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Journal Pre-proof

A moment-of-fluid method for resolving filamentary structures using a symmetric multi-material approach

Philippe Hergibo, Timothy N. Phillips and Zhihua Xie

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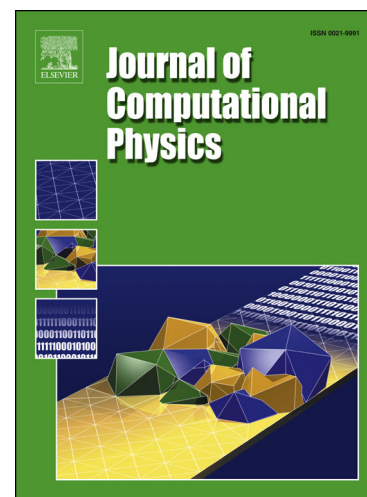
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Highlights

- Symmetric filament reconstruction.
- A new optimisation algorithm is proposed based on the bisection method.
- Validated with various benchmarks with high-order convergence and high accuracy.
- Lagrangian advection approach is used without CFL restriction.

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1 A moment-of-fluid method for resolving filamentary
2 structures using a symmetric multi-material approach

3 Philippe Hergibo^{a,b}, Timothy N. Phillips^b, Zihua Xie^{a,*}

^a*School of Engineering, Cardiff University, Queen's Buildings, Cardiff, CF24 3AA, UK*

^b*School of Mathematics, Cardiff University, Abacus, Cardiff, CF24 4AG, UK*

4 **Abstract**

5 Multiphase flows have implications in many areas of engineering. The
6 moment-of-fluid (MOF) method is an interface capturing method using both
7 volume fraction and centroid within a cell for interface reconstruction. A
8 symmetric approach to reconstruct thin structures is presented. Also called
9 filaments, these subcell characteristics involve multi-material reconstruction.
10 In addition, a new optimisation algorithm is presented using a bisection
11 method without any necessary initial condition. Using a Lagrangian ap-
12 proach for dynamic cases, no restrictions are imposed on timestep. The new
13 method is validated using several benchmark cases that have been studied
14 extensively in the literature. A near quadratic order of convergence and high
15 accuracy is achieved while maintaining an acceptable runtime.

16 *Keywords:*

17 multiphase flow, MOF method, filament capturing, interface reconstruction

18 *PACS:* 0000, 1111

19 *2000 MSC:* 0000, 1111

*Corresponding author. Email: zxie@cardiff.ac.uk; Tel.: +44(0)29-20879375.

20 1. Introduction

21 Multiphase flow modelling is crucial in several real-life examples such as
22 wave breaking, water splashing or bubbles. It is also important in industrial
23 applications from oil-and-gas transportation to inkjet printing. Its modelling
24 requires an accurate representation of the interface between two or more
25 fluids. In addition, it is challenging to resolve thin filaments during the
26 breakup process.

27 Several techniques for representing interfaces have been developed over
28 the years [1]. These fall into two broad categories: interface tracking and in-
29 terface capturing. Interface tracking aims to track a set of points representing
30 the interface using the associated velocity field [2, 3, 4, 5]. Its robustness and
31 simplicity of implementation makes it easily accessible. However, this may
32 not be the case when there is a large deformation of the interface.

33 The level set method is an example of an interface capturing technique.
34 This method uses a smooth function to describe the sharp interface [6]. The
35 zero level set of the function defines the interface. The accuracy and robust-
36 ness makes it useful for complex multiphase flows, yet in most engineering
37 problems, the lack of mass conservation of this technique makes it undesir-
38 able. Improvements have been made on this issue using a conservative level
39 set method [7, 8], which has also been extended recently for non-Newtonian
40 multiphase flows [9]. Another interface capturing technique is the volume-
41 of-fluid (VOF) method which was initially developed by Hirt and Nichols
42 [10]. The interface, either horizontal or vertical known as Simple Line Inter-
43 face Calculation (SLIC), is defined by the volume fraction of surrounding grid
44 cells. In a subsequent development, Young's method introduced an improved
45 orientation to the interface known as Piecewise Linear Interface Construction
46 (PLIC) [11]. Both VOF methods are subject to natural diffusion and artifi-
47 cial surface tension causing the separation of forming filaments and exhibit
48 large errors. In addition, only one interface is able to be reconstructed in a
49 cell, which means that structures thinner than a cell size cannot be resolved.
50 More sophisticated VOF approaches have been developed using a parabolic
51 reconstruction [12, 13] or trying to resolve filaments [14]. Methods coupling
52 the level set and VOF methods have also been developed [15].

53 The latest advancement in the evolution of the VOF method is the
54 moment-of-fluid (MOF) method. The MOF method uses both the volume
55 fraction and its centroid to reconstruct the interface thereby increasing the
56 accuracy in interface orientation. The error in interface reconstruction is im-

57 proved when compared to a standard VOF method and the MOF method
58 possesses superior mesh convergence properties. The MOF method is able
59 to reconstruct a piecewise linear interface without using information from
60 neighbouring cells. In addition, MOF can be implemented with ease for
61 general polyhedral cells. However, MOF can be time-consuming as the com-
62 putational bottleneck is an optimisation algorithm which is required in order
63 to reconstruct the interface in each cell.

64 The initial MOF method was presented in 2005 using an optimisation
65 algorithm [16]. While conserving mass in each cell, the best approximation
66 is to find the normal to the interface that minimises the distance between the
67 reference and reconstructed centroid. In a subsequent development, an ana-
68 lytical solution which avoids the need to employ an optimisation algorithm
69 was found by Lemoine et al. [17]. However, this is restricted to rectangular
70 cells. Further work has been performed with the MOF method using more
71 complex approaches. Multi-material reconstruction is facilitated when three
72 or more materials are present [18, 19], under-resolved filaments allowing thin
73 structure reconstruction [20], symmetric reconstruction [21] and even adap-
74 tive mesh refinement [22]. Attempts have also been made to couple the level
75 set method with the MOF method [23, 24]. Due to its expensive computa-
76 tional cost, further improvements have been made only for Cartesian cells
77 using pre-computed values to find the reconstructed centroid in an efficient
78 manner [25] and even a machine learning approach [26] improving drasti-
79 cally the runtime. When large deformations of the interface occur, standard
80 MOF techniques are not precise enough to maintain a *smooth* interface and
81 breakup occurs similar to VOF methods. To overcome the problem of un-
82 physical breakup, we propose a novel symmetric multi-material approach
83 to maintain the morphology of the interface for under-resolved filamentary
84 structures. By combining the advantages of each approach, we construct a
85 more precise interface at maximum deformation while maintaining an accept-
86 able runtime. The optimisation algorithm uses a bisection method that does
87 not require any parameter tuning. Capturing and reconstructing the exact
88 topology yields time-consuming computation which has been simplified in
89 our model. The novelty of the proposed method and the difference between
90 the filament and standard MOF methods are highlighted in Fig. 1. A new
91 test is presented to highlight large deformation of thin interfacial structures.

92 The paper is structured as follows. In Section 2, the standard MOF
93 and its advection approach are described detailing the choice of using a bi-
94 section method in the optimisation part. Then, the filamentary method is

