

Numerical schemes for viscoplastic avalanches

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Outline

- 1 The model
- 2 The schemes
- 3 Numerical results

Introduction : Wet snow avalanche, Oisans, 2013



Courtesy P. Etard.

Introduction - Thin layers of viscoplastic fluids

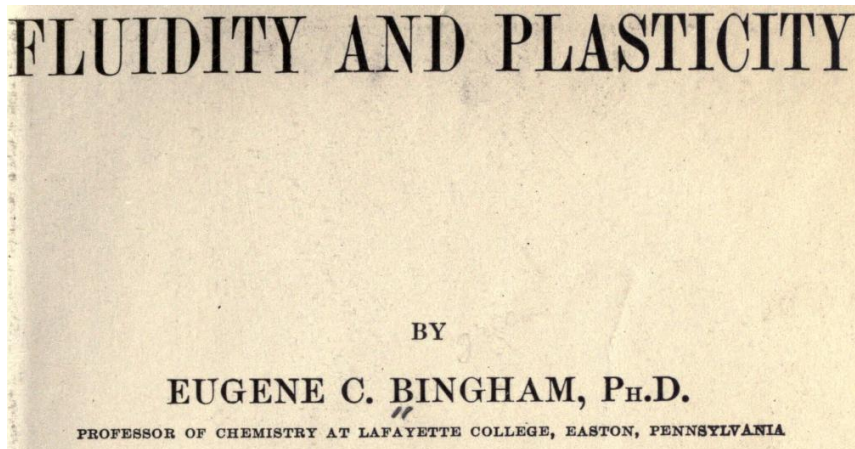
Present objectives

- 1 **Simulate viscoplastic flows** : with Bingham constitutive law
- 2 **Thin layers on inclined planes** : lubrication or shallow-water models to reduce computational cost
- 3 **Schemes able to catch stationary states**

**a blend of variational inequalities, finite-volumes schemes
and well-balanced philosophy**

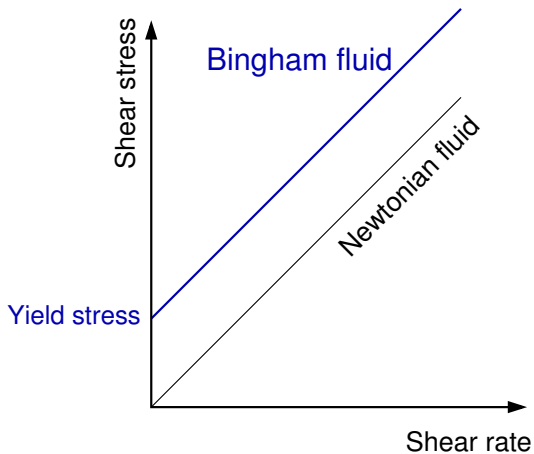
Plasticity - The origin

1916 ; 1922 →



Plasticity

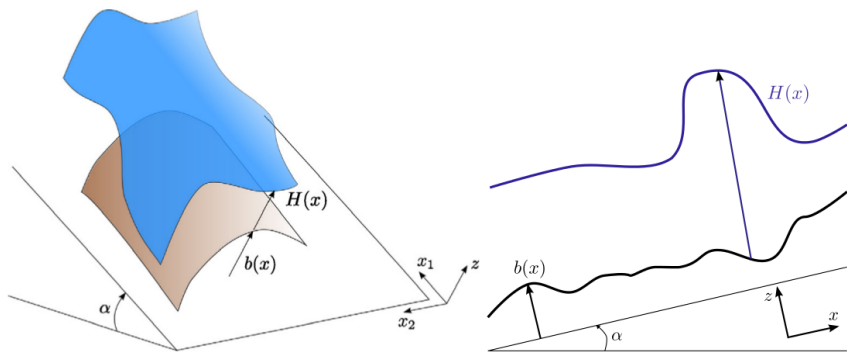
Modern formalism →



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- 2 The schemes
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Asymptotic model - Domain description



Asymptotic model - Domain description

We consider a **general bottom** for the solid boundary.

