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Hanif Montazeri, Seyed Hadi Zandavi, Aimy Bazylak

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Sharp interface models for two-phase flows: insights towards new approaches

Hanif Montazeri^{1,2,*}, Seyed Hadi Zandavi², and Aimy Bazylak¹

*Corresponding author: hanif@nuphysics.ca

¹Department of Mechanical & Industrial Engineering University of Toronto, 5 King's College Road, Toronto, ON M5S 3G8, Canada

> ²NuPhysics Consulting Ltd., Canada 112 College Street, Toronto, ON M5G 1L6, Canada

Abstract

A detailed evaluation of two class of sharp methods for implementing interfacial forces is presented. These methods are implemented in a state-of-the-art numerical algorithm for two-phase flows. Each method has respective advantages and disadvantages; however, none of the existing sharp methods can be readily employed due to issues such as numerical instability or non-physicality. These issues and the reasons for their occurrence are comprehensively discussed through several test cases. Using the insights gained from this detailed evaluation, an alternative method for sharp implementation of interfacial forces is proposed. The proposed method is tested and validated for flows such as Rayleigh-Taylor instability and a falling droplet under gravity.

Keywords: Computational fluid dynamics, Sharp interfacial forces, Two-phase flow, Delta function, Stair-Step method, Areal method, Spurious velocities

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