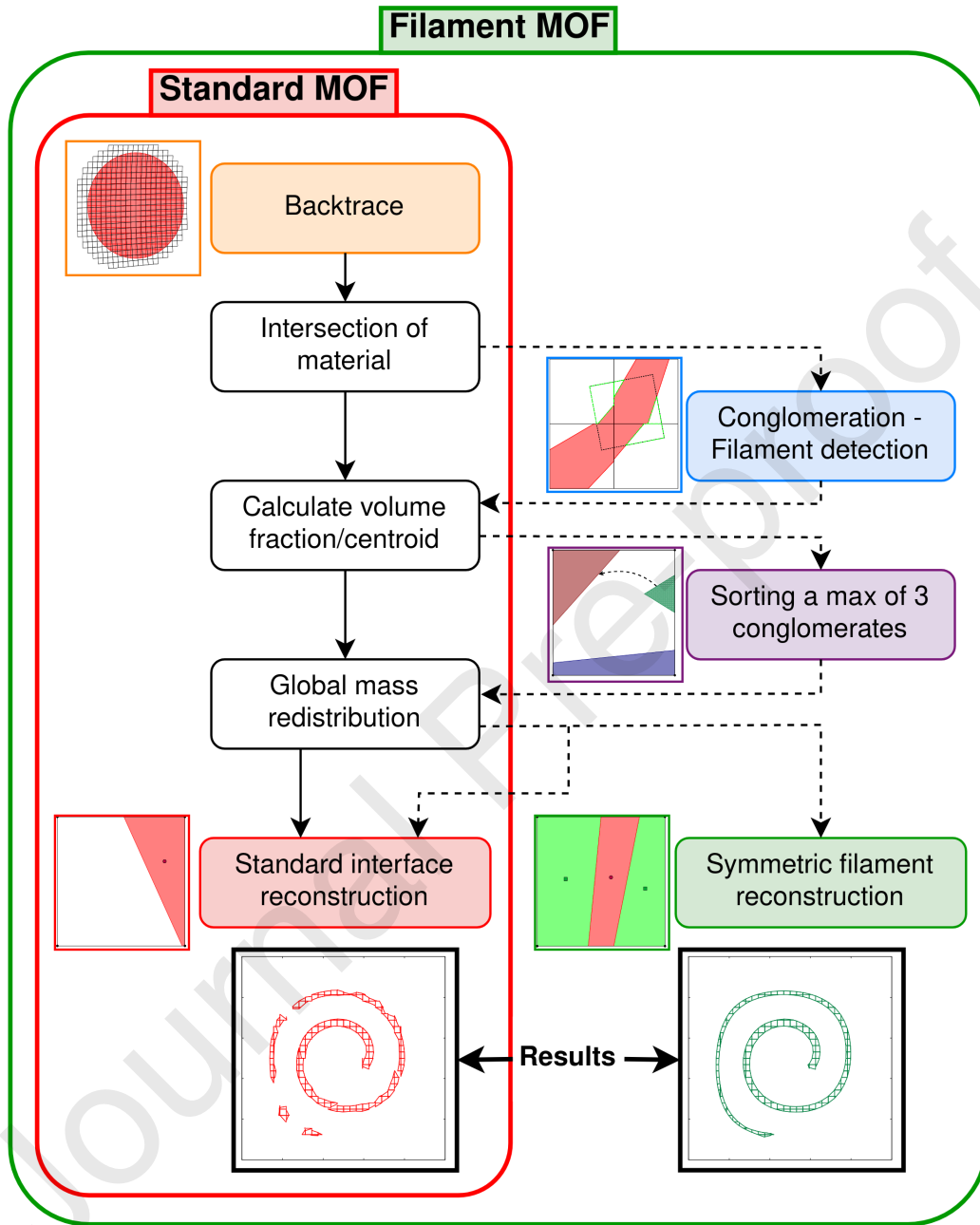


Figure 1: Flowchart highlighting the key steps for a filament MOF method compared to a standard MOF method

95 presented in Section 3. The conglomeration algorithm and adjacency test
 96 are described, as well as the choice of capping the number of materials at
 97 three. Finally, Section 4 presents and analyses the results for many advec-
 98 tion benchmark problems to demonstrate the accuracy and advantages of the
 99 proposed method. Some concluding remarks are given in Section 5.

100 2. MOF method

101 2.1. Interface reconstruction

102 2.1.1. Problem definition

103 Let us define the problem imposed by the MOF method in order to re-
 104 construct an interface. Consider a convex polygon ω that is defined by n
 105 vertices, $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$. The area of ω , denoted $|\omega|$, and the centroid (centre of
 106 mass), denoted $\mathbf{x}_c(\omega)$ can be computed as follows

$$|\omega| = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n [\mathbf{x}_i \times \mathbf{x}_{i+1}] \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_c(\omega) = \frac{1}{6|\omega|} \sum_{i=1}^n [\mathbf{x}_i \times \mathbf{x}_{i+1}] (\mathbf{x}_i + \mathbf{x}_{i+1}) \quad (2)$$

107 Note that $\mathbf{x}_{n+1} = \mathbf{x}_1$. Let Ω depict an arbitrary convex cell, hence not
 108 restricted to a Cartesian cell, filled with two different materials. Only con-
 109 sidering the first material μ_1 , its area relative to the area of the cell is denoted
 110 by $F_{ref}(\mu_1)$ which corresponds to the volume fraction. Similarly, $\mathbf{x}_{ref}(\mu_1)$ is
 111 defined to be the reference centroid of μ_1 within the cell.

112 The MOF reconstruction problem is formulated as an optimisation prob-
 113 lem in which the distance between the reference centroid $\mathbf{x}_{ref}(\mu_1)$ and the
 114 reconstructed centroid $\mathbf{x}_{act}(\mu_1)$ is minimised while keeping the volume frac-
 115 tion of the reconstructed polygon $F_{act}(\mu_1)$ equal to the volume fraction of μ_1 .
 116 One can summarise the optimisation problem as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \min |\mathbf{x}_{ref}(\mu_1) - \mathbf{x}_{act}(\mu_1)| \\ F_{ref}(\mu_1) = F_{act}(\mu_1) \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

117 If μ_1 already occupies a polygon with a piecewise linear interface, the
 118 MOF method aims to reconstruct the exact interface. As shown in Fig. 2,
 119 the reference interface may be curved, hence the minimised centroid distance
 120 will aim to give the *best* reconstruction.

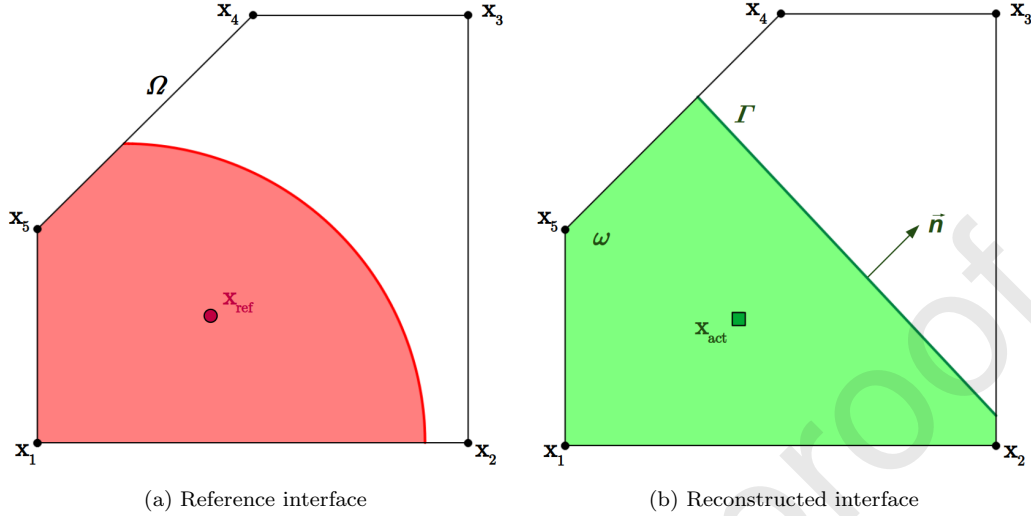


Figure 2: Reference vs. reconstructed interface with their respective centroids \mathbf{x}_{ref} and \mathbf{x}_{act} . \mathbf{n} denotes the reconstructed normal to the interface. Γ denotes the length of the interface segment.

121 2.1.2. Reconstruction

122 The reconstructed normal to the interface within a polygon can be evalu-
 123 ated analytically [17] but only for rectangular cells. However, for cells of any
 124 other geometrical shape, a minimisation algorithm is needed to evaluate the
 125 normal to the interface. The unit normal is defined to be $\mathbf{n} = [\cos(\phi), \sin(\phi)]$
 126 where ϕ corresponds to the angle the interface makes with the horizontal. To
 127 cover all possible normals, $\phi \in [0, 2\pi]$. The minimisation function, also known
 128 as the objective function, is recalled $f(\phi) = |\mathbf{x}_{act}(\phi) - \mathbf{x}_{ref}|$. In general, $f(\phi)$
 129 may have multiple local minima. The first derivative of the objective function
 130 for a convex cell, initially given in [16], is defined by

$$f'(\phi) = 2((\mathbf{x}_{act}(\phi) - \mathbf{x}_{ref}) \cdot \mathbf{x}'_{act}(\phi)) \quad (4)$$

131 where $\mathbf{x}'_{act}(\phi)$ is given by

$$\mathbf{x}'_{act}(\phi) = \frac{1}{12} \frac{|\Gamma(\phi)|^3}{|\Omega| F_{ref}(\mu_1)} [-\sin(\phi), \cos(\phi)] \quad (5)$$

132 and is evaluated using the length of the reconstructed interface segment $\Gamma(\phi)$.

133 *2.1.3. Bisection method*

134 In this section, a new algorithm is presented to evaluate the normal to the
 135 interface. The algorithm used in this paper to find the global minimum is a
 136 bisection method. Using four quadrants, explicitly $[0, \pi/2]$, $[\pi/2, \pi]$, $[\pi, 3\pi/4]$
 137 and $[3\pi/4, 2\pi]$, the zeros of the first derivative of the objective function can be
 138 determined. The bisection method uses only a maximum of 10 iterations per
 139 quadrant to find the local minimum with a tolerance of 10^{-10} . When the value
 140 of the first derivative falls below the specified tolerance at the boundaries of
 141 a quadrant, the bisection method is terminated for that quadrant. Once the
 142 minimum for each quadrant is found, evaluating the objective function for all
 143 valid values will give the global minimum. The global minimum of $f(\phi)$ will
 144 result in the best approximation for the optimisation problem defined above.
 145 Fig. 3 shows the set of solutions as well as the objective function within the
 146 four quadrants. Knowledge of the normal enables one to flood the cell [17] to
 147 reconstruct the interface with the minimum distance between the reference
 148 and reconstructed centroid, which is defined as the least centroid error.

149 This method has the advantage of not requiring any initial condition and
 150 fine parameter tuning to converge to the solution and is guaranteed to find
 151 the global minimum. However it may require a larger number of iterations
 152 to converge.