For this, let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ be a fixed bounded domain and

$$\mathcal{D}(t) = \{(x, z) \in \Omega \times \mathbb{R} / b(x) < z < b(x) + h(t, x)\},$$

where $h(t, x)$ **is the thickness of the fluid** and $x = (x_1, x_2)$.

$$\Gamma_s(t) := \{(x, z) ; x \in \Omega, z = h(t, x)\}, \quad \Gamma_b(t) := \partial\mathcal{D}(t) \setminus \Gamma_s(t)$$

the **free** and **bottom** surfaces. $\mathbf{v} := (v_1, v_2)$, the **horizontal** component of the velocity field and w , the **vertical** one, i.e. $\mathbf{u} = (\mathbf{v}, w)$.

Asymptotic model - Derivation at a glance

$$\begin{aligned} & \forall \Psi, \int_{\Omega} H \overline{\rho_0} \left(\text{St} \partial_t \mathbf{V}_0 \cdot (\Psi - \mathbf{V}_0) + \mathbf{V}_0 \cdot \nabla_x \mathbf{V}_0 (\Psi - \mathbf{V}_0) \right) dX \\ & + \int_{\Omega} \beta \mathbf{V}_0 \cdot (\Psi - \mathbf{V}_0) dX \\ & + \int_{\Omega} \frac{2}{\text{Re}} H \eta D(\mathbf{V}_0) : D(\Psi - \mathbf{V}_0) dX \\ & + \int_{\Omega} \frac{2}{\text{Re}} H \eta \text{div}_x \mathbf{V}_0 (\text{div}_x \Psi - \text{div}_x \mathbf{V}_0) dX \\ & + \int_{\Omega} \tau_y B H \left(\sqrt{|D(\Psi)|^2 + (\text{div}_x \Psi)^2} - \sqrt{|D(\mathbf{V}_0)|^2 + (\text{div}_x \mathbf{V}_0)^2} \right) dX \\ & \geq \frac{1}{\text{Fr}^2} \int_{\Omega} H \overline{\rho_0 \mathbf{F}_{\Omega}} \cdot (\Psi - \mathbf{V}_0) dX - \frac{1}{\text{Fr}^2} \int_{\Omega} (H)^2 \overline{Z \rho_0 f_z} (\text{div}_x \Psi - \text{div}_x \mathbf{V}_0) dX \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

Rk1 : $\tau_y = 0$: classical 2D viscous SW, cf. Gerbeau-Perthame

Rk2 : for more details on model derivation \rightarrow [Bresch et al.](#)

[Advances in Math. Fluid Mech. pp 57-89. 2010](#)

Asymptotic model - 1D version

$(x, t) \in [0, L] \times [0, T]$. $H = H(x, t)$, etc. + $\bar{\rho}_0 = cte$

External forces : $f_x = -g \sin \alpha$, $f_z = -g \cos \alpha$.

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(HV)}{\partial x} = 0, \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^L H \left(\partial_t V (\Psi - V) + \frac{1}{2} \partial_x (V^2) (\Psi - V) \right) dx \\ & + \int_0^L \beta V (\Psi - V) dx + \int_0^L 4\eta H \partial_x (V) \partial_x (\Psi - V) dx \\ & + \int_0^L \tau_y \sqrt{2} H \left(|\partial_x (\Psi)| - |\partial_x (V)| \right) dx \\ & \geq \int_0^L H (f_\Omega + f_z \partial_x b) (\Psi - V) dx + \int_0^L \frac{H^2}{2} f_z (\partial_x \Psi - \partial_x V) dx, \quad \forall \Psi \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

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Semi-discretization in time

$$\frac{H^{n+1} - H^n}{\Delta t} + \frac{\partial(H^n V^n)}{\partial x} = 0, \quad (4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^L H^n \left(\frac{V^{n+1} - V^n}{\Delta t} (\psi - V^{n+1}) + \frac{1}{2} \partial_x ((V^n)^2) (\psi - V^{n+1}) \right) dx \\ & + \int_0^L \beta V^{n+1} (\psi - V^{n+1}) dx + \int_0^L \tau_y \sqrt{2} H^n (|\partial_x \psi| - |\partial_x V^{n+1}|) dx \\ & + \int_0^L 4\eta H^n \partial_x (V^{n+1}) \partial_x (\psi - V^{n+1}) dx \geq \\ & \int_0^L H^n \left(f_\Omega + f_z \partial_x b \right) (\psi - V^{n+1}) dx - \int_0^L \frac{(H^n)^2}{2} f_z (\partial_x \psi - \partial_x V^{n+1}) dx \end{aligned}$$

