

Título The time derivative in the mass transport equation in a Drift-flux model

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P17T03 - Simulación de Flujos Multifásicos en la Industria del Petróleo

Responsable del Proyecto

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Línea

Fluidodinámica Computacional (FC)

Área Temática

Modelado y Simulación Computacional (MYS)

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INTEC

Instituto de Tecnología

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The time derivative in the mass transport equation in a drift-flux model

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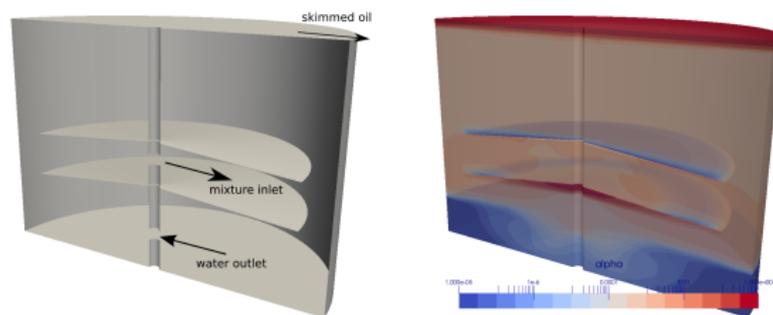
ENIEF 2017, 5-10 de noviembre, UNLP, La Plata, Argentina



- Introduction.
- Mathematical model.
- Numerical model.
- Issues and Remedies.
 - Issue I: keep fractions bounded
 - Issue II: balance your “mass” account
 - Issue III: use a “compressible” PISO loop
- Conclusions.

Introduction

- Interested in gravity separation of two immiscible fluids.



- Use finite volume (OpenFOAM) code, adapted to our needs.
- Had and have some mass conservation issues.
- Found solutions to some but no all of them.

Mathematical model

- Drift Flux Model, Ishii & Hibiki (Two Fluid Model, Ishii 1987).
- The mixture is a single pseudo-fluid.
- Two phases: 1-continuous and 2-disperse.
- The phase fractions are bounded fields!
- Diferential Equations:
 - 1 mixture continuity
 - 2 mixture momentum
 - 3 disperse phase transport
- Closure relation:
 - 4 drift velocity model

Mathematical model

- Main fields:

- α_2 : disperse phase volumetric fraction
- \mathbf{v}_m : center of mass (mixture) velocity
- p_m : mixture pressure

Mathematical model

- Main fields:
 - α_2 : disperse phase volumetric fraction
 - \mathbf{v}_m : center of mass (mixture) velocity
 - ρ_m : mixture pressure
- Other important fields:
 - \mathbf{v}_k : velocity of phase $k = 1, 2$
 - $\alpha_1 = 1 - \alpha_2$: continuous phase volumetric fraction
 - $\rho_m = \alpha_1\rho_1 + \alpha_2\rho_2$: mixture density
 - $\mathbf{j} = \alpha_1\mathbf{v}_1 + \alpha_2\mathbf{v}_2$: center of volume velocity
 - $\mathbf{v}_{2j} = \mathbf{v}_2 - \mathbf{j}$: “drift” velocity

Mathematical model

Differential Equations:

- 1 mixture continuity

$$\frac{\partial \rho_m}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho_m \mathbf{v}_m) = 0$$

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- 3 disperse phase transport

$$\frac{\partial \alpha_2 \rho_2}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\alpha_2 \rho_2 \mathbf{v}_m) = - \nabla \cdot \left(\frac{\alpha_2 \rho_1 \rho_2}{\rho_m} \mathbf{v}_{2j} \right)$$