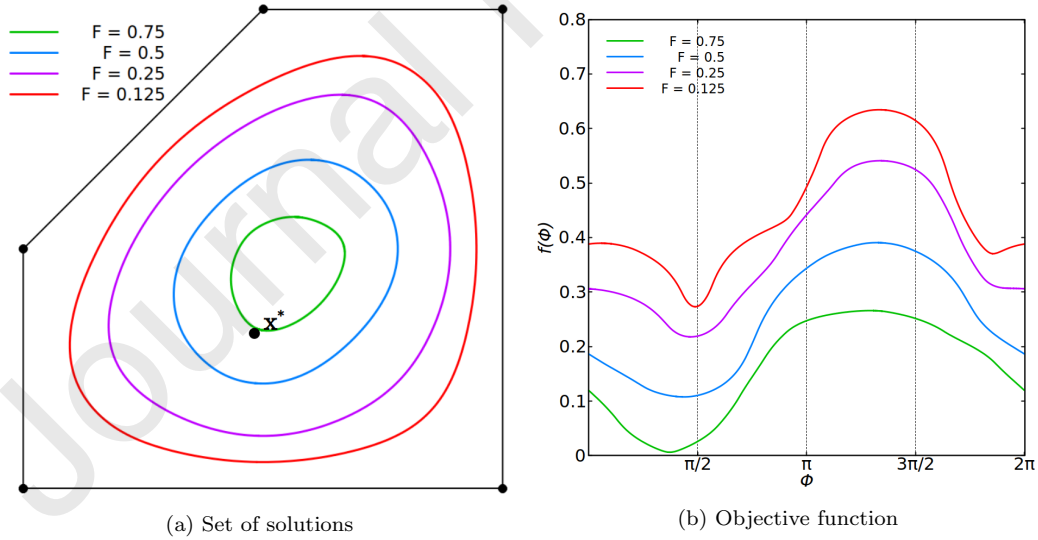


Figure 3: Set of solution and objective function for various volume fractions $F = 0.125, 0.25, 0.5$ and 0.75 . \mathbf{x}^* denotes the reference centroid.

153 *2.2. Advection*

154 Dynamic tests involve advecting materials across multiple time iterations.
155 Information from the previous time step is needed in order to reconstruct the
156 material interface at the next time step. The most natural way to perform
157 this reconstruction is to use a Lagrangian pre-image to capture the volume
158 fraction and centroid of a material.

159 All vertices of a cell are advected backwards in time using a 2^{nd} -order
160 Runge-Kutta scheme to form the backtrace cell as seen in Fig. 4a. The
161 backtrace cell may intersect several cells at the previous time level. The
162 Sutherland-Hodgman polygon clipping algorithm is used in order to intersect
163 each of these cells to gain information about volume fraction and centroid.
164 The advantage of using the Lagrangian approach is that there is no limitation
165 on the CFL number used in the model. Moreover, the Lagrangian advection
166 procedure is said to be unsplit, which means it only requires one advection
167 and reconstruction per cell [27].

168 *2.2.1. Advection of volume fraction*

169 To compute the volume fraction at the next time step, the sum of inter-
170 secting areas form the new volume fraction of the cell as highlighted in purple
171 in Fig. 4b. However, in some cases, its value may depend on the backtrace
172 cell area relative to the cell area. If the backtrace cell area is larger than
173 the cell area, there is potential for the volume fraction to exceed unity. On
174 the contrary, if the backtrace cell area is smaller than the cell area, there is
175 potential for the volume fraction to be smaller than unity while being en-
176 tirely filled with one material. These cases may occur when the backtrace
177 cell intersects with only one material, making the new theoretical volume
178 fraction equal to unity but the actual volume fraction is either greater than
179 or less than unity. If this is the case, a post advection remapping procedure
180 is introduced in order to ensure that the total material mass is consistent
181 throughout the advection time. The difference between the actual volume
182 fraction and unity are gathered, then redistributed equally across all cells
183 that can accept a gain or loss of mass/volume fraction. This is defined as
184 a global redistribution [28]. The modified mass in each cell is negligible so
185 that the shape of the interface is not changed significantly, which has been
186 demonstrated later in the validation. To be less expensive, this procedure is
187 only performed once per time step, which means there is a risk of not being
188 able to redistribute the total mass.

189 *2.2.2. Advection of centroid*

190 To compute the centroid at the next time step, the centroid of the in-
 191 tersection of the backtrace cell with a cell is computed, then advected using
 192 the same scheme as for the backtrace cell advection as shown in Fig. 4c.
 193 All cell intersection centroids are advected forward in time individually. The
 194 new reference centroid is obtained by weighting the cell intersection centroids
 195 with their volume fraction. Since all centroids are framed within the back-
 196 trace cell at the previous time step, the new reference centroid is guaranteed
 197 to be within the cell after forward advection.

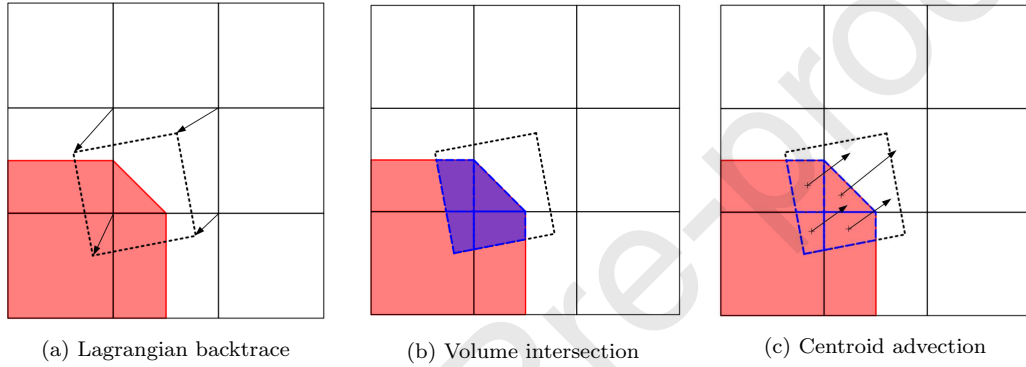


Figure 4: Dynamic test: advection of backtrace cell backwards, intersection of volumes, advection of centroids individually

198 **3. Filament capturing**

199 Filaments are defined as thin strands of material surrounded by another
 200 material within a cell. These are structures thinner than a cell size. A stan-
 201 dard MOF reconstruction would create a linear interface splitting the cell
 202 in two, hence not reconstructing the topology correctly as shown in Fig. 5.
 203 When considering a filament, two linear interfaces emerge, one on each side
 204 of the structure, meaning that two reconstructions are needed to capture the
 205 topology perfectly. In filament reconstruction, the conglomeration algorithm
 206 is capable of detecting polygons of the same material that are not adjacent
 207 by using the numerical adjacency condition. A fictitious material is intro-
 208 duced to reconstruct one of the polygons surrounding the filament. Once
 209 reconstructed, the fictitious material is reassigned to its original material.
 210 A symmetric multi-material reconstruction is presented to generate a better
 211 topology.

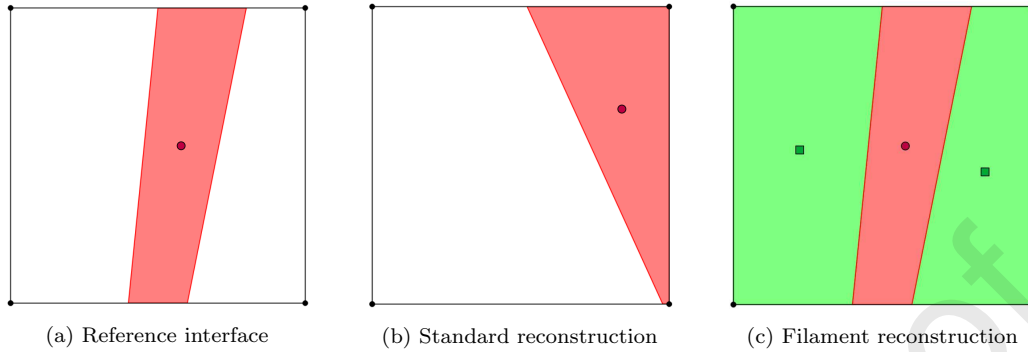


Figure 5: Schematic diagrams showing (a) a reference interface, (b) the standard MOF reconstruction and (c) filament MOF reconstruction.

212 3.1. Conglomeration

213 Filament reconstruction is performed when some adjacent polygons form-
 214 ing one material, called a conglomerate, are not adjacent to other conglom-
 215 erates of the same material. The conglomeration algorithm allows us to
 216 identify whether a cell needs a multi-material reconstruction or a standard
 217 reconstruction. It is possible to identify all polygons of one material inter-
 218 secting with the backtrace cell as shown in Fig. 6. Once all of these polygons
 219 are gathered, the conglomeration algorithm tests if each of these polygons
 220 are adjacent to each other. Conglomerates are considered even when they do
 221 not split a cell, i.e. being only adjacent to one cell edge. The green conglom-
 222 erate in Fig. 8b is one of these. Flotsam are not discussed in this paper, in
 223 general on a coarse mesh they do not tend to exist. If more than one conglom-
 224 erate is found, then one of these conglomerates is considered to be the
 225 fictitious material. The conglomeration algorithm is a tree-based structure
 226 testing adjacency of a list of polygons until the lowest level does not find any
 227 adjacent polygons. Alg. 1 details the procedure to identify conglomerates.
 228 The reference volume fraction and reference centroid can easily be computed.