Observe : problems on H^{n+1} and V^{n+1} are decoupled

Velocity problem - Augmented Lagrangian

Following Glowinski et al. ('83, '07) \Rightarrow minimization problem

Augmented Lagrangian func. s.t. its saddle point is the solution

Uzawa like algorithm to find this saddle point :

- Solve $\partial_V \mathcal{L}_r(V, q, \mu) = 0$ for V (linear problem)
- $\mathcal{L}_r(V, q, \mu)$ non differentiable in q
but q can be solved explicitly
- Update the Lagrange multiplier μ and loop

Convergence to the unique solution $\Rightarrow V^{n+1}$

Velocity problem - Augmented Lagrangian

Compute q_i^{k+1} locally (at $\{x_i\}_i$) :

$$q^{k+1} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |\mu^k + r\partial_x(V^k)| < \tau_y, \\ \frac{1}{r} \left((\mu^k + r\partial_x(V^k)) - \tau_y \sqrt{2} \operatorname{sgn}(\mu^k + r\partial_x(V^k)) \right) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

Solve for V^{k+1} the linear system :

$$\begin{aligned} H^n \left(\frac{V^{k+1} - V^n}{\Delta t} \right) + \beta V^{k+1} - \partial_x (4\eta H^n \partial_x(V^{k+1})) - \partial_x (rH^n \partial_x(V^{k+1})) \\ = (f_\Omega + f_z \partial_x b) H^n + \partial_x \left(f_z \frac{(H^n)^2}{2} \right) - \frac{H^n}{2} \partial_x ((V^n)^2) + \partial_x (H^n (\mu^k - r q^{k+1})) \end{aligned}$$

Update Lagrange multiplier :

$$\mu^{k+1} = \mu^k + r \left(\partial_x V^{k+1} - q^{k+1} \right) \quad (8)$$

Known facts I

For L.A. methods, the parameter r in

$$\mu^{k+1} = \mu^k + r \left(\partial_x V^{k+1} - q^{k+1} \right)$$

is known to influence the speed of convergence of the algorithm

i.e. the number of iterations to reach V^{n+1}

Known facts II

There exists an optimal r in practice :

$r \rightarrow +\infty$ is prevented by the fact that

it also deteriorates condition number of the linear pb

For L.A. methods, except in very simple cases,

no way to derive the optimal r .

An alternative

Bermudez - Moreno method : Comput. Math. Appl., 7(1) :43-58, 1981.

“Duality methods for solving variational inequalities.”

General structure close to L.A. :

$$\begin{cases} A(V^k) + \omega B^*(B(V^k)) + B^*(\theta^k) = L, \\ \theta^{k+1} = G_\lambda^\omega(B(V^k) + \lambda\theta^k). \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

where G_λ^ω is the Yosida regularization of the operator accounting for the non differentiable term " $|\partial_x(V^k)|$ ".

In short, for a given problem, one can use a general way to derive the optimal ω , via eigenvalue problems.

Ex : "exact" in 1D ; "numerical" in 2D for Bingham

Velocity problem - Bermudez-Moreno

- Find $V^{k+1} \in \mathcal{V}$ solution of the following linear problem :

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{H^n}{\Delta t} + \beta \right) V^{k+1} - \partial_x((4\eta H^n + \omega) \partial_x V^{k+1}) - \partial_x(\omega \partial_x V^{k+1}) \\ &= \frac{H^n}{\Delta t} V^n - \frac{H^n}{2} \partial_x((V^n)^2) + \frac{1}{2} \partial_x((H^n)^2 f_z) + H^n(f_\Omega + f_z \partial_x b) + \partial_x \theta^k. \end{aligned}$$