Mathematical model

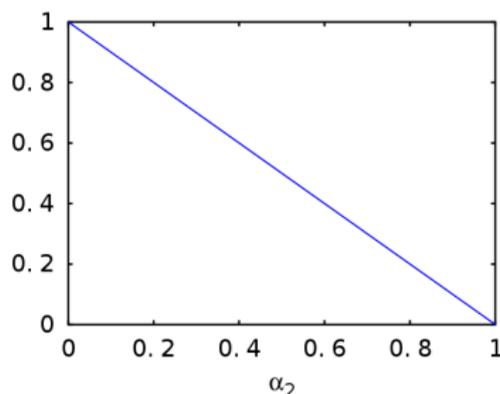
Closure relation:

- ④ drift velocity model (monodisperse)

$$\mathbf{v}_{2j} = \mathbf{V}_0(1 - \alpha_2)$$

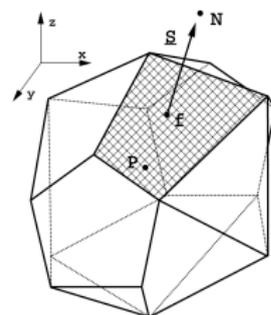
where

- $\mathbf{V}_0 = \frac{2}{9} \frac{g(\rho_1 - \rho_2)r_d^2}{\mu_1}$: terminal velocity of a droplet
- $(1 - \alpha_2)$: factor to model the hindering effect



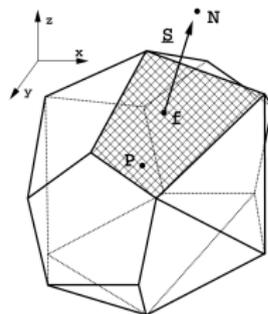
Numerical model

- Method: Finite Volumes, colocated polyhedral cells, OpenFOAM (www.openfoam.org)



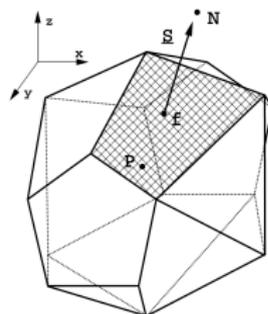
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- Application: separationFoam (Larreteguy, Barceló, Caron), based on settlingFoam (Brennan, 2001)



Numerical model

- Method: Finite Volumes, colocated polyhedral cells, OpenFOAM (www.openfoam.org)
- Application: separationFoam (Larreteguy, Barceló, Caron), based on settlingFoam (Brennan, 2001)
- Features of separationFoam 3.2 (2017)
 - model for the mixture viscosity
 - thermal effects (i.e.: FWKO with fire tubes)
 - control system (i.e.: to control fire tubes power)
 - pressure gradient driven drift (i.e.: rotating flow separators)



Numerical model: Mixture continuity

- Finite volume approximation: \forall cell V^i with boundary ∂V^i

$$\int_{V^i} \frac{\partial \rho_m}{\partial t} dV + \int_{\partial V^i} (\mathbf{v}_m \rho_m) \cdot d\mathbf{S} = 0$$

$d\mathbf{S}$: infinitesimal surface element.

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$d\mathbf{S}$: infinitesimal surface element.

- For cells bounded by flat faces

$$\frac{\partial \rho_m^i}{\partial t} V^i + \sum_f \Phi_m^f = 0$$

$\Phi_m^f = \rho_m^f \mathbf{v}_m^f \cdot \mathbf{S}^f$: *convective mass flux*.

$(\cdot)^f$: magnitude interpolated at the face.

\mathbf{S}^f : face area vector.

Numerical model: Disperse phase transport

- Finite volume approximation:

$$\int_{V^i} \frac{\partial \alpha_2}{\partial t} dV + \int_{\partial V^i} (\mathbf{v}_m \alpha_2) \cdot d\mathbf{S} + \int_{\partial V^i} \left(\frac{\rho_1}{\rho_m} \mathbf{v}_{2j} \alpha_2 \right) \cdot d\mathbf{S} = 0$$

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$$\frac{\partial \alpha_2^i}{\partial t} V^i + \sum_f \alpha_2^f \mathbf{v}_m^f \cdot \mathbf{S}^f + \sum_f \frac{\rho_1}{\rho_m^f} \alpha_2^f \mathbf{v}_{2j}^f \cdot \mathbf{S}^f = 0$$

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- For consistency, we want to use the mass flux Φ_m^f in this equation.