229 3.2. Adjacency

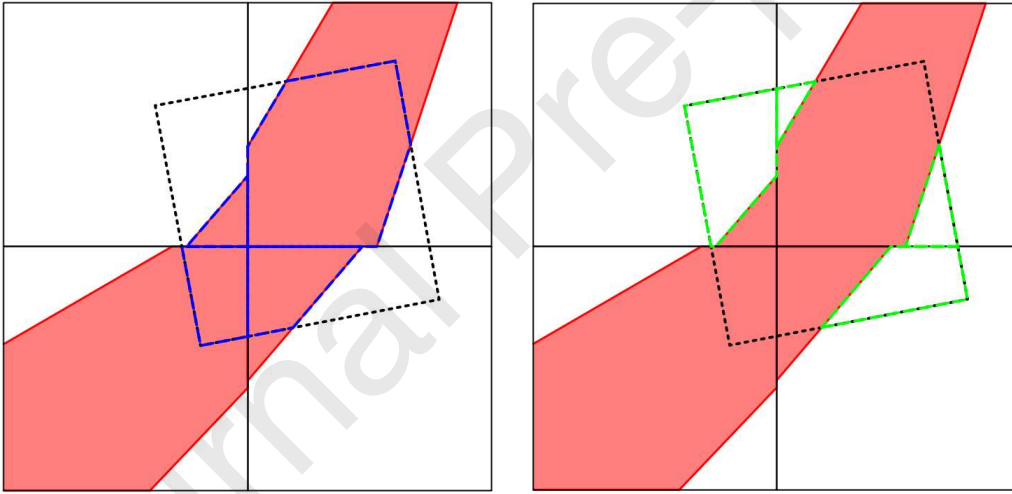
230 The adjacency test is performed on all sides (segments) of a polygon with
 231 respect to another polygon. Some tolerance is accepted as sides may not be
 232 perfectly adjacent but can still be considered adjacent. For the purpose of
 233 numerical round-off errors, each segment is described by a vector and if the
 234 magnitude of the cross-product of two vectors meets the lower bound of a
 235 tolerance, here $\Delta x \Delta y \epsilon$ with $\epsilon = 10^{-3}$, then segments are considered parallel.

Algorithm 1 Conglomeration algorithm

```

Initialise list of polygons  $list\_poly$ 
while  $list\_poly$  do
   $new\_group \leftarrow list\_poly(1)$ 
  while  $iter$  do
    for  $k = 1, size(list\_poly)$  do
      if  $is\_adjacent(new\_group(), list\_poly(k))$  then
        Remove  $list\_poly(k)$ 
        Add  $list\_poly(k)$  to  $new\_group()$ 
         $iter \leftarrow \mathbf{true}$ 
      end if
    end for
  end while
end while

```



(a) Intersection and conglomeration of material μ_1 (b) Intersection and conglomeration of material μ_0

Figure 6: Conglomeration of polygons within the backtrace cell (dashed black outline) leading to the creation of a fictitious material for a 3-material reconstruction. (a) Material μ_1 has 1 conglomerate (outline in blue); (b) Material μ_0 has 2 conglomerates (outline in green)

236 Segments may be considered parallel, yet they also need to be adjacent.
 237 Hence, the endpoint of a segment is projected onto the line defined by the
 238 other segment. If the distance between the endpoint of the segment and its

239 projection falls below the specified tolerance, here $\Delta x \epsilon$, the projection of an
 240 endpoint also needs to fall between the bounds of the other segment. Only if
 241 all conditions are satisfied, both polygons are considered to be adjacent and
 242 hence form a conglomerate. Alg. 2 summarise the conditional procedure to
 243 test if two polygons are adjacent with three nested conditions. Fig. 7 shows
 244 two polygons within a cell. Segments are highlighted in order to indicate
 245 the process of evaluating parallel and adjacent segments from two distinct
 246 polygons. Condition 1 is represented with gold segments. Condition 1 and
 247 2 are represented with blue segments. All three conditions are represented
 248 with red segments.

Algorithm 2 Adjacency test

```

Initialise vector_poly1, vector_poly2 based on all vertex_l1, vertex_l2
for l2 = 1, size(vector_poly2) do
  for l1 = 1, size(vector_poly1) do
    {% Condition 1}
    if abs(cross_product(vector_poly2(l2),vector_poly1(l1)))  $\leq \Delta x \cdot \Delta y \cdot \epsilon$ 
  then
    {% Condition 2}
    if distance(vertex_l2, projection_on_line(vertex_l2, line(vector_poly1)))  $\leq$ 
 $\Delta x \cdot \epsilon$  then
      {% Condition 3}
      if projection_on_segment(vertex_l2, segment_l1)  $\leftarrow$  true then
        is_adjacent  $\leftarrow$  true
      end if
    end if
  end if
end for
end for

```

249 *3.3. Limitation to three materials*

250 It may happen that more than three conglomerates form within the back-
 251 trace cell. In that case, a multi-material reconstruction can be considered.
 252 However, it can lead to expensive reconstruction when testing all the com-
 253 binations for several cells per iteration. For this purpose, the number of
 254 conglomerates is capped at three in our model. Conglomerates are sorted by
 255 their volume fraction.

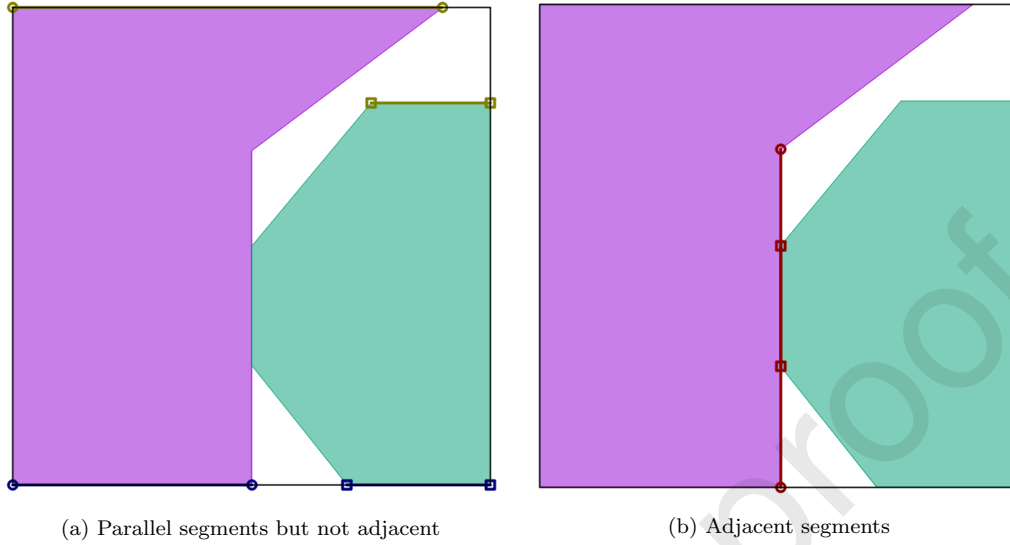
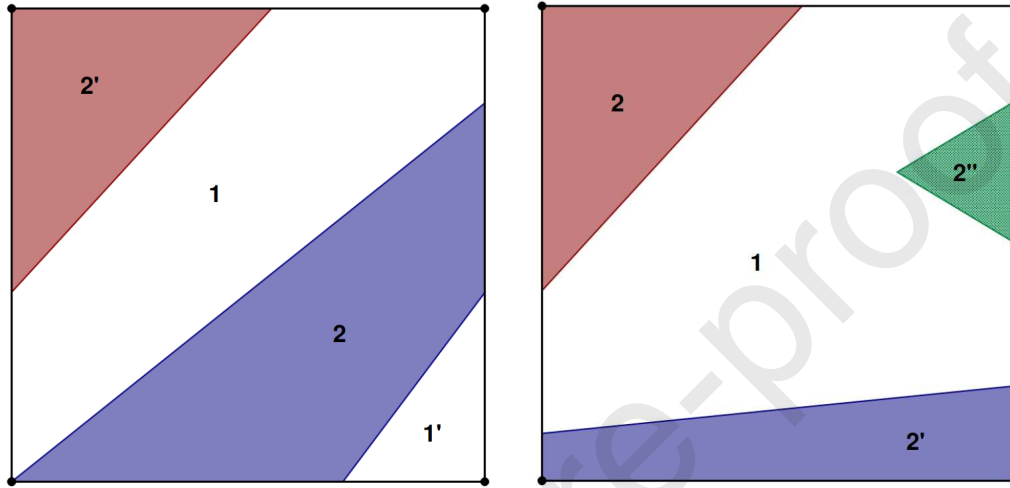


Figure 7: Schematic diagrams to test adjacent segments with another polygon: (a) shows two configurations where segments are parallel. Projection of the endpoints do not fall within tolerance (highlighted in gold). One of the projections of the endpoints does not fall within the other segment (highlighted in blue); (b) shows two segments that are parallel and adjacent, the projection of the endpoints falls within tolerance and within the other segment.

256 If two conglomerates exist for each material, the following condition is
 257 tested. If the second conglomerate of one of the materials has a volume
 258 fraction smaller than 10^{-3} , then its volume fraction is added to the main
 259 (largest in volume fraction) conglomerate. If there still exists two conglomer-
 260 erates for each material, no conglomerates are considered and a standard
 261 reconstruction with the total volume fraction per material is performed. Fig.
 262 8a highlights this scenario. Indeed, coloured conglomerates belong to Mate-
 263 rial 2, explicitly 2 and 2'. Material 1 also have two conglomerates in white,
 264 explicitly 1 and 1'. None of them are smaller than 10^{-3} in volume fraction.

