Numerical Simulation of Surface Waves Arising from Underwater Landslide Movement

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Abstract. The main aim of this paper is to construct a model of simultaneous movement of the landslide, internal currents and surface waves that can come ashore. The idea of a multicomponent fluid movement is used in this paper. We consider soil, liquid and gas as components of non-homogeneous fluid. Movement of such fluid is described by the Navier-Stokes equations with variable density and viscosity and the convection-diffusion equations. Special ratios are used to calculate the density and the viscosity of the medium. The results of test calculations for two-dimensional problems of the wave generation are presented.

Keywords: Navier-Stokes equations, surface wave propagation, landslide movement, inhomogeneous fluid, multicomponent fluid

1 Introduction

Tsunami waves generated by underwater and above-water landslides can be dangerous for buildings located on the shore and settled lands. Under natural conditions the underwater landslide is a movement of some soil mass along the slope of the bottom. Large volumes of moving mass generate surface waves that are close in their characteristics to the waves generated by tsunamigenic earthquake. The overview of historical landslides and tsunamis that they generated can be found in [1,2].

Construction of tsunami wave model generated by landslide movement can be divided into two tasks: construction of a model of wave propagation on a free surface and a model of landslide movement on the bottom of water basin.

Free surface of fluid means the border between fluid and gas that is above it. Due to the fact that fluid density is several times greater than gas density, influence of gas on the movement of fluid is often neglected, and it is considered that fluid moves independently of gas movement or, in other words, “freely”.

Models of wave fluid dynamics are the examples of such approach. They include shallow water theory equations, ideal fluid movement equations, etc [3]. In case of complex wave movements, big splashes and active interaction of two phases, multicomponent non-homogeneous medium is considered, where fluid and gas are separate components with their own values of density and viscosity [4].
According to the manner of discretization, mathematical models of multicomponent fluid movement can be divided into Lagrangian and Eulerian. Lagrangian methods are based on recording the equations of the medium movements in Lagrangian coordinates connected with particles of the moving medium. A set of nodal points moving together with the medium can be used in order to get the discrete analogues of such equations. It can be grid points (grid Lagrangian methods [5,6]) or point particles that are not connected with each other by grid lines (meshless Lagrangian methods [7-9]). In this approach the position of the interphase boundary is tracked automatically.

For discretization of medium movement equations in Euler approaches a fixed computational grid is usually used. At this, the interphase boundary moves on the grid, and special methods are applied in order to determine its position. These methods include MAC [10,11], VOF [12,13], Level Set [14,15].

In laboratory studies the underwater landslide can be imitated either by movement along the slope of a fully submerged solid body [16], or by some granulated soil slipping down the basin [17].

Several approaches are identified for computational modelling of landslide movement. It can be a model of movement of an absolutely solid body [18] or an ensemble of such bodies [19]; or a model of fluid flow that has different density, viscosity etc. [20].

Until recently, the majority of models applied for modelling of the tsunami of landslide type, relied on nonlinear shallow water wave theory [21,22]. In many cases the Boussinesq equations are applied [23]. And also the attempts are made to apply three-dimensional non-homogeneous models based on Navier-Stokes equations and the concentration transfer equations [24].

The aim of this paper is to apply the model of three-component viscous incompressible fluid with variable viscosity and density and with the presence of mass diffusion between the components for the problems of occurrence of surface waves generated by landslide movement. Previously two-component model has been used in problems of substance diffusion in the branched channel [25], cohesive soil erosion [26] and surface wave propagation [27].

2 Mathematical model

The movement of the medium consisting of three incompressible interfusing fluids with constant density \( \rho_1, \rho_2, \rho_3 \) and viscosities \( \mu_1, \mu_2, \mu_3 \) is considered. Let the particle of mixture be the solution \( \bar{x} = \bar{x}(t) \) of the Cauchy problem \( \frac{d\bar{x}}{dt} = \bar{V}(\bar{x}, t), \) \( \bar{x}(0) = \bar{x}_0 \), where \( \bar{V}(\bar{x}, t) = (v_1, v_2, v_3) \) is a velocity vector of the mixture in point \( \bar{x} = (x_1, x_2, x_3) \) and \( t \) is a time point. Let \( C_1(\bar{x}, t), C_2(\bar{x}, t), C_3(\bar{x}, t), \mu \) and \( \rho \) be volume concentrations of the components, dynamic viscosity and mixture density correspondingly. Components concentrations are interconnected in the following way:

\[
C_1 + C_2 + C_3 = 1, \quad 0 \leq C_i \leq 1. \tag{1}
\]
In order to find out the values of viscosity and density of the mixture we have the following dependence on the concentrations of the components:

\[
\begin{align*}
\mu &= \frac{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3}{C_1 \mu_2 \mu_3 + C_2 \mu_1 \mu_3 + C_3 \mu_1 \mu_2}, \\
\rho &= C_1 \rho_1 + C_2 \rho_2 + C_3 \rho_3.
\end{align*}
\] (2)

Mass diffusion occurs between the particles of the mixture according to the law:

\[
q_n = -D \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial n},
\] (3)

where \(D\) is the diffusion coefficient.

