A High-Order Implicit-Explicit Discontinuous Galerkin Scheme for Fluid-Structure Interaction

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Motivation

- Many important problems require predictions of fluid-structure interaction (FSI):
 - Oscillatory interactions in engineering systems (e.g. aircraft, turbines, and bridges) can lead to failure
 - The blood flow in arteries and artificial heart valves is highly dependent on structural interactions
- Requirements on numerical solvers:
 - High-order accuracy, to capture non-linear interactions and multiscale phenomena
 - Unstructured meshes, for complex geometries and adaptivity



Application: Optimal Design of Flapping Wings

- Automatic generation of optimized flapping wing kinematics [Persson/Willis '11]
- Camber crucial to avoid excessive flow separation – can be imposed using compliant wings and fluid-structure interaction







Application: Vertical Axis Wind Turbines

- Recent interest in vertical axis wind turbines (VAWT) due to several attractive properties
- Modeling of structural interactions important for study of sensitivities to design conditions and fatigue







Full vs. weak coupling

- Two main numerical approaches for the coupling:
 - Fully coupled (monolithic): Solve the fluid/structure equations simultaneously. Accurate, but requires specialized codes and solvers are often slow.
 - Weakly coupled (partitioned): Use standard solvers for fluid/structure and apply a separate coupling scheme, often together with subiterations. Efficient and simple, but issues with accuracy and stability.



Explicit time integration

- In [Persson, Peraire, Bonet, 2007], we developed a fully coupled FSI solver using DG, membrane models, and explicit time stepping
- Implicit solvers required for more challenging problems in 3-D

Experiment (A. Song, Brown U)



Compliant membrane

Fluid/membrane simulation





Rigid flat plate



Example: Dragonfly, Compliant Wings

Experiment (A. Song, Brown U)



Fluid/membrane simulation



Discontinuous Galerkin Discretization for Fluids

- High-order nodal-DG method for unstructured simplex meshes
- Compressible Navier-Stokes equations, Roe's numerical fluxes
- CDG fluxes for second-order terms [Peraire/Persson 2008],
 - \implies High level of sparsity in Jacobian matrices
- Implicit time integration by matrix-based Newton-Krylov solvers
 - L-stable Diagonally Implicit Runge-Kutta (DIRK) methods
 - Block-ILU(0) preconditioners and automatic element ordering [Persson/Peraire '08]
 - Implicit-Explicit Runge-Kutta schemes for LES-type problems [Persson '11]



Parallel Solvers

- Implicit solvers typically required because of CFL restrictions from viscous effects, low Mach numbers, and adaptive/anisotropic grids
- Jacobian matrices are large even at p = 2 or p = 3, however:
 - They are required for non-trivial preconditioners
 - They are very expensive to recompute
- Distributed parallel solvers developed in [Persson '09]
- Parallelization to 1000's of processes by domain decomposition
- Close to perfect speedup for time accurate simulations



Lagrangian FEM Discretization of Structures

• Map from reference domain V to physical domain v(t)

$$F = \frac{\partial x}{\partial X}$$
, $J = \det F$, $v(X, t) = \frac{\partial x}{\partial t}$, $p = \rho_0 v$

• Conservation of linear momentum:

$$\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{p}}{\partial t} = \boldsymbol{\nabla} \cdot \boldsymbol{P} + \rho_0 \boldsymbol{b}$$

with first Piola-Kirchhoff stress tensor P(F)

- Hyperelastic Neo-Hookean Constitutive Model
- Straight-forward second-order formulation in terms of material points x and momentum p:

$$\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{x}}{\partial t} = \boldsymbol{p}/\rho_0, \quad \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{p}}{\partial t} - \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{P}(\boldsymbol{F}) = \rho_0 \boldsymbol{b}$$

 Discretize by standard high-order continuous Galerkin FEM method, temporal integration by high-order DIRK schemes

Nonlinear elasticity solvers for thin structures

- Volumetric modeling of thin structures ⇒ stiff nonlinear systems
- However, direct solvers scale well due to 2-D nature of the mesh
- Parallel MPI solvers using the MUMPS package



Coupled Fluid-Structure Formulation

• Lagrangian CG-FEM formulation for the solid dynamics

$$\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{u}^s}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{F}^s(\boldsymbol{u}^s; \boldsymbol{\ell}^{fs}) = 0$$

written as a system of first-order ODEs

- Structure motion and an (algebraic) mesh deformation scheme induce a deformation of the fluid domain, x^f = x^f(u^s)
- Fluid flow governed by the compressible Navier-Stokes equations:

$$\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{u}^f}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{F}^f(\boldsymbol{u}^f; \boldsymbol{x}^f) = 0$$

with mapping-based ALE formulation for the deforming domain

• Fluid induces forces on the structure, $\ell^{fs} = \ell^{fs}(u^f, x^f)$

Coupled system structure

 Eliminate the mesh deformation x^f and include interface forces explicitly in the structure residual, to obtain a system of ODEs M\u00ecu = r(u) where

$$\boldsymbol{u} = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{u}^{f} \\ \boldsymbol{u}^{s} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \boldsymbol{r} = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{r}^{f}(\boldsymbol{u}^{f}, \boldsymbol{u}^{s}) \\ \boldsymbol{r}^{s}(\boldsymbol{u}^{s}) + \boldsymbol{r}^{fs}(\boldsymbol{\ell}^{fs}(\boldsymbol{u}^{f}, \boldsymbol{u}^{s})) \end{bmatrix}, \quad \boldsymbol{M} = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{M}^{f} \\ & \boldsymbol{M}^{s} \end{bmatrix}$$