265 In other cases, conglomerates with the smallest volume are "reattached"
 266 to the largest conglomerate of the same material in the cell, usually where
 267 one material has one conglomerate and the other has more than two con-
 268 glomerates. Then, these smaller conglomerates have their volume fraction
 269 added to the largest conglomerates. Fig. 8b highlights this scenario. Three
 270 conglomerates (colored) belong to Material 2, here explicitly 2, 2' and 2".
 271 Conglomerate 2" will be reattached to Conglomerate 2, while Conglomerate

272 2' will be considered to be the fictitious material for reconstruction. "Reat-
 273 taching" to the nearest conglomerates based on the distance between their
 274 respective centroids may also be considered but does not affect the topology
 275 greatly as volume fraction for these conglomerates is often very small.



(a) Two conglomerates exist of size larger than 10^{-3} for each material leading to them being reconstructed as a standard MOF (b) Three conglomerates exist for Material 2 leading to reattachment of the green conglomerate to the red (largest in cell)

Figure 8: Schematic showing two complex examples of sorting multiple conglomerates within the same cell. We assume all colored polygons belong to Material 2.

276 3.4. Symmetric reconstruction of filaments

277 The reason to cap the number of materials at three is based on com-
 278 putational cost. Reconstructing more than three materials at once has a
 279 significantly higher cost than only three materials. In addition, using a sym-
 280 metric reconstruction of filaments may provide a better topology in material
 281 reconstruction.

282 A standard reconstruction aims to reconstruct an interface based only on
 283 minimising the centroid error of one material regardless of the other material
 284 in cell reconstruction. In some cases, this can lead to a large error in the
 285 remaining material centroid. The symmetric reconstruction approach aims
 286 to minimise both centroids at the same time. The objective function $f_{sym}(\mathbf{n})$,
 287 combining both centroid defects, is given by

$$f_{sym}(\mathbf{n}) = |\mathbf{x}_{ref}(\mu_1) - \mathbf{x}_{act}(\mu_1)(\mathbf{n})| + |\mathbf{x}_{ref}(\mu_{rem}) - \mathbf{x}_{act}(\mu_{rem})(\mathbf{n})| \quad (6)$$

288 where $x_{ref}(\mu_{rem})$ denotes the reference centroid of the remaining material in
 289 cell, and $x_{act}(\mu_{rem})$ is its reconstruction centroid.

290 When it comes to filament reconstruction or three material reconstruc-
 291 tion, the standard approach is to test all ordering combinations and evaluate
 292 the topology that reduces the total centroid defect. This procedure is called
 293 a sequential reconstruction. The total centroid defect E can be expressed as
 294 the sum of all material μ_i centroid errors

$$E = \sqrt{\sum_i^n |\mathbf{x}_{ref}(\mu_i) - \mathbf{x}_{act}(\mu_i)|^2} \quad (7)$$

295 Consider three materials A, B and C, then six different configurations are
 296 possible. Explicitly, and in order of reconstruction, these are (ABC), (ACB),
 297 (BAC), (BCA), (CAB) and (CBA). A symmetric reconstruction reduces the
 298 number of combinations to only three, thereby reducing the computational
 299 effort. Considering the same materials, (ABC) and (ACB) would be redun-
 300 dant as the first reconstruction minimises A and the grouping of B and C.
 301 Then, (BC) or (CB) will result in the same reconstruction as only symmetric
 302 reconstruction is considered. As seen in Fig. 9, a symmetric reconstruction
 303 provides a *better* topology.

304 4. Results

305 In this section, several benchmark problems are considered with the aim
 306 of testing the performance of the new filament MOF method. Several prob-
 307 lems are of considerable interest since the associated velocity field yields high
 308 deformation in the material. Maintaining the correct topology at maximum
 309 deformation is attractive and important for most engineering problems. How-
 310 ever, in order to assess the predictive capability of interface capturing meth-
 311 ods, each of the flows is reversed over the same time period and compared
 312 to its original configuration. Whilst comparison with the initial condition is
 313 possible, the MOF enables one to evaluate the difference between the final
 314 reconstruction and the original/reference configuration rather than the initial
 315 reconstruction. From a computational cost perspective, our model uses an

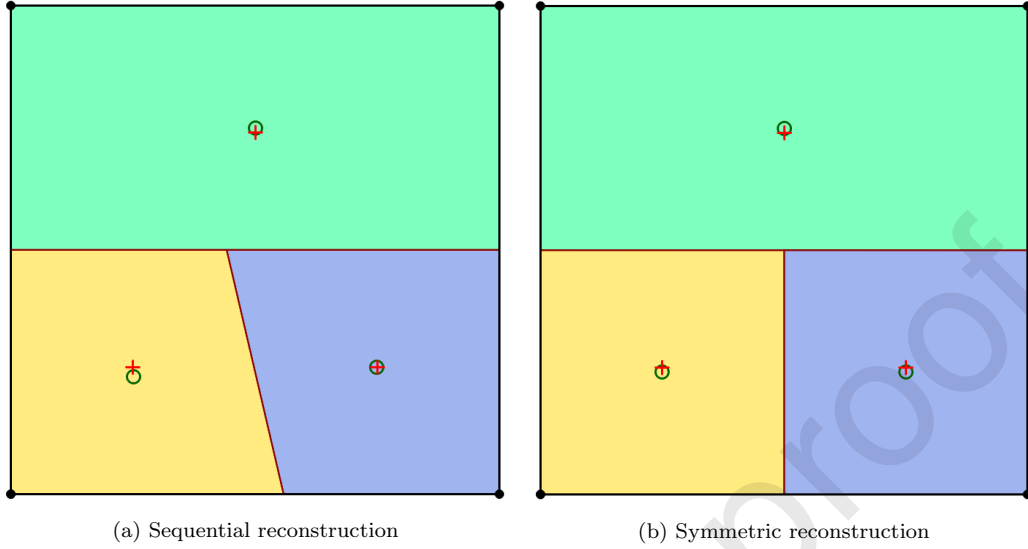


Figure 9: Comparison of (a) sequential and (b) symmetric reconstruction when using three materials, where (+) denotes the reference centroids and (o) denotes the reconstructed centroids.

analytical reconstruction where possible. Indeed, when only the reconstruction of a piecewise linear interface between two materials in a Cartesian cell is required, this approach is significantly more efficient. In order to reduce the total error in reconstruction, the interface is reconstructed based on the material with the smallest volume fraction in a cell as suggested by Makundan et al. [24]. For cases involving more than two materials reconstruction, the symmetric multi-material approach is chosen.

4.1. Error evaluation

Evaluating errors in interface reconstruction is a powerful tool to compare different interface tracking/capturing methods. The numerical errors in terms of volume fraction can be evaluated with the L_1 error norm E_{L_1} as

$$E_{L_1} = \sum |F_{final} - F_{initial}| |\Omega| \quad (8)$$

its relative error norm E_r

$$E_r = \frac{\sum |F_{final} - F_{initial}| |\Omega|}{\sum |F_{initial}| |\Omega|} \quad (9)$$

328 and its maximum error norm L_∞

$$L_\infty = \max_i |F_{final} - F_{initial}| |\Omega| \quad (10)$$

329 A more representative error measure is the symmetric difference error
 330 which provides a better estimate of the interface reconstruction error. The
 331 symmetric difference error E_{sym} is given by

$$E_{sym} = \sum |\omega^{ref} \cup \omega^{act} - \omega^{ref} \cap \omega^{act}| \quad (11)$$

332 When comparing the reference interface with its reconstruction in indi-
 333 vidual cells, the symmetric difference error can be interpreted as the area
 334 between the two interfaces. Fig. 10 shows three different scenarios of in-
 335 tersecting interfaces and highlights the area corresponding to the symmetric
 336 difference error E_{sym} . Some simple calculations are necessary to evaluate the
 337 area of a segment.

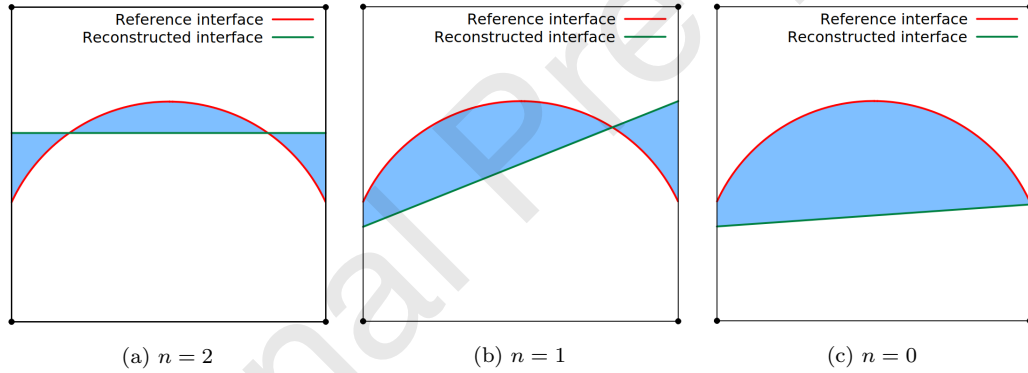


Figure 10: Symmetric difference error E_{sym} in a single cell. The area shaded in blue highlights the error corresponding to E_{sym} irrespective of the number of times, n , the reconstructed interface intersects the reference interface: (a) $n = 2$, (b) $n = 1$, (c) $n = 0$.