Numerical model: Disperse phase transport

- To do so, we define the *disperse mass fraction* $\tilde{\alpha}_2 = \frac{\rho_2}{\rho_m} \alpha_2$.

Numerical model: Disperse phase transport

- To do so, we define the *disperse mass fraction* $\tilde{\alpha}_2 = \frac{\rho_2}{\rho_m} \alpha_2$.
- We write the disperse phase mass transport equation as

$$\frac{\partial \rho_m^i \tilde{\alpha}_2^i}{\partial t} V^i + \sum_f \Phi_{\tilde{\alpha}}^f \tilde{\alpha}_2^f = 0$$

$$\Phi_{\tilde{\alpha}}^f = \Phi_m^f + \Phi_d^f : \text{total mass flux}$$

$$\Phi_d^f = \rho_1 \mathbf{v}_{2j}^f \cdot \mathbf{S}^f : \text{drift mass flux.}$$

Numerical model: Solution procedure



- Standard solution procedure for \mathbf{v}_m and p (PISO loop).
- $\tilde{\alpha}_2$ obtained from the disperse phase transport equation, *which is not as simple as it might seem.*

Issue I: keep fractions bounded



Problems with the original settlingFoam applied to water-oil separators:

- Symptom: most of the oil mass is lost!

¹*A bounded downwind-upwind semi-discrete scheme for finite volume methods for phase separation problems*, Axel E. Larreteguy, Luis F. Barceló, Pablo A. Caron, 1/Oct/2017, App. Math. Mod., Vol 50, pp 118-134; doi:10.1016/j.apm.2017.05.003

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Not all of our problems were gone, however.

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Issue II: balance your “mass” account



Because..

- Symptom: we still have **slight** losses of disperse phase.
- Cause?
- Remedy?

We are using conservative fluxes and a bounded scheme, so... how can it be?

Issue II: balance your “mass” account

The problem is tracked down to the following:

- Let us recall the disperse phase mass transport equation:

$$\frac{\partial \rho_m^i \tilde{\alpha}_2^i}{\partial t} V^i + \sum_f \Phi_{\tilde{\alpha}}^f \tilde{\alpha}_2^f = 0$$

- The hidden problem: the time derivative is applied to the product of two variables that are not independent, for $\rho_m = \rho_1 \rho_2 / (\rho_2 - (\rho_2 - \rho_1) \tilde{\alpha}_2)$.
- In other words: the time derivative is applied to a non-linear function of $\tilde{\alpha}_2$
- We need to linearize it.

Issue II: balance your "mass" account

Original settlingFoam algorithm for solving for $\tilde{\alpha}$ and ρ_m :

- The linearization is done by splitting the derivative of the product

$$\rho_m^i \frac{\partial \tilde{\alpha}_2^i}{\partial t} V^i + \cancel{\tilde{\alpha}_2^i \frac{\partial \rho_m^i}{\partial t} V^i} + \sum_f \Phi_{\tilde{\alpha}}^f \tilde{\alpha}_2^f = 0$$

and neglecting the second term (i.e.: consider $\rho_m^i = \rho_m^{io} = \text{const}$).

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- The solution algorithm is the following:
 - solve equation to get the updated mass fraction $\tilde{\alpha}_2$;
 - evaluate the updated density as $\rho_m = \rho_1 + (\rho_1/\rho_2 - 1)\tilde{\alpha}_2$; and
 - evaluate the updated disperse volume fraction $\alpha_2 = \rho_m \tilde{\alpha}_2 / \rho_2$.