We consider the mixture components to possess the incompressibility property and its interfusion to form an incompressible medium, which density depends only on the concentrations. Let \(\omega_t\) be a control moving volume of such medium. Value of \(\omega_t\) remains constant due to the incompressibility:

\[
\int_{\omega_t} d\tau = \text{const}.
\]

From known formula for the time differentiation of the integral taken over the moving volume \([28]\)

\[
\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\omega_t} f d\tau = \int_{\omega_t} \left[ \frac{df}{dt} + f \text{div} \nabla \right] d\tau
\] (4)

we obtain the condition of incompressibility:

\[
\text{div} \nabla = 0,
\] (5)

where \(\frac{d}{dt}\) is total time derivative.

The equations of mass balance for fluid volume \(\omega_t\) considering the presence of mass diffusion, take the following form:

\[
\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\omega_t} \rho d\tau = - \int_{\partial \omega_t} q_n d\sigma,
\] (6)

where \(q_n\) is defined in (3).

From (6) taking into account (3) and (5) we get convection- diffusion equation for density:

\[
\frac{d\rho}{dt} = D \Delta \rho,
\] (7)

where \(\Delta\) is Laplace operator.

(5) and (7) together provide the condition of mass balance conservation in the medium for three-component incompressible fluid.
For our objectives we consider three-layered fluid, i.e. we suppose that the first and the third component do not directly interact in the solution:

\[
\begin{align*}
C_3 &= 0, \quad C_1 \neq 0, \\
C_1 &= 0, \quad C_3 \neq 0.
\end{align*}
\]

Then the density equation (2) will be the following:

\[
\rho = \begin{cases} 
C_1 \rho_1 + C_2 \rho_2, & C_3 = 0, \\
C_2 \rho_2 + C_3 \rho_3, & C_1 = 0.
\end{cases}
\] (8)

Or considering (1)

\[
\rho = \begin{cases} 
C_1 \rho_1 + (1 - C_1) \rho_2, & C_3 = 0, \\
C_3 \rho_3 + (1 - C_3) \rho_2, & C_1 = 0.
\end{cases}
\] (8)

The diffusion coefficient \( D \) can be also expressed as:

\[
\begin{align*}
D &= D_1, \quad C_3 = 0, \\
D &= D_3, \quad C_1 = 0.
\end{align*}
\] (9)

Then (7) can be transformed into the following equations for the component concentrations:

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{dC_1}{dt} &= D_1 \Delta C_1, \quad C_3 = 0, \\
\frac{dC_3}{dt} &= D_3 \Delta C_3, \quad C_1 = 0,
\end{align*}
\] (10)

From the integral momentum equation

\[
\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\omega_t} \rho \overline{V} \, dx = \int_{\partial \omega_t} \rho_n \, d\sigma + \int_{\omega_t} \rho \overline{F} \, dx
\] (11)

considering (4) and (5) we get:

\[
\frac{d}{dt} (\rho \overline{V}) = div \, P + \rho \overline{F},
\] (12)

where \( P \) is the stress tensor in the mixture, \( \overline{F} = (f_1, f_2, f_3) \) is the vector of mass forces.

Then, considering variable viscosity, we obtain a system of equations for the motion of the mixture of three viscous incompressible interfusing fluids:
\[
\begin{aligned}
\frac{d}{dt} \left( \rho \mathbf{V} \right) &= -\nabla p + \text{div} \mathbf{I} + \rho \mathbf{F}, \\
\text{div} \mathbf{V} &= 0, \\
\frac{dC_1}{dt} &= D_1 \Delta C_1, \\
\frac{dC_3}{dt} &= D_3 \Delta C_3, \\
C_2 &= 1 - C_1 - C_3, \\
\mu &= \frac{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3}{C_1 \mu_2 \mu_3 + C_2 \mu_1 \mu_3 + C_3 \mu_1 \mu_2}, \\
\rho &= \rho_1 C_1 + \rho_2 C_2 + \rho_3 C_3.
\end{aligned}
\]