338 As well as evaluating the error in reconstruction, ensuring mass conser-
 339 vation is also crucial during these advection tests. In 2D, mass conservation
 340 corresponds to area preservation and mass loss is given by the expression

$$\Delta m = \sum |F_{final}| |\Omega| - \sum |F_{initial}| |\Omega| \quad (12)$$

341

342

343 *4.2. Benchmark: Zalesak slotted disc*

344 In this benchmark test case, a slotted disk is advected in a rigid body
 345 rotation motion. A circle of radius $r = 0.15$, with a slotted rectangle of width
 346 $w = 0.05$ and a maximum height of $h = 0.85$, is centered at $(0.5, 0.75)$ in a
 347 unit domain. The corresponding velocity field is given by

$$\mathbf{u}(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 - y \\ x - 0.5 \end{bmatrix} \quad (13)$$

348

349

350 This case does not exhibit any filament formation, however it shows that
 351 the conglomeration algorithm works for velocity fields that are rotating rather
 352 than deforming the interface. Five different uniform grids have been used
 353 explicitly 32×32 , 64×64 , 128×128 , 256×256 and 512×512 . On the
 354 coarsest mesh is 32×32 , the number of iterations is set to be $n_{it} = 1256$
 355 and $\Delta t = 2\pi/n_{it}$. The number of iterations is increased proportionally with
 356 increasing mesh refinement. Hence, Δt is decreased correspondingly.

357 In order to study the error convergence, the error calculation for this test
 358 case is based on the L_1 error. Table 1 summarises the L_1 error for different
 359 mesh sizes and highlights the convergence of the numerical approximation.
 360 In addition, Fig. 11 highlights the final solution after a full body rotation
 361 for the first three grids. The shape of the original interface is captured well.
 362 However, the sharp edges around the slotted rectangle have been smoothed
 363 out during the rotation. Indeed, the MOF method is not able to capture these
 364 edges regardless of the degree of mesh resolution. The maximum error L_∞ is
 365 a more relevant measure of the error for this problem in order to understand
 366 the order of convergence around sharp edges. In this case, second order
 367 convergence may be attained in some instances but it may depend on the
 368 alignment of the sharp edges of the slotted disk with the grid.

369 The behaviour of the L_1 error over one rotation is shown in Fig. 12 for
 370 three different meshes mentioned in Fig. 11. The plot highlights that despite
 371 the interface only rotating, the error increases during the rotation progresses
 372 as the interface reconstruction error accumulates at each time step.

373 *4.3. Benchmark: Reversible Vortex $T=8$*

374 The reversible vortex is a benchmark test case for deforming advection
 375 cases. A circle of radius $r = 0.15$ centered at $[0.5, 0.75]$ in a unit domain is

Table 1: Dependence of the L_1 error, E_{L_1} , relative error, E_r , and maximum error L_∞ on mesh size for the Zalesak slotted disc problem

Mesh size	E_{L_1}	E_r	L_∞
32	3.17×10^{-3} (-)	5.45×10^{-2} (-)	2.77×10^{-4} (-)
64	9.02×10^{-4} (1.81)	1.55×10^{-2} (1.81)	5.23×10^{-5} (2.40)
128	3.81×10^{-4} (1.24)	6.54×10^{-3} (1.24)	3.47×10^{-5} (0.59)
256	1.35×10^{-4} (1.50)	2.31×10^{-3} (1.50)	1.52×10^{-5} (1.19)
512	4.93×10^{-5} (1.45)	8.47×10^{-4} (1.45)	2.47×10^{-6} (2.62)

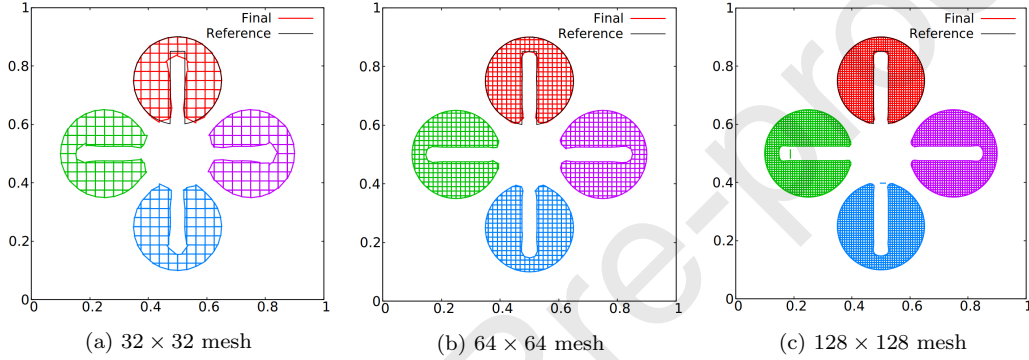


Figure 11: Solution of rigid body rotation for the Zalesak slotted disc. Green depicts a quarter of rotation. Blue half rotation. Purple three quarter of rotation. Red depicts a full rotation and final solution. The black outline depicts the reference interface.

376 deformed in a divergence-free velocity field given by

$$\mathbf{u}(x, y, t) = \begin{bmatrix} -\sin^2(\pi x) \sin(2\pi y) \\ \sin^2(\pi y) \sin(2\pi x) \end{bmatrix} \cos(\pi t/T) \quad (14)$$

377 where T represents the full period and $T/2$ the time at maximum deforma-
 378 tion. Here $T = 8$. The Courant-Friedrichs-Lewy (CFL) number is 1, hence
 379 the number of iterations $n_{it} = 256$ and $\Delta t = \Delta x$ when a 32×32 uniform
 380 Cartesian mesh is considered. The number of iterations increases propor-
 381 tionally with the mesh.

382 The circle deforms in a filamentary structure at maximum deformation
 383 $t = T/2$. For this test case, filament detection is enabled. Several grids from
 384 32×32 to 1024×1024 have been used to perform this dynamic test case.

385 The symmetric difference error, E_{sym} , is shown in Table 2 for the initial
 386 reconstruction and at the final stage. The performance of our method is

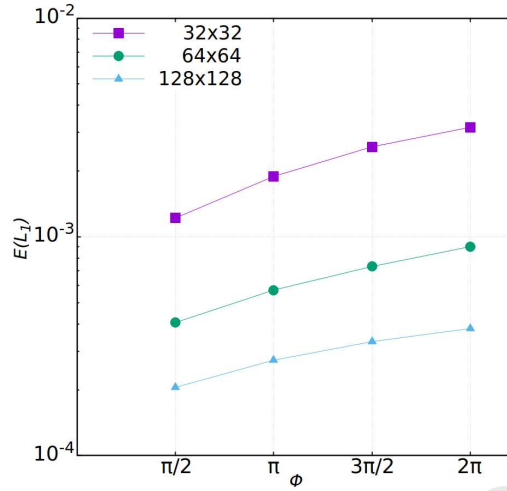


Figure 12: Behaviour of the L_1 error during the rigid body rotation of the Zalesak slotted disc for different mesh sizes. Φ denotes the angle of full body rotation.

387 compared with the results obtained using other MOF methods as well as
 388 with the standard MOF. Runtime, rounded to the next integer value, is
 389 also compared because the MOF method can be computationally expensive.
 390 Currently, the code has not been parallelised and so the computations are
 391 performed on a single core. The order of convergence of this method is also
 392 highlighted as well as the mass difference.

393 Fig. 13 shows the maximum deformation before reversal and the final
 394 reconstruction for different mesh sizes: 32×32 , 64×64 and 128×128 ,
 395 respectively. Using a filament approach, the vortex does not exhibit any
 396 spurious separated structures, even on a coarse mesh. In this test case, the
 397 trailing tail shows a thicker structure as the coarse cell cannot reconstruct
 398 the filament tail accurately. As the mesh is refined, the tail becomes well-
 399 defined but thicker than the filament width. The MOF method naturally
 400 creates these structures as it exhibits some cross-stream diffusion, leading to a
 401 shorter tail than expected. The symmetric difference error converges slightly
 402 faster than other MOF methods with a smaller error on the finest mesh.
 403 Runtime is also considerably faster by a factor of between two to five. The
 404 error shows high order of convergence, almost matching the reference order
 405 two. The symmetric difference error for standard MOF exhibits a slower
 406 order of convergence on coarser grids. However, the symmetric difference
 407 error is almost indistinguishable on the finest meshes for the two approaches.

Table 2: Reversible vortex test case data using $T = 8$ compared with the standard MOF (STD MOF) and with results generated using other MOF methods in the literature: a standard MOF with adaptive mesh refinement (AMR) method [22], a filament AMR method [20], a coupled level-set MOF (CLSMOF) [24].