Issue II: balance your “mass” account



We propose the following

Predictor-Corrector algorithm:

- 1 obtain a *predicted* $\tilde{\alpha}_2^{i*}$ by aplying step i) of the original algorithm,

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- 2 compute the updated mass as $m_2^i = \rho_m^{io} \tilde{\alpha}_2^{i*} V^i$,

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- 4 update the mixture density as $\rho_m^i = (1 - \alpha_2^i)\rho_1 + \alpha_2^i\rho_2$, and finally

Issue II: balance your “mass” account



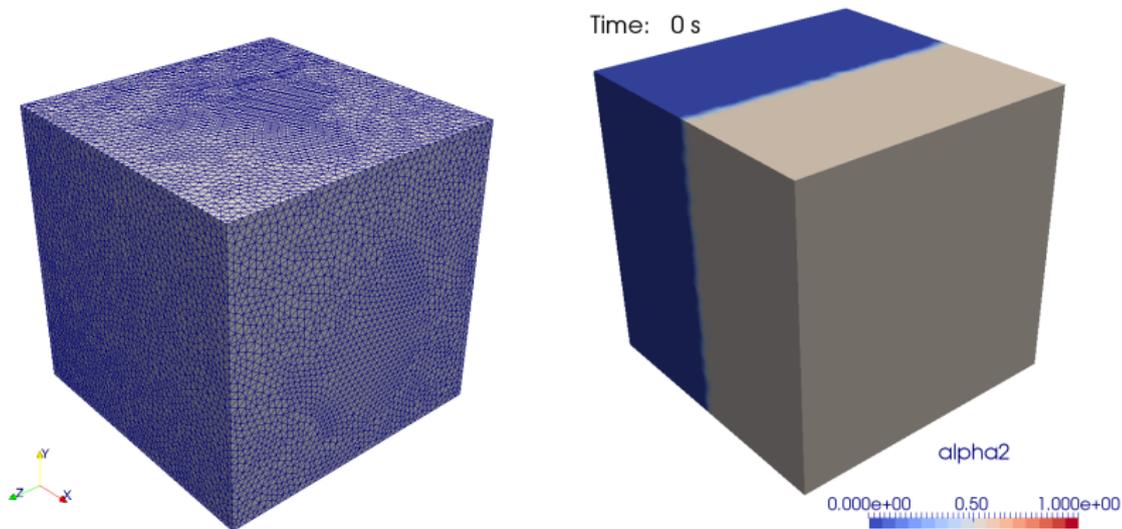
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- 4 update the mixture density as $\rho_m^i = (1 - \alpha_2^i)\rho_1 + \alpha_2^i\rho_2$, and finally
- 5 update the mass fraction as $\tilde{\alpha}_2 = \rho_2\alpha_2/\rho_m$.