• A fully coupled implicit solver requires solution of systems of the form $(M - \alpha \Delta tK)u = f$, with Jacobian matrix structure

$$K = \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{d\mathbf{u}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u} & \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{u} & \mathbf{u} \end{bmatrix}$$

• Using IMEX schemes, we will treat the terms involving $\ell^{fs}(u^f, u^s)$ explicitly, which makes the Jacobian matrix block upper-triangular

Implicit-Explicit Runge-Kutta Methods

- Based on a splitting $\frac{du}{dt} = f(u) + g(u)$ where f(u) is considered nonstiff terms and g(u) stiff terms
- Two Runge-Kutta schemes
 - **1** Diagonally Implicit Runge-Kutta (DIRK) scheme c, A, b for g(u)
 - 2 Explicit Runge-Kutta (ERK) scheme $\hat{c}, \hat{A}, \hat{b}$ for f(u)

 $\hat{k}_{1} = f(u_{n})$ for i = 1 to sSolve for k_{i} in $k_{i} = g(u_{n,i})$, where $u_{n,i} = u_{n} + \Delta t \sum_{j=1}^{i} a_{i,j}k_{j} + \Delta t \sum_{j=1}^{i} \hat{a}_{i+1,j}\hat{k}_{j}$ Evaluate $\hat{k}_{i+1} = f(u_{n,i})$ end for

$$u_{n+1} = u_n + \Delta t \sum_{i=1}^{s} b_j k_j + \Delta t \sum_{i=1}^{s+1} \hat{b}_j \hat{k}_j$$

IMEX Schemes

IMEX1: 2-stage, 2nd order DIRK + 3-stage, 2nd order ERK

$$\frac{c}{b^{T}} = \frac{\begin{array}{c|c} \alpha & \alpha & 0 \\ \hline 1 & 1-\alpha & \alpha \\ \hline 1-\alpha & \alpha \end{array}} \qquad \begin{array}{c|c} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \alpha & \alpha & 0 & 0 \\ \hline \hat{c} & \hat{A} \\ \hline \hat{b}^{T} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c|c} 0 & 1-\delta & 0 \\ \hline 1 & \delta & 1-\delta & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 1-\alpha & \alpha \end{array}$$

where $\alpha = 1 - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$, $\delta = -2\sqrt{2}/3$. 2nd order, L-stable.

IMEX2: 2-stage, 3rd order DIRK + 3-stage, 3rd order ERK

where $\alpha = (3 + \sqrt{3})/6$. 3rd order accurate, no L-stability.

IMEX Schemes

IMEX3: 3-stage, 3rd order DIRK + 4-stage, 3rd order ERK



3rd order accurate, L-stable.

Partitioned FSI using IMEX schemes

- The IMEX schemes can be used to derive accurate partitioning methods for fully coupled FSI problems [van Zuijlen, 2006]
- For our FSI system, we treat the interface forces $\ell^{fs}(u^f, u^s)$ explicitly and everything else implicitly:

$$\boldsymbol{r} = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{r}^{f}(\boldsymbol{u}^{f}, \boldsymbol{u}^{s}) \\ \boldsymbol{r}^{s}(\boldsymbol{u}^{s}, \boldsymbol{\ell}^{fs}) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \boldsymbol{r}^{fs}(\boldsymbol{\ell}^{fs}(\boldsymbol{u}^{f}, \boldsymbol{u}^{s})) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{r}^{f}(\boldsymbol{u}^{f}, \boldsymbol{u}^{s}) \\ \boldsymbol{r}^{s}(\boldsymbol{u}^{s}) \end{bmatrix} = \boldsymbol{f}(\boldsymbol{u}) + \boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{u})$$

• The interface forces can then be solved for algebraically:

$$\hat{\ell}_{n,i} = \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \frac{\hat{a}_{ij} - a_{ij}}{a_{ii}} \ell_{n,j}$$

- The remaining structure and fluid components can be solved by back-solution of the block upper-triangular system
- Use new fluid/structure stage solutions $u_{n,i}^f$, $u_{n,i}^s$ to update the interface forces $\hat{\ell}_{n,i} \rightarrow \ell_{n,i}$
- Consistent forces, no subiterations required

Validation, Benchmark Pitching Airfoil System

- Simple FSI benchmark problem for studying the high-order accuracy of the IMEX scheme
- Rigid pitching/heaving NACA 0012 airfoil, torsional spring
- Smooth heaving step y(t) prescribed, angle $\theta(t)$ measured



Validation, Benchmark Pitching Airfoil System

- High-order DG for Navier-Stokes, ALE for moving domain
- Study convergence of $\theta(t)$ as $\Delta t \to 0$





Angle $\theta(t)$ vs time t



Validation, Benchmark Pitching Airfoil System

- Up to 5th order of convergence in time
- Without the predictor, at most 2nd order convergence



- Volumetric modeling of Lagrangian Neo-Hookean membrane
- Membrane ends are held fixed but allowed to rotate
- Angle of attack 20°, Reynolds number 2,000
- Implicit schemes handle complex behavior with large time-steps
- Low membrane stiffness



• Higher membrane stiffness



• Lower angle of attack



• Higher angle of attack



Mesh motion



Flow around flag, 2-D

• Model "flag" by hinging left edge only



Membrane only, 3-D

• Preliminary results for single membrane simulation





- High-order accurate time integration of fully coupled FSI problems
- Partitioned Runge-Kutta methods derived from IMEX schemes
- Volumetric modeling of thin membrane structures
- Current work includes 3D simulations, more sophisticated mesh deformation, and real-world applications