- Update the so-called BM multiplier θ^{k+1} via $\xi^{k+1} = \partial_x V^{k+1} + \lambda \theta^k$ and

$$\theta^{k+1} = \begin{cases} \frac{-\omega \xi^{k+1} + \tau_y \sqrt{2} H^n(x)}{1 - \lambda \omega} & \text{if } \xi^{k+1} > \lambda \tau_y \sqrt{2} H^n(x), \\ \frac{\xi^{k+1}}{\lambda} & \text{if } \xi^{k+1} \in [-\lambda \tau_y \sqrt{2} H^n(x), \lambda \tau_y \sqrt{2} H^n(x)], \\ \frac{-\omega \xi^{k+1} - \tau_y \sqrt{2} H^n(x)}{1 - \lambda \omega} & \text{if } \xi^{k+1} < -\lambda \tau_y \sqrt{2} H^n(x). \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

Note that this computation is again local in space.

$$\omega_{\text{opt}}(H_{\text{max}}^n) = \left(\frac{H_{\text{max}}^n}{\Delta t} + \beta \right) \frac{L^2}{N\pi^2} + 4\eta H_{\text{max}}^n. \quad (11)$$

Height problem and Spatial discretization

Looking at the global problem ... $(P)^{n,k}$:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{H^{k+1} - H^n}{\Delta t} + \partial_x(H^n V^n) = 0, \\ H^n \left(\frac{V^{k+1} - V^n}{\Delta t} \right) + \beta V^{k+1} - \partial_x(4\eta H^n \partial_x(V^{k+1})) - \partial_x(rH^n \partial_x(V^{k+1})) \\ = (f_\Omega + f_z \partial_x b) H^n + \partial_x \left(\frac{(H^n)^2 f_z}{2} \right) - \frac{H^n}{2} \partial_x((V^n)^2) + \partial_x(H^n(\mu^k - r q^{k+1})). \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

... & invoking the “SWE structure”

with various source terms, including the duality terms

⇒ we choose **finite-volume** for spatial discretization of $(P)^{n,k}$

"Unified" viscoplast. Well-Balanced finite volume

- System form :

$$D(W^n) \left(\frac{W^{k+1} - W^n}{\Delta t} + \partial_x F(W^n) \right) - \partial_x ((4\eta H^n + \delta^n) \underline{\mathcal{I}} \partial_x W^{k+1}) \\ = -\beta \underline{\mathcal{I}} W^{k+1} + S(W^n) \partial_x \bar{\sigma}^k,$$

- Flux approximation :

$$\phi(W_i^n, W_{i+1}^n, \{\zeta_{j+1/2}^k\}_{j=i-1}^{j=i+1}) = \frac{F(W_i^n) + F(W_{i+1}^n)}{2} \\ - \frac{1}{2} Q_{i+1/2}^n (W_{i+1}^n - W_i^n + \mathcal{G}(\{\zeta_{j+1/2}^k\}_{j=i-1}^{j=i+1}))$$

- Numerical viscosity matrix, $Q_{i+1/2}^n$, various possibilities :
 (modified) Lax-Friedrichs, Rusanov [\[diagonal\]](#),
 Roe, HLL, Lax-Wendroff, Force, Gforce [\[not diagonal\]](#).

← [source terms](#) treatment of *Chacón et al.* SIAM JSC 2007

Distributing the system “on speed and height”

Linear (sub)problem on V

$$\mathbf{A}^n \mathbf{V}^{k+1} = \mathbf{b}^{n,k}, \quad (13)$$

$$\mathbf{b}_i^{n,k} = \mathbf{b}_i^{n,(1)} + \mathbf{b}_i^{n,k,(2)} + \mathbf{b}_i^{n,k,(3)},$$

where

$$\mathbf{b}_i^{n,(1)} = H_i^n \left(f_\Omega + f_z \frac{b_{i+1} - b_{i-1}}{2 \Delta x} \right),$$

$$\mathbf{b}_i^{n,k,(2)} = \frac{\zeta_{i+1/2}^k - \zeta_{i-1/2}^k}{\Delta x},$$

$$\mathbf{b}_i^{n,k,(3)} = H_i^n \frac{[\phi(W_{i-1}^n, W_i^n, \{\zeta_{j+1/2}^k\}_{j=i-1}^{j=i+1})]_2 - [\phi(W_i^n, W_{i+1}^n, \{\zeta_{j+1/2}^k\}_{j=i-1}^{j=i+1})]_2}{\Delta x}$$