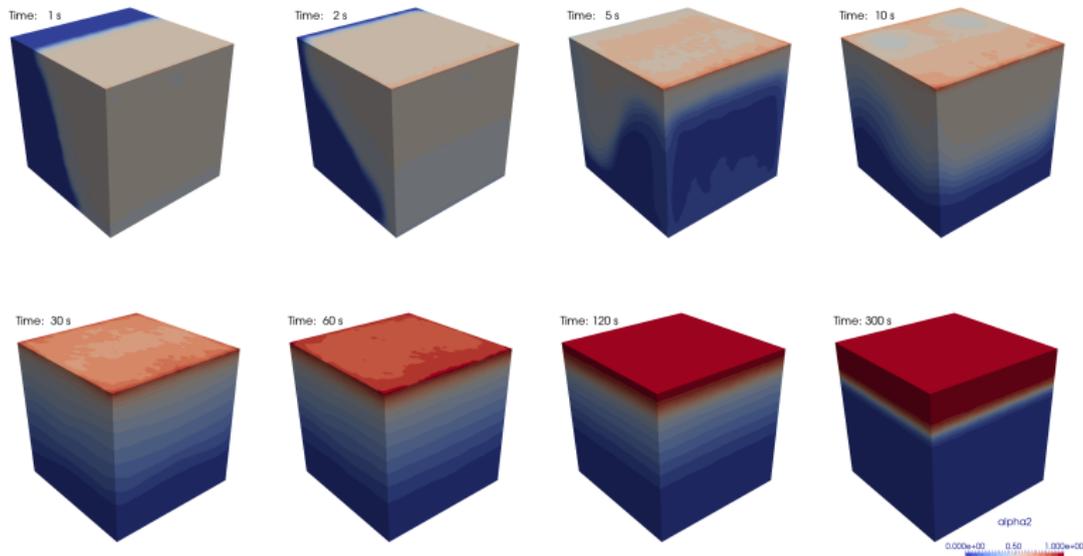
Issue II: balance your "mass" account

Predictor-corrector algorithm: test - density driven stirring and separation of a water-oil mixture in a cube (in a *horrible* mesh)



Issue II: balance your "mass" account

Hard test in a *horrible* mesh: results



Unit cube - snapshots of volume fraction at selected times

Issue II: balance your “mass” account



- The proposed predictor-corrector algorithm has been found to conserve mass up to machine precision *as long as there is no need for truncation of the disperse phase fraction field.*

Issue II: balance your “mass” account



- The proposed predictor-corrector algorithm has been found to conserve mass up to machine precision *as long as there is no need for truncation of the disperse phase fraction field.*
- But, what about accuracy?

Issue II: balance your “mass” account



The bottle experiment:

Issue II: balance your “mass” account

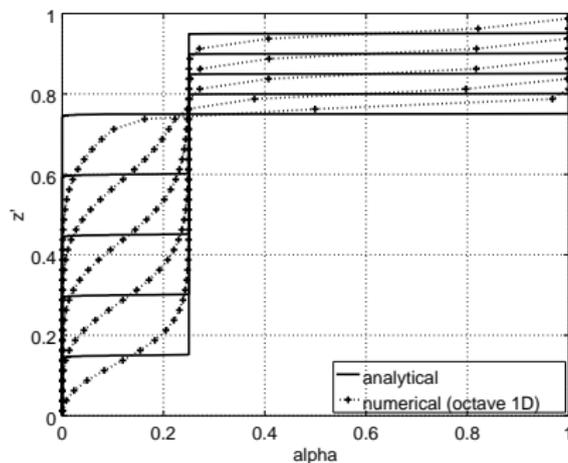


The *bottle experiment*: an academic 1D verification example

- Uniform mixture in a tank, left to separate (height $H = 10m$).
- $\mathbf{j} = 0 \Rightarrow$ mixture mass and momentum equations not required.
- Analytical solution available.
- 1D numerical solution also available (`sim1D`: 1D Octave version of `separationFoam`).
- Case: oil in water ($\rho_1 = 1000kg/m^3, \rho_2 = 900kg/m^3$)
- Discretization details for both `separationFoam` and `sim1D`
 - uniform spatial discretization (40 cells)
 - fixed time step ($\Delta t = \Delta z/V_0 \Rightarrow C_{drift} = 1$).

Issue II: balance your "mass" account

The bottle experiment: analytical and sim1D solutions.

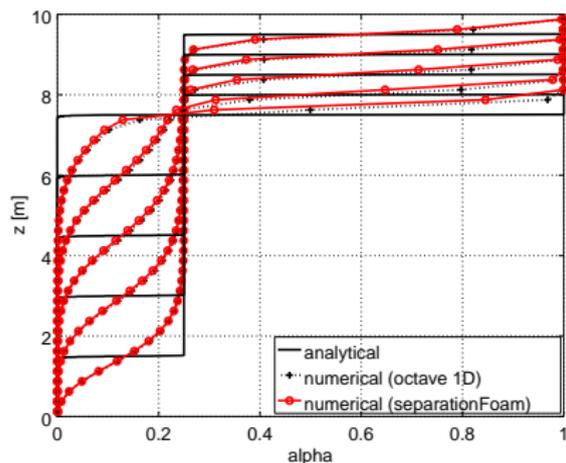


α_2 profiles for $t' = 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, 1.0$

