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# High order well-balanced discontinuous Galerkin methods based on hydrostatic reconstruction for shallow water equations

Gang Li<sup>a,\*</sup>, Lina Song<sup>a</sup>, Jinmei Gao<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>*School of Mathematics and Statistics, Qingdao University, Qingdao, Shandong 266071, P.R. China.*

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## Abstract

In this paper, we introduce high order well-balanced discontinuous Galerkin methods for shallow water equations over non-flat bottom topography, which preserve the *lake at rest* steady state. To achieve the well-balanced property, we propose to construct the numerical fluxes based on the hydrostatic reconstruction idea and to be in combination with a novel source term approximation as well as a decomposition algorithm. Rigorous theoretical analysis and extensive numerical results all verify that the current methods maintain the well-balanced property. In addition, numerical results also indicate that the resulting methods enjoy the ability to accurately capture small perturbations of the *lake at rest* steady state and keep the genuine high order accuracy for smooth solutions.

*Keywords:* Shallow water equations; discontinuous Galerkin methods; hydrostatic reconstruction; source term; well-balanced property; high order accuracy

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## 1. Introduction

In this paper, we are interested in constructing high order discontinuous Galerkin (DG) methods for shallow water equations. Numerically solving the shallow water equations has a wide range of applications in hydraulic and coastal engineering [1, 2]. Under the assumption of hydrostatic pressure distribution and the vertical acceleration of water particles neglected, the shallow water equations over a non-flat bottom topography can be derived by depth-integrating the Navier–Stokes equations [3] and have the following form:

$$\begin{aligned} h_t + \nabla \cdot (h\mathbf{u}) &= 0, \\ (h\mathbf{u})_t + \nabla \cdot (h\mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{u} + \tfrac{1}{2}gh^2\mathbf{I}) &= -gh\nabla b, \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

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\*Corresponding author. Tel.: +86-532-85953660. Fax: +86-532-85953660.

Email addresses: gangli1978@163.com (Gang Li), linasong365@163.com (Lina Song), gjinmei1979@163.com (Jinmei Gao)

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