(13)

where \( p \) is pressure in the mixture, \( \mathbf{I} = \mu \Delta \mathbf{V} + (\nabla \mu \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{V} + (\nabla \mu \cdot J_V) \) is viscous part of stress tensor, \( J_V \) is Jacobian matrix, arranged as follows:

\[
J_V = \begin{pmatrix}
\frac{\partial v_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial x_3} \\
\frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x_3} \\
\frac{\partial v_3}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial x_3}
\end{pmatrix}.
\]

Thus, the given model consists of the convection-diffusion equations for concentration of the components, correlations for the determination of density and viscosity, and also hydrodynamic Navier-Stokes equations for incompressible viscous fluid.

We use a no-slip condition on the solid wall and boundary conditions of the second kind for concentration equations. Some initial distribution for concentrations is also given.

### 3 Solution scheme

For discretization of the system (13) in the spacial variables is used a finite-difference method on a rectangular uniform grid with staggered arrangement of nodes [29]: pressure, velocity divergence and component concentration are determined in the centers of cells; velocity vector components are determined on the borders of cells.

Application of the staggered grid allows to link speed and pressure values in the adjacent nodes and avoid the appearance of oscillations in solution, which arise when using central differences on a combined grid. Also, a staggered arrangement of the nodes automatically allows to satisfy the discrete representation of the continuity equation.

Time motion algorithm consists of the following stages:

1. By taking into account the known velocity vectors and concentration distribution (and thus density and viscosity values), a time step for the Navier-Stokes equations system is made.
2. Using the received values of velocity component, a time step for the “soil” convection-diffusion equation is made.

3. Using the received values of velocity component, a time step for the “air” convection-diffusion equation is made.

4. Knowing the distribution for “air” and “soil” concentrations, a value of “water” concentration is calculated according to the formula (1).

5. Recalculation of density and viscosity values in the medium is carried out according to the formulae (2). After that follows a transition to the first step of the next time iteration.

To solve the Navier-Stokes equations system there is used a splitting scheme on physical factors [30] with regard to variable density. It consists of three steps. At the first step a momentum transfer is carried out due to convection and diffusion; intermediate velocity field is calculated according to an implicit scheme:

\[
\frac{V - V^n}{\Delta t} = - (V^n \cdot \nabla) \tilde{V} + \frac{1}{\rho} \left( -V^n D \Delta \rho + \mu \Delta \tilde{V} + (\nabla \mu \cdot \nabla) \tilde{V} + (\nabla \mu \cdot \mathbf{J} \tilde{V}) \right) + \mathbf{F},
\]  

(14)

In order to solve the system (14) a prediction-correction method is used [31]. The obtained system of algebraic equations is solved by sweep method.

At this, despite the fact that the obtained intermediate velocity field \( \tilde{V} \) does not satisfy continuity equation, it has a physical meaning because it preserves vortex characteristics in internal points.

At the second step, with regard to (5) and variable density, the pressure field is calculated according to the obtained intermediate velocity field \( \tilde{V} \):

\[
\sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p^{n+1}}{\partial x_i} \right) = \frac{\nabla \tilde{V}}{\Delta t}.
\]  

(15)

Solution of the system of equations obtained as a result of discretization of the equation in order to find pressure in (15) is one of the most important and dominant aspects of computational procedure from the viewpoint of machine resources expenses. Operator of this system can have a complex structure, which complicates the task significantly. To solve this stage of computational process a gradient iterative method BiCGStab [32] is used.

At the third step the transfer of momentum is carried out only due to pressure gradient:

\[
\frac{V^{n+1} - \tilde{V}}{\Delta t} = - \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p^{n+1}
\]  

(16)

The equation (15) obtained by taking the divergence of both sides of equation (16) with regard to \( \nabla V^{n+1} = 0 \).
To solve the convection-diffusion equations (10) a prediction-correction scheme with approximation of convective components against the stream is used [31]. The obtained system of algebraic equations is solved by sweep method.

The numerical scheme has first-order temporal and spatial approximations.

4 Results

4.1 Collapse of viscous soil

There was considered a problem of collapse of viscous and stiff soil on the bottom of reservoir that generates waves on the surface of fluid. Here one of the components (more stiff and viscous) models the behavior of bottom soil, another one – liquid, and the third one – aerial environment. Fig. 1 shows the geometry of area and the scheme of component arrangement.