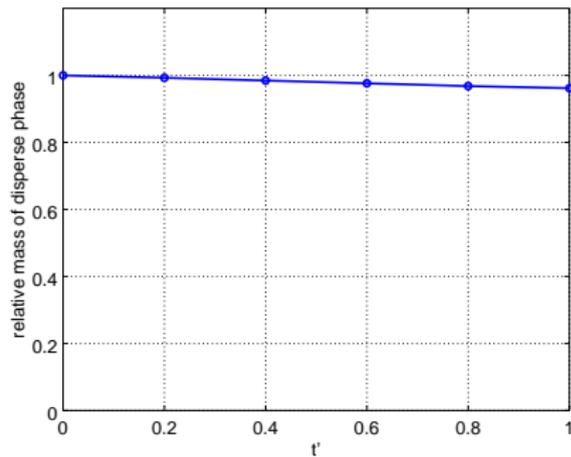
Dimensionless solution (valid for all mixtures, drop size and tank height).

Issue II: balance your "mass" account

The bottle experiment (oil in water): **original** algorithm



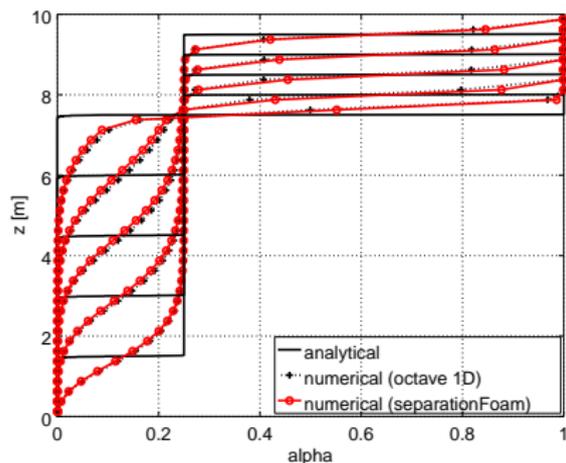
Disperse fraction profiles & mass fraction



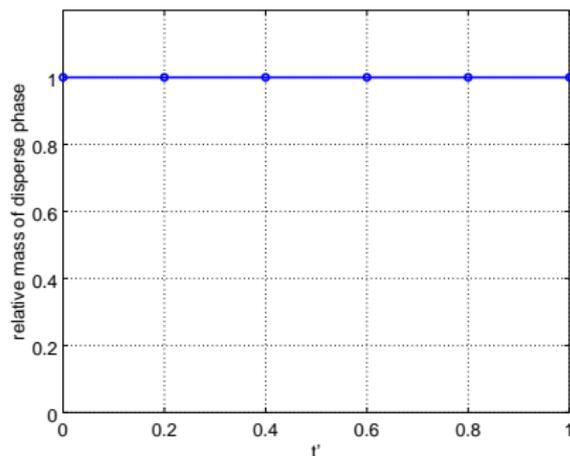
Mass NOT conserved (despite that fraction truncation is not required).

Issue II: balance your "mass" account

The bottle experiment (oil in water): **predictor-corrector** algorithm



Disperse fraction profiles & mass fraction



Mass IS conserved (as long as fractions are not truncated).

Issue II: balance your “mass” account

We seem to have solved Issue II: “we still have slight losses of disperse phase”

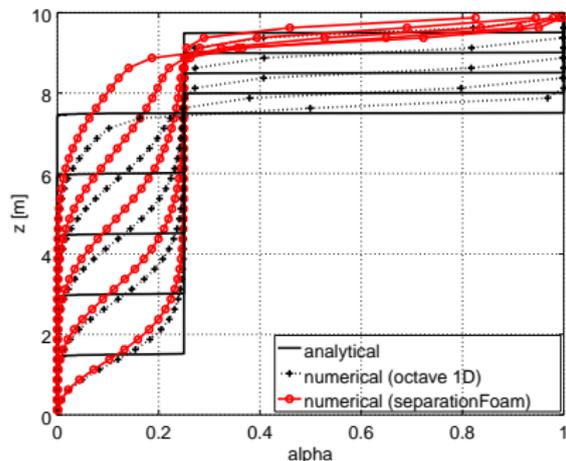
- Cause: bad accounting of mass inventory.
- Remedy: predictor-corrector algorithm.