Rk : If $Q_{i+1/2}^n$ diagonal, $\mathbf{b}_i^{n,k,(3)} \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{b}_i^{n,(3)}$. Reduce comput. cost

Distributing the system “on speed and height”

Sub-Problem on H

$$\begin{aligned}
 D(W_i^n) & \left(\frac{W_i^{k+1} - W_i^n}{\Delta t} + \frac{\phi(W_i^n, W_{i+1}^n, \{\zeta_{j+1/2}^k\}_{j=i-1}^{j=i+1}) - \phi(W_{i-1}^n, W_i^n, \{\zeta_{j+1/2}^k\}_{j=i-2}^{j=i})}{\Delta x} \right) \\
 & - \frac{1}{\Delta x^2} \left((4\eta H_{i+1/2}^n + \delta_{i+1/2}^n) \underline{\mathcal{I}}(W_{i+1}^{k+1} - W_i^{k+1}) - (4\eta H_{i-1/2}^n + \delta_{i-1/2}^n) \underline{\mathcal{I}}(W_i^{k+1} - W_{i-1}^{k+1}) \right) \\
 & = -\beta \underline{\mathcal{I}} W_i^{k+1} + \mathcal{S}(W_i^n) \frac{\bar{\sigma}_{i+1/2}^{n,k} - \bar{\sigma}_{i-1/2}^{n,k}}{\Delta x}. \tag{14}
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 H_{i+1/2}^n & = \frac{H_i^n + H_{i+1}^n}{2}, \quad \bar{\sigma}_{i+1/2}^{n,k} = \begin{pmatrix} f_\Omega x_{i+1/2} + f_z \frac{b_i + b_{i+1}}{2} \\ \zeta_{i+1/2}^k \end{pmatrix}, \\
 \mathcal{G}(\{\zeta_{j+1/2}^k\}_{j=i-1}^{j=i+1}) & = \frac{1}{f_z} \begin{pmatrix} f_\Omega \Delta x + f_z (b_{i+1} - b_i) + \frac{\Delta(\zeta + \delta^n \partial_x V)_{i+1/2}^k}{H_{i+1/2}} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},
 \end{aligned}$$

Compute $H^{n+1} = H^{k+1}$ with the *first* component of (14) and the *most recent* “duality multiplier”, i.e., ζ^{n+1}

Well-Balancing and Wet/Dry treatment

To design $\Delta(\zeta + \delta^n \partial_x V)_{i+1/2}^k$, use a flux limiter in conjunction with a convex combination of a 2nd order and a 1st order approximation of $\partial_x(\zeta + \delta^n \partial_x V)_{i+1/2}^k$

Wet/Dry correction : check whether rigid or fluid

- no numerical diffusion in H discretiz.
- and local equilibrium of pressure

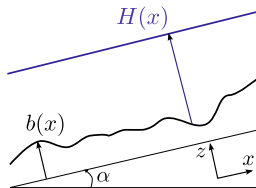
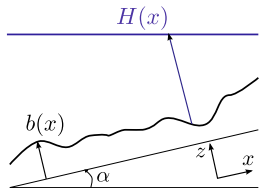
Properties :

- recover standard w/d treatment [WD] when fluid
- and natural resting state when rigid

[WD] Castro et al. *Mathematical and Computer Modelling* **42**(3-4), 2005.

Well-Balanced property of the coupled scheme

Two stationary solutions : $V = 0$ and



$$\text{If } \left| f_{\Omega} \Delta x \left(\sum_{j=1}^i H_j^0 - \sum_{j=1}^{\lfloor N/2 \rfloor} H_j^0 \right) \right| \leq \tau_y \sqrt{2} H_{i+1/2}^0 \forall i, \text{ then } \uparrow \text{ is stat. sol. (25)}$$

Theorem

Let $(H = H(x); V \equiv 0)$ be a stationary solution of (3), and assume that the proposed numerical scheme uses the following initialization for ζ :

$$\zeta_{i+1/2}^1 = -\Delta x \left(\sum_{j=1}^i H_j^0 - \sum_{j=1}^{\lfloor N/2 \rfloor} H_j^0 \right) \left(f_{\Omega} + f_z \frac{H_{i+1}^0 + b_{i+1} - (H_i^0 + b_i)}{\Delta x} \right),$$

then, the scheme exactly preserves both stationary solutions : (i) horizontal free surface and (ii) flat height, verifying (25), over a bottom b .