Fig. 1. Geometry and initial distribution of components.

At the initial time the half circle of the wet soil is located at the center of the area. As time passes, it caves under the influence of gravity $F = (0, -9.8) \, \text{m/s}^2$ and causes the movement of the entire medium. Fig. 2 shows the results of the calculation for various time points. Parts of the bottom soil spread in the opposite directions, then reflected from the side walls and connected again in the center of the area. The liquid phase surface followed the bottom soil movements.

Fig. 2. Picture of medium motion for various time points $t = 0.9 \, \text{s}, 1.9 \, \text{s}, 2.7 \, \text{s}, 5.4 \, \text{s}$. 
The following hydrodynamic parameters were chosen: \( \mu_1 = 10 \text{ Pa} \cdot \text{s} \), \( \mu_2 = 10^{-3} \text{ Pa} \cdot \text{s} \), \( \mu_3 = 10^{-5} \text{ Pa} \cdot \text{s} \) and \( \rho_1 = 3000 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3} \), \( \rho_2 = 1000 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3} \), \( \rho_3 = 1 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3} \) for the soil, liquid and gas phases. The following grid parameters and time step were used: \( h_x = 5 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ m} \), \( h_y = 5 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ m} \), \( \tau = 10^{-2} \text{ s} \). All the area walls are solid except the upper one. The atmosphere pressure \( P_{atm} = 101325 \text{ Pa} \) is indicated at the top. We consider the boundary between components to take place at \( C = 0.4 \).

The calculation demonstrates possibility of the model to simulate direct interaction between the bottom soil and the surface waves without distinguishing characteristics at the phases boundaries.

### 4.2 Soil movement on the inclined bottom

A problem of the soil slip movement on the inclined bottom that generates waves on the surface of fluid was considered. The scheme of area was taken from [33] (see Fig. 3). The result of calculation was compared with one of the numerical model presented in [33] and with laboratory experiment carried out in [34].

![Fig. 3. Geometry and initial condition.](image)

At the initial time the wet soil is located on the left side of the inclined bottom. As time passes, it rolls down by gravity \( \mathbf{F} = (0, -9.8) \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2} \) and causes the movement of the entire structure, simulating the soil slip movement. The hydrodynamic parameters were used the same as in [33]: \( \mu_1 = 10 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3} \), \( \mu_2 = 10^{-3} \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3} \), \( \mu_3 = 10^{-5} \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3} \) and \( \rho_1 = 1950 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3} \), \( \rho_2 = 1000 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3} \), \( \rho_3 = 1 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3} \) for the soil, liquid and gas phases. The following grid parameters and time step were used: \( h_x = 5 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ m} \), \( h_y = 5 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ m} \), \( \tau = 10^{-2} \text{ s} \). All the area walls are solid except the upper one. The atmosphere pressure \( P_{atm} = 101325 \text{ Pa} \) is indicated at the top. We consider the boundary between components to take place at \( C = 0.4 \). Fig. 4 shows the results of the calculation for various time points.

Fig. 5 shows the comparison of water surface elevations with results obtained in [33] and [34].

Calculation demonstrates good agreement with MM3 [33]. This approach produces similar waveforms and slide deformation geometries. However, there
Fig. 4. Picture of medium motion for various time points $t = 0.0$ s, $0.4$ s, $0.8$ s, $1.0$ s.

Fig. 5. A comparison of water surface elevations for various time points $t = 0.4$ s, $0.8$ s. Given model (solid red), MM3 (dashed blue, [33]) and experiment (dotted green, [34]).
is a discrepancy in the fields of high gradients, what can be explained by the form of equation (2) for $\mu$. Differences do not exceed 12% on the whole surface for $t = 0.4 \text{ s}$; 20% for $t = 0.8 \text{ s}$. The surface shape in numerical simulation is qualitatively similar to that observed in the laboratory experiment. Also it has a slightly better agreement with experiment surface than MM3.

5 Conclusion

Presented model of three-component viscous incompressible fluid was used for modeling simultaneous movement of the landslide, internal currents and surface waves. The advantage of this approach is that it allows one to simulate the complex phenomenon of the interaction of waves and bottom soil using a uniform numerical algorithm for a number of different problems without distinguishing characteristics at the phases boundaries.

Test calculations for two-dimensional problems of the wave emergence and propagation on the free surface were carried out. The results obtained show the possibility of modeling such a phenomenon. Agreement with other model and experiment was demonstrated.

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