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2D Simulations of breaking wave impacts on a flat wall

14^{ème} Ecole de Mécanique des Fluides Numérique Porquerolles - June 05, 2015

Pierre-Michel Guilcher, Yoann Jus, Nicolas Couty HydrOcea Laurent Brosset (GTT) Yves-Marie Scolan (ENSTA-Bretagne) David Le Touzé (ECN)

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1 Industrial context: sloshing in LNG floating tanks



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LNG tanks on floating structures



Offshore applications LNG carriers ENSTA Bretagne HydrOcean Safety Excellence

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LNG membrane containment systems

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GTT (Gaztransport & Technigaz) is the designer of the LNG membrane containment systems



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LNG membrane containment systems

Objectives of sloshing studies:

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- Determine the design loads for the containment system
- Determine the design loads for the pump towers



Sloshing model tests

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2 Context of wave impacts

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Different types of tests carried out in order to understand sloshing physics



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Phenomenology of a liquid impact



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Global flow

- Global flow is governed by gravity (Froude)
- Local behavior during impacts
 - Transfer of mechanical energy from liquid to gas
 - Gas compression during escaping and possible entrapment
 - Phase transition during gas compression
 - Rapid change of liquid momentum when avoiding the wall
 - Possible creation of pressure wave
 - Fluid-structure interaction
 - Free surface instabilities

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Pressure signals from a column of 27 sensors



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Pressure signals from a column of 27 sensors





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Pressure signals from a column of 27 sensors



Elementary Loading Process (ELP)



Direct impact

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		D	
	EL	P	

Building jet

Compression of

entrapped gas

escaping or





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Software presentation, Waves selection



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General strategy for wave impact simulation

FSID: wave generation and propagation Strange

- Highly non linear free surface flows
- Potential code based on:
 - Desingularized technique
 - Transformal mappings
- Liquid phase only (no gas)
- Objective:
 - Create simply wave impact conditions
- Means:

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Arbitrary shape of the initial free surface

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- Bathymetry
- HydrOcean **SPH-Flow: impact simulation**

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- Restart with FSID data at a late stage
- Gas starts at rest



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SPH-Flow Software

- Developed by ECN and HydrOcean (9 PhD)
- Advanced fluid formulations compared with standard SPH
 - Riemann solvers for stability
 - Renormalization for accuracy
- Structural model (PhD supported by GTT)
 - Elastic model for structure
- Fluid / Structure interaction
 - Natural and strong coupling
- **Parallelization**

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domain decomposition (MPI comm.)

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- Efficient scalability (4000 cores)
- Up to 1 billion particles

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Selection of four wave shapes by FSID

Selected waves at t0



2D simulations of three breaking wave impacts on a flat rigid wall



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Large gas-pocket impact







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Gas-pocket impacts: impact chart



Gas-pocket impacts: impact chart





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Elementary Loading Processes (ELPs)



Gas-pocket impacts: Characteristic pressures













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2D simulations of three breaking wave impacts on a flat rigid wall: Comparison scale 1 and scale 1:6

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Conclusions

Good ability of SPH-Flow to simulate wave impacts

- Ability to reproduce accurately typical wave shapes before impact
- Pressure map very similar to those obtained during sloshing tests
- Continuum of pressure sensors
- Need of an important refinement (2 mm between particles) in the impact area
- Free surface instabilities are not captured (pseudo-convergence)

Wave loads

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- Pressure maps are very similar for the different gas pocket impacts
- Each typical area of the map is associated to an ELP
- The three ELPs are involved

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Max pressure at crest does not depend on the size of the pocket

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The smaller the pocket the larger the pressure inside

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Conclusions

- Simulations of liquid impacts at two different scales brings insight into the influence of the different biases
 - According to CFS principle, a liquid impact at scale $1/\lambda$ is Froudesimilar to the impact at scale 1 if
 - Inflow conditions are Froude-scaled
 - Density ratio are the same
 - Speed of sounds are Froude-scaled in gas and liquid (Mach similarity)
 - There are always gas and liquid compressibility biases
 - A scaling study is equivalent to a sensitivity study on gas and liquid properties at scale 1
 - The pressure peaks due to crest impacts are always overestimated at model scale
 - Gas pocket pressures is better described by a similarity given by a simple piston model (Genralized Bagnold Model)



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Experimental model for sloshing model tests could be improved

- For the time being DR is kept the same as both scales but there is a large compressibility bias
- A better balance between DR bias and compressibility bias is possible with heavier ullage gases

Future and on-going work

- Influence of hydro-elasticity
- Influence of phase change
- Free surface instabilities \rightarrow variability



Thank you for your attention



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lbrosset@gtt.fr ; pierre-michel.guilcher@hydrocean.fr

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