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The duct flow case

An analytical solution for Poiseuille-Bingham - $H = 1$ and

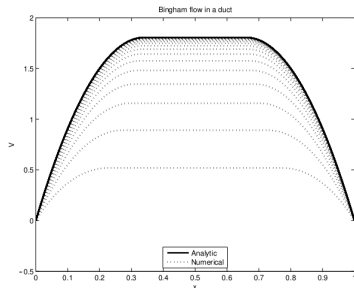
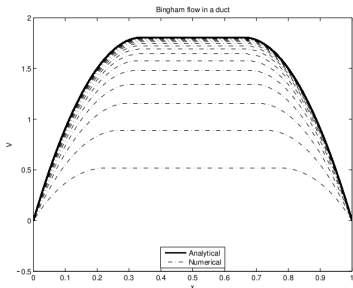
$$\forall \Psi, \int_0^L \partial_t V(\Psi - V) + 4\eta \partial_x(V) \partial_x(\Psi - V) + \int_0^L \tau_y \sqrt{2} (|\partial_x \Psi| - |\partial_x V|) dx \geq \int_0^L f(\Psi - V) dx. \quad (15)$$

where f is the pressure gradient in the direction of the flow.
Analytical stationary solution :

$$V_{BP}(x) = \frac{f}{8\eta} \begin{cases} (\frac{L}{2} - x)^2 & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq x_o, \\ (\frac{L}{2} - x)^2 - (x - x_o)^2 & \text{if } x_o < x \leq \frac{L}{2}. \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

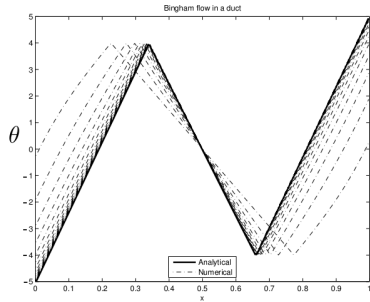
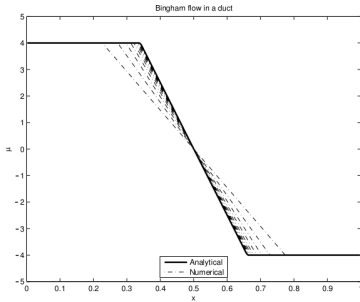
where $\xi = |x - \frac{L}{2}|$, $\xi_o = \sqrt{2}\tau_y/f$ and the domain is $x \in [0, L]$.

The duct flow case



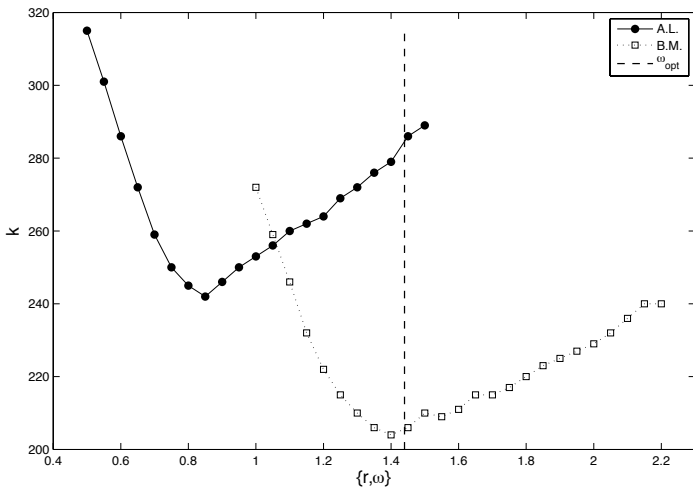
Convergence of order 2 in space for both AL and BM

