2u_{i+1/2,j,k} + u_{i+1/2,j-1,k}) + (\nu/\delta x^2) (u_{i+1/2,j,k+1}) \\ &- 2u_{i+1/2,j,k} + u_{i+1/2,j,k-1}) \}, \end{split}$$
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$$(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u})_{i,j,k} = \frac{u_{i+1,j,k} - u_{i,j,k} + v_{i,j+1,k} - v_{i,j,k} + w_{i,j,k+1} - w_{i,j,k}}{\Delta x} \\ (\nabla p)_{i,j,k} = \left(\frac{p_{i,j,k} - p_{i-1,j,k}}{\Delta x}, \frac{p_{i,j,k} - p_{i,j-1,k}}{\Delta x}, \frac{p_{i,j,k} - p_{i,j,k-1}}{\Delta x}\right) \\ \\ \nabla^2 u_{i,j,k} = \frac{u_{i-1,j,k} + u_{i,j-1,k} + u_{i,j,k-1} - 6u_{i,j,k} + u_{i+1,j,k} + u_{i,j+1,k} + u_{i,j,k+1}}{\Delta x^2} \end{split}$$

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Simulation: Problem







Simulation: Problem – compressible fluids?







However: $\nabla \cdot u \neq 0$

Simulation: Enforcing incompressibility



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Compute divergence

$$D = \nabla \cdot u_{i,j,k}$$

Computer pressure correction

$$\delta p_{i,j,k} = \beta D_{i,j,k}$$

Update cell-face velocities

$$u_{i+1/2,j,k} = u_{i+1/2,j,k} + (\delta t / \delta x) \delta p_{i,j,k}$$
$$u_{i-1/2,j,k} = u_{i-1/2,j,k} - (\delta t / \delta x) \delta p_{i,j,k}$$

. . .

- Iterate the above steps until $D\!pprox\!0$
- Update pressure field: $\tilde{p}_{i,j,k} = p_{i,j,k} + \delta p_{i,j,k}$

Boundary Conditions

free-slip boundary



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non-slip boundary



• Fluid is free to move parallel to the boundary

• Fluid is fixed to boundary

Inflow/Outflow conditions (sources and sinks)

inflow condition



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outflow condition



 Set a constant fluid velocity u_c on the face of a source cell

• Set sink cell's face velocity to adjacent fluid cell's velocity, and allow it to "relax"

Boundary condition for free surface cells



• Surface cell's interface's velocity = sum of the remaining velocities

• This maintains the condition

 $\nabla \cdot u \approx 0$

Surface Tracking: Marker Particles



http://developer.intel.com/technology/itj/q21 999/images/art5fig7.gif



• Generate marker particles at sources (and render them only in cells which contain fluid)

• Use weighted (bilinear) interpolation to compute a marker's velocity from four nearest cell velocities

- Propagate particles using standard integration techniques
- Easy to simulate violent effects like splashing and overturning

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Surface Tracking: Free Surface Particles



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Start at known "Full" or "Empty" regions and grow particles via 4-connected search

• Insert particles when too sparse, remove when too dense

• Problematic: how to efficiently detect sparse/dense areas?

Surface Tracking: Height Field



http://www.sdsc.edu/GatherScatter/gsjan94/Images/GS.CFD 1.gif

For smooth fluids (ocean, lake, puddles) w/o splashes

 $H_{t+1} = H_t + \delta t (w_{t+\delta t} + \delta H \cdot un_{t+1})$

 un_{t+1} – velocity field values of neighbor cells

Miscellaneous & Questions?

• Better Explanation and Implementation Guide – Available as part of Mark Carlson's PhD thesis: www.cc.gatech.edu/~carlson/papers/carlson-thesis.pdf

- Other Simulation Techniques SPH; simulate motion of marker particles directly
- CFD Math & Derivations Pain available at: www.math.colostate.edu/~pauld/M646.html