Mesh size	32	64	128	256	512	1024
E_{sym} in [22]	2.34×10^{-2}	3.31×10^{-3}	5.78×10^{-4}	1.22×10^{-4}	2.01×10^{-5}	-
Order of convergence	-	2.82	2.51	2.24	2.60	-
E_{sym} in [20]	3.12×10^{-3}	6.91×10^{-4}	2.77×10^{-4}	-	-	-
Order of convergence	-	2.17	1.31	-	-	-
Runtime in [20]	32.6	200	635.3	-	-	-
E_{sym} in [24]	1.32×10^{-3}	1.01×10^{-3}	5.44×10^{-4}	2.76×10^{-4}	1.38×10^{-4}	6.90×10^{-5}
Order of convergence	-	0.39	0.89	0.98	1.0	1.0
E_{sym} for STD MOF	1.42×10^{-2}	7.46×10^{-3}	1.29×10^{-3}	9.19×10^{-5}	1.45×10^{-5}	4.07×10^{-6}
Order of convergence	-	0.92	2.53	3.81	2.66	1.83
Initial E_{sym}	1.74×10^{-4}	4.06×10^{-5}	1.28×10^{-5}	2.99×10^{-6}	1.49×10^{-7}	4.19×10^{-8}
Final E_{sym}	2.80×10^{-3}	5.06×10^{-4}	1.54×10^{-4}	4.45×10^{-5}	1.48×10^{-5}	3.64×10^{-6}
Order of convergence	-	2.46	1.71	1.79	1.58	2.02
Mass difference	1.09×10^{-6}	2.54×10^{-7}	3.98×10^{-8}	2.31×10^{-9}	-1.50×10^{-6}	2.05×10^{-12}
Runtime (s)	17	31	95	447	4856	43942

4.3.1. Influence of the mass redistribution

The remapping procedure does not affect the topology greatly as the volume fraction that needs to be redistributed during the procedure is very small. Indeed, during the deformation of the vortex the volume fraction redistributed oscillates between 10^{-4} and 10^{-10} . During the early stages of the deformation, most mass has to be redistributed as there are many cells in the inner part of the circle that are over/under-filled and very few cells are mixed cells, i.e. cells containing an interface. On the contrary, at maximum deformation, very few cells are over/under-filled cells, most of them contains an interface, or two in the case of filaments. Fig. 14 summarises this. The difference between with and without the post advection remapping procedure is highlighted in Fig. 14a, whereas Fig. 14b shows the variation of volume fraction redistributed per iteration. Note that the mass is redistributed equally between mixed cells. Tab. 3 shows the mass difference for the reversible vortex case ($T = 8$) for a case where the mass was redistributed and when it was not. Two orders of magnitude of difference can be observed, which shows the advantage of the proposed method for mass

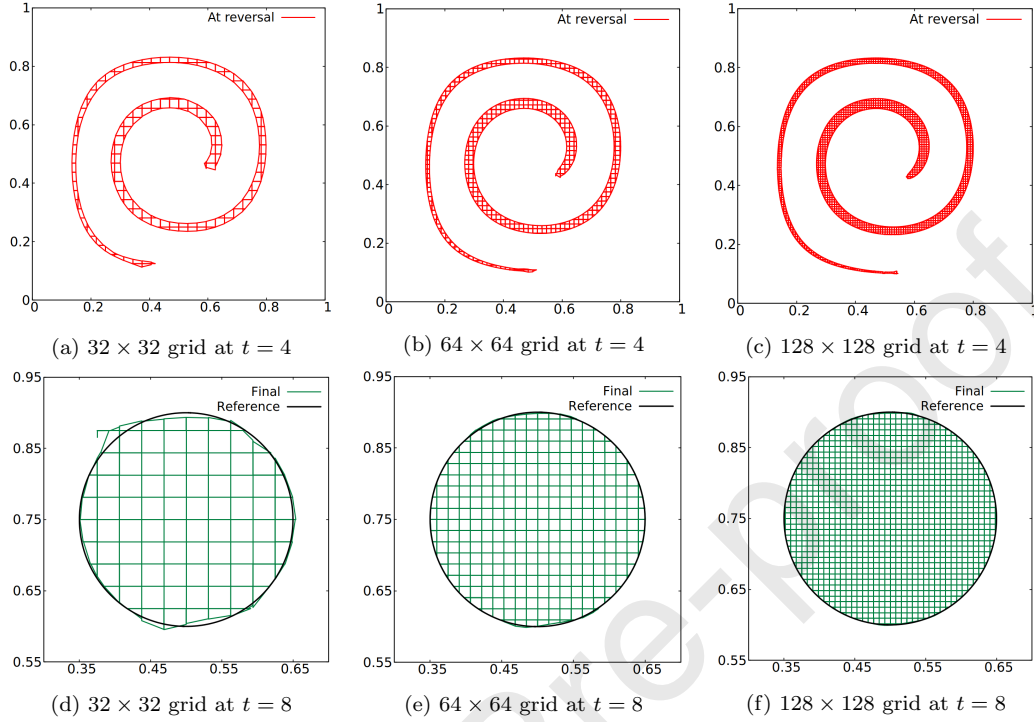
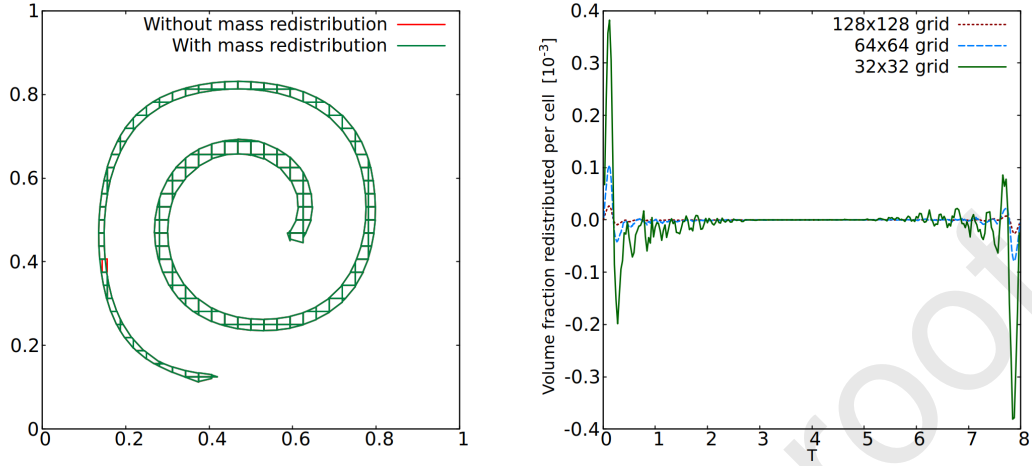


Figure 13: Reversible vortex test case using $T = 8$ for 32×32 , 64×64 and 128×128 grids. Top row of figures shows the maximum deformation. Bottom row of figures shows the final interface.

425 conservation.

426 4.3.2. Influence of the CFL number on the interface

427 One expects the CFL number to influence the interface reconstruction.
 428 However, the Lagrangian advection procedure is not greatly affected by the
 429 CFL number. Therefore, most cases are performed with the maximum avail-
 430 able CFL number which equals unity. In theory, a CFL number greater than
 431 unity can be used for such advection benchmarks. However, the stencil used
 432 in the dynamic test procedure encompasses only a 3×3 stencil and therefore
 433 limits larger CFL numbers. Fig. 15 shows a zoom on the final reconstruction
 434 for different CFL numbers 0.2, 0.4, 0.5, 0.8 and 1.0 and the error convergence.
 435 A lower CFL number will induce a larger number of iterations, therefore in-
 436 creasing the chances of error in reconstruction. However, the difference in
 437 error is relatively small in magnitude. The difference on the interface only



(a) Filament MOF reconstruction including comparison with post advection remapping procedure (b) Volume fraction redistributed as a function of the time period of the reversible vortex T

Figure 14: Comparison showing the effect on the interface shape of the post advection remapping procedure for mass conservation and the actual mass redistributed per iteration for different grids.

438 occurs near the top of the circle which is near the tip of the filament at
 439 maximum deformation.

440 4.3.3. Influence of the filament capable method

441 Filament capable MOF is able to reconstruct a moving interface with a
 442 greater accuracy and better topology. Indeed, under strong deformations,
 443 materials tend to break up when they are not predicted to do so. At the
 444 instant of maximum deformation, a continuous interface is more likely and
 445 will result in better modelling of multiphase flows. Fig. 16 highlights both
 446 visual reconstruction and convergence of the standard and filament solution.
 447 Fig. 16a shows that several break ups of the dynamic interface occur when a
 448 standard MOF reconstruction is implemented. The final reconstruction does
 449 not match the reference circle. Fig. 16b compares the order of convergence
 450 between a standard and the proposed filament approach, together with other
 451 MOF methods. Note that for the finer grids, the error tends to the same
 452 values as the thickness of the structure is larger than a cell size, hence not
 453 using the filamentary approach as frequently during the dynamic test.