The duct flow case

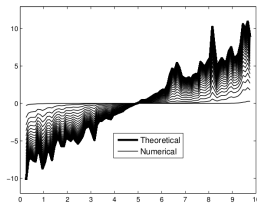
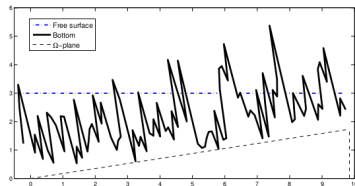
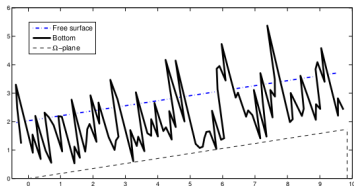
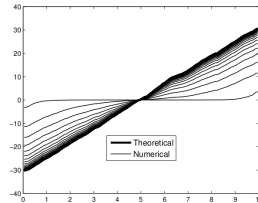


Duality variables : AL and BM

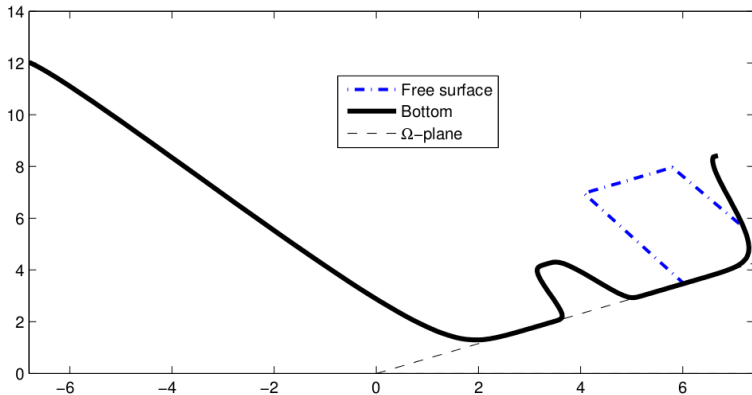
Optimal parameters



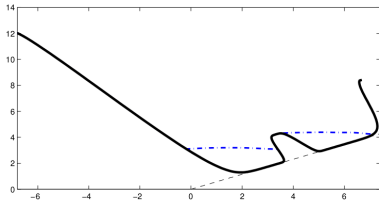
Well-Balanced : 2 stationary solutions

(a) $\mu(x)$ (b) $\theta(x)$

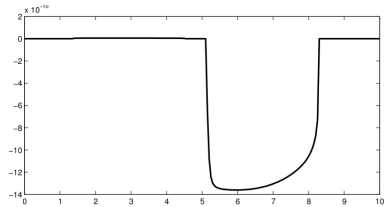
Baby avalanche : test 3. Initial condition



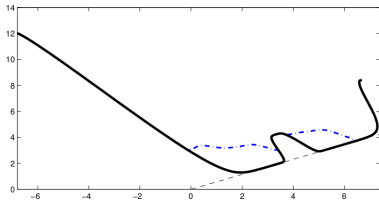
Baby avalanche : test 3. Final time (a)



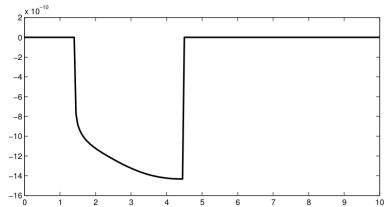
(a) $\tau_y = 1$. Free surface.



(b) $\tau_y = 1$. Velocity.

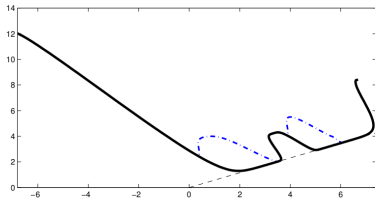


(c) $\tau_y = 4$. Free surface.

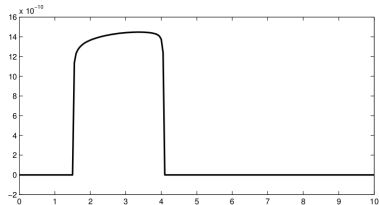


(d) $\tau_y = 4$. Velocity.