But, is it really so?

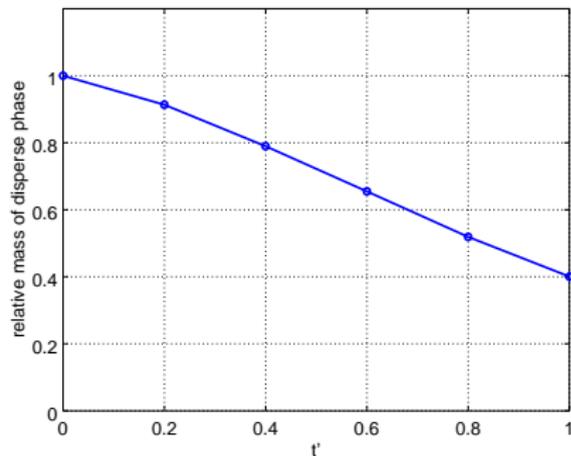
Let us consider “air” in water ($\rho_1 = 1000\text{kg}/\text{m}^3$, $\rho_2 = 1\text{kg}/\text{m}^3$).

Issue II: balance your "mass" account

The bottle experiment (air in water): **original** algorithm



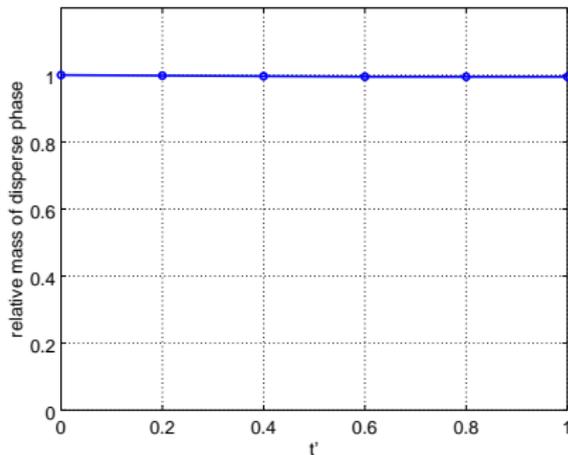
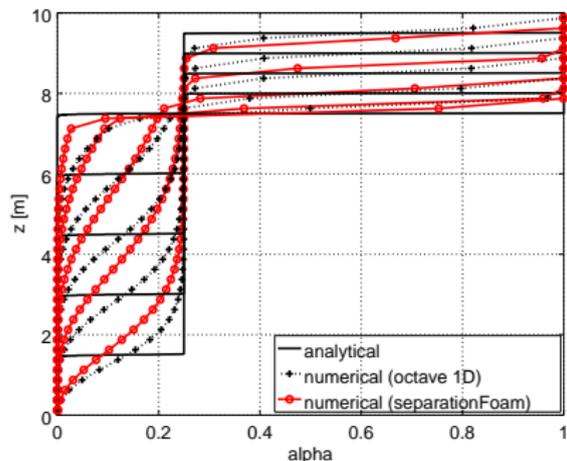
Disperse fraction profiles & mass fraction



- **Huge mass loss** (due to both bad mass accounting AND truncation).
- separationFoam and sim1D **solutions differ** (they shouldn't!)

Issue II: balance your "mass" account

The bottle experiment (air in water): **predictor-corrector** algorithm



Disperse fraction profiles & mass fraction

- **Mass IS conserved, but...**
- **separationFoam and sim1D solutions still differ!**

Issue III: use a “compressible” PISO loop



So, we are still in trouble \Rightarrow **Issue III**.

Hint: It has to be related to the equations **not solved in** `sim1D` (i.e. those of the PISO loop).

- Symptom: `separationFoam` and `sim1D` solutions differ.

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- Symptom: `separationFoam` and `sim1D` solutions differ.
- Cause: PISO loop is not dealing well with the “compressible” mixture

$$\sum_f \left(\frac{1}{a_i} \right)_f (\nabla p)_f \cdot \mathbf{s}^f = \underbrace{\frac{\partial \rho_m^i}{\partial t} V^i}_{\text{how to deal with this?}} + \sum_f \Phi_U^f$$

leading to a solution that has $\mathbf{j} \neq 0$.

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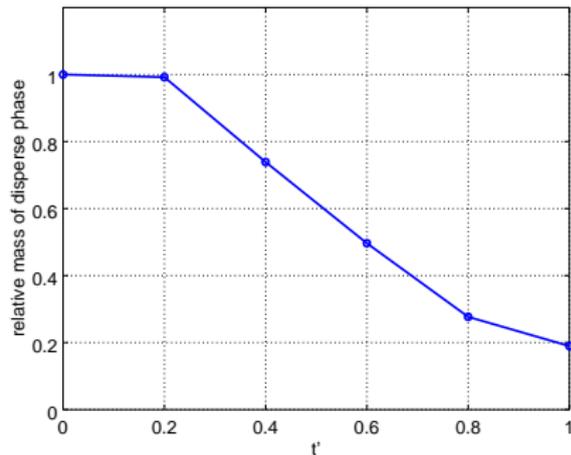
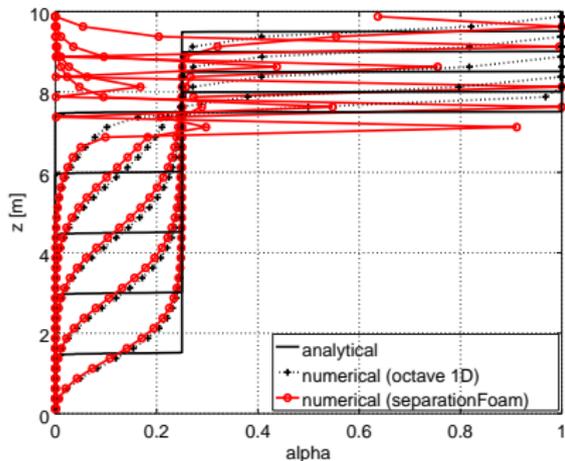
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leading to a solution that has $\mathbf{j} \neq 0$.

- Remedy: a possible approach is to use $\partial \rho_m^i / \partial t$ from the previous step.

Issue III: use a “compressible” PISO loop

The bottle experiment (air in water): **predictor-corrector** algorithm



Disperse fraction profiles & mass fraction

- The **water front** from separationFoam and sim1D are **much closer**,
- but the **air front** is a **total disaster!**

Issue III: use a “compressible” PISO loop



To conclude this issue:

- The “compressible” PISO explains the differences between the two numerical solutions, and is the right way to go, although some problems remain.

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- We tracked down the problem to either inadequate use of the available boundary conditions (meaning US) or inadequate handling of these boundary conditions in the coding (meaning THEM).

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- The “compressible” PISO explains the differences between the two numerical solutions, and is the right way to go, although some problems remain.
- We have identified that the problems are related to the way OpenFOAM imposes a reference pressure at some point, which is required for closed domains to overcome the “up to an additive constant” indefiniteness of the pressure field.
- We tracked down the problem to either inadequate use of the available boundary conditions (meaning US) or inadequate handling of these boundary conditions in the coding (meaning THEM).
- We owe you the final answer... Still working on it.

Conclusions

- We have found some issues and developed and implemented remedies for a drift flux model as applied to separation problems.
- The resulting code is able to give solutions even with extreme density ratios (i.e. 1/1000) and high Courant numbers.
- There are unsolved issues related to the use and/or coding of boundary conditions and their interaction with the “compressible” PISO loop.

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