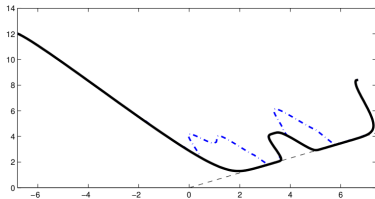
Baby avalanche : test 3. Final time (b)



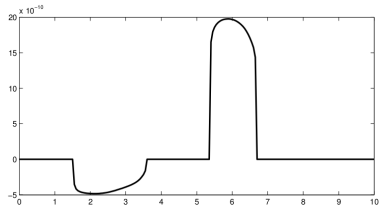
(e) $\tau_y = 8$. Free surface.



(f) $\tau_y = 8$. Velocity.

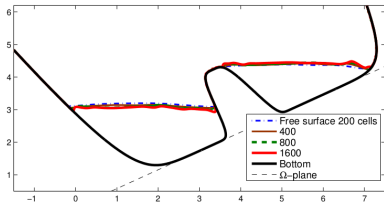


(g) $\tau_y = 12$. Free surface.

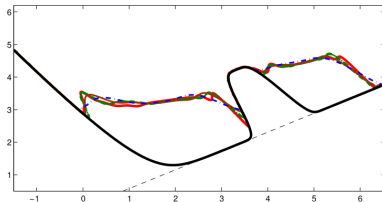


(h) $\tau_y = 12$. Velocity.

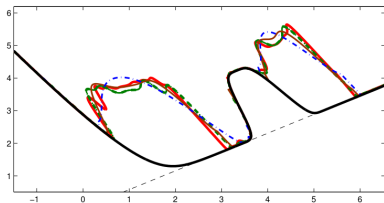
Baby avalanche : test 3. Final time, mesh conv.



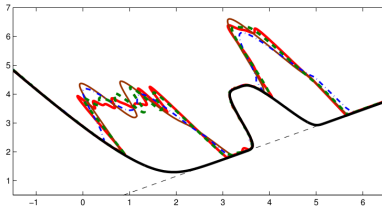
(a) $\tau_y = 1.$



(b) $\tau_y = 4.$

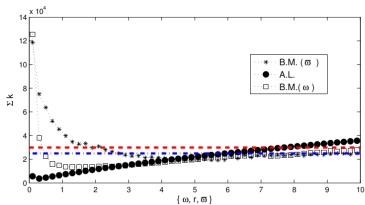


(c) $\tau_y = 8.$

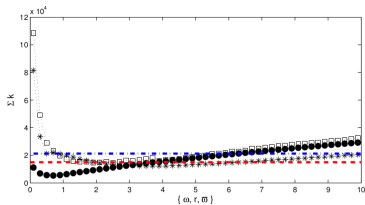


(d) $\tau_y = 12.$

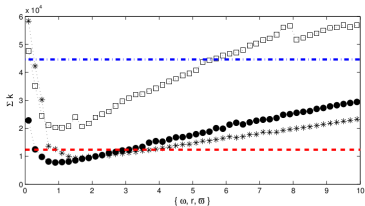
Baby avalanche : test 3. Comput. cost



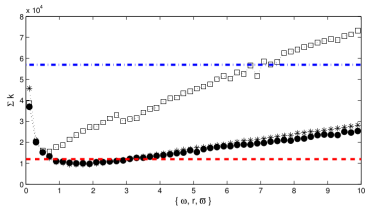
(a) $\tau_y = 1.$



(b) $\tau_y = 4.$



(c) $\tau_y = 8.$



(d) $\tau_y = 12.$

Conclusions

Summary

- derivation of a Shallow-Water Bingham model
 - $Re = \mathcal{O}(1)$ and 1st order slip BC
 - valid for null slope and up to moderate slopes
- design of **Well-Balanced schemes** which allow to catch stationary states by **coupling duality methods** and **Finite-Volume methods**...
- ... taking into acc. wet/dry fronts on general slopes
- BM : a way to determine optimal duality parameters

Perspectives

- extension of such schemes to simulations in 2D space

More details : [J. of Comput. Phys. \(2014\) Vol 64, pp 55-90](#)