Table 3: Mass difference for the reversible vortex with and without post advection remapping procedure

Mesh size	With redistribution	Without redistribution
32	1.09×10^{-6}	1.35×10^{-4}
64	2.54×10^{-7}	2.58×10^{-5}
128	3.98×10^{-8}	3.75×10^{-6}
256	2.31×10^{-9}	5.72×10^{-6}

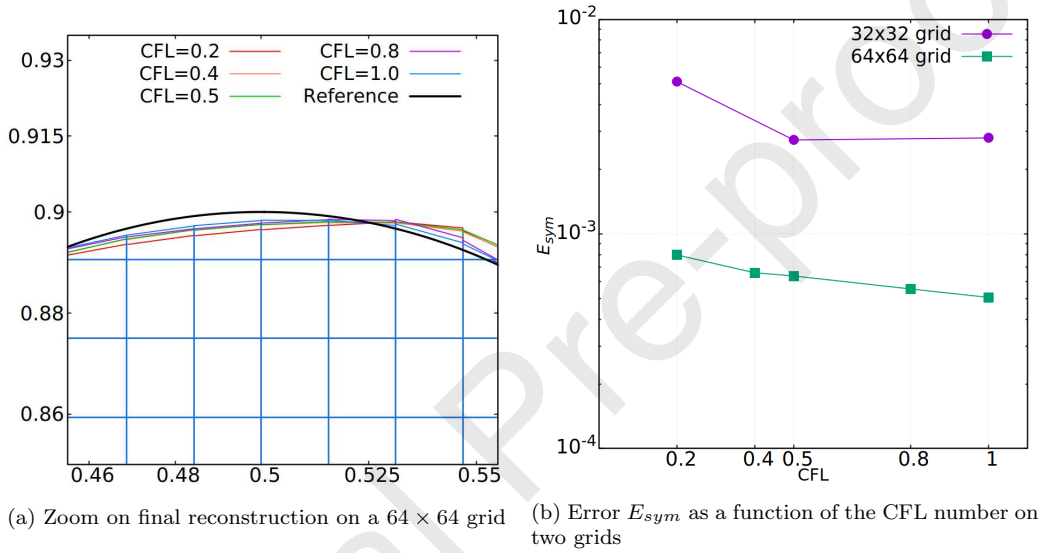
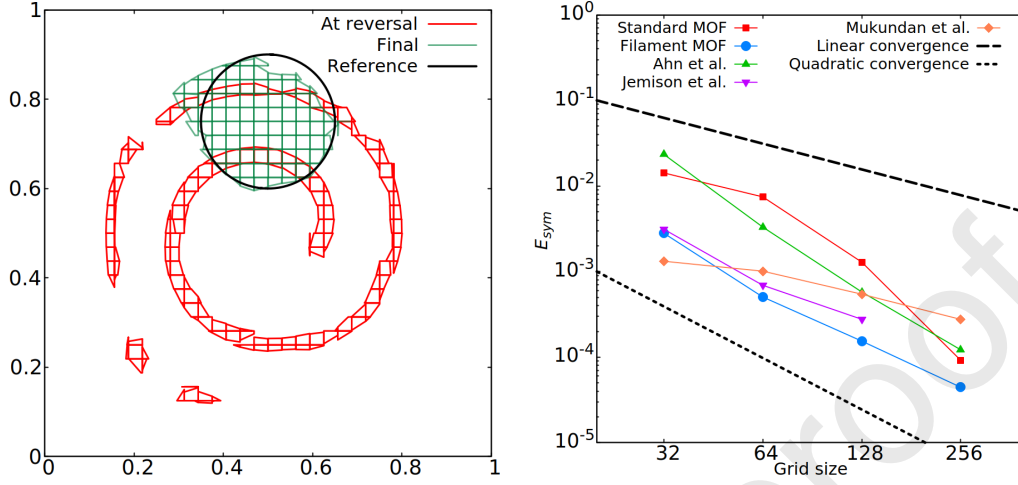


Figure 15: (a) Influence of the CFL number on the final reconstruction of part of the interface; (b) symmetric difference error, E_{sym} , as a function of the CFL number for two grids: 32×32 and 64×64

4.4. Test case: Reversible Vortex $T=12$

This is the same benchmark test case as considered in Section 4.3 except that the full period is increased to $T = 12$. A larger period increases the deformation and thinner filaments are exhibited. Table 4 summarises the symmetric difference error for six different mesh sizes from 32×32 to 1024×1024 . As the material is more deformed than in the previous benchmark with $T = 8$, the expected symmetric difference error is larger. As the mesh is refined, there are no longer significant benefits associated with using the filament method as the thickness of the deformed filament is greater than a cell width. Consequently, the order of convergence decreases from quadratic



(a) Standard MOF reconstruction for a 32×32 grid at reversal (in red) and final (in green). Black outline denotes the reference interface. (b) Convergence Behaviour of the standard MOF and filament MOF compared with the literature using E_{sym} .

Figure 16: (a) Influence of the filament capable method on the reconstruction; (b) Symmetric difference error E_{sym} compared with other MOF methods. Convergence rate is compared with a linear and quadratic reference.

464 to linear until the order of convergence of the filament MOF follows that for
 465 standard MOF. The mass difference is very comparable. However, runtime
 466 is increased significantly. Indeed, the number of cells containing a filament
 467 structure compared to a standard interface is very large. Fig. 17 highlights
 468 the morphology of the very thin interface. Because filament reconstruction
 469 is computationally more expensive, the runtime is increased by a factor of
 470 three.

471 4.5. Benchmark: Droplet flow

472 The droplet flow test case has a nonlinear divergence free velocity field.
 473 The deformation of material tears an initial circle of radius $r = 0.125$ centred
 474 in a unit domain into a V-shape. The velocity field is given by

$$\mathbf{u}(x, y, t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.125(8x - 4) \\ 0.125 [-(8y - 4) - 4 - (1 - (8x - 4)^2 - (8x - 4)^4)] \end{bmatrix} f(t) \quad (15)$$

475 The velocity field is a function of time as the amplitude, $f(t)$, varies in time
 476 according to

Table 4: Symmetric difference error, L_1 error, mass difference and runtime for the reversible vortex test case using $T = 12$ and its comparison with the standard MOF (STD MOF).

Mesh size	32	64	128	256	512	1024
Final E_{sym}	4.98×10^{-3}	9.91×10^{-4}	2.48×10^{-4}	1.27×10^{-4}	2.06×10^{-5}	6.33×10^{-6}
Order of convergence	-	2.32	1.99	0.96	2.62	1.70
$E(L_1)$	4.18×10^{-3}	9.62×10^{-4}	2.58×10^{-4}	1.23×10^{-4}	4.11×10^{-5}	6.29×10^{-6}
Order of convergence	-	2.11	1.89	1.06	1.58	2.70
Mass difference	3.12×10^{-6}	3.08×10^{-7}	4.93×10^{-8}	4.01×10^{-9}	-8.93×10^{-12}	-7.33×10^{-7}
Runtime (s)	51	95	180	958	7334	65418
E_{sym} for STD MOF	2.66×10^{-2}	1.81×10^{-2}	3.37×10^{-3}	1.18×10^{-3}	4.05×10^{-5}	7.70×10^{-6}
Order of convergence	-	0.55	2.42	1.51	4.86	2.39

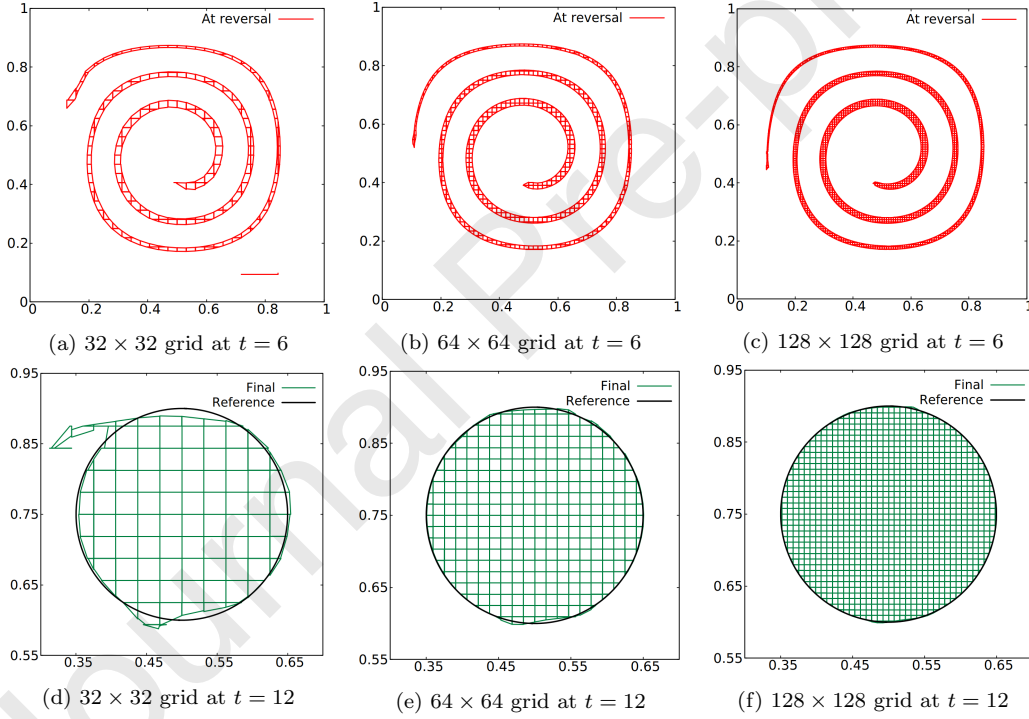


Figure 17: Reversible vortex test case using $T = 12$ for 32×32 , 64×64 , 128×128 grids. Top row of figures shows the maximum deformation. Bottom row of figures shows the final interface

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \leq t < T_{max} - t_\epsilon/2 \\ \cos\left(\frac{\pi(t - T_{max} + t_\epsilon/2)}{t_\epsilon}\right) & T_{max} - t_\epsilon/2 \leq t \leq T_{max} + t_\epsilon/2 \\ -1 & T_{max} + t_\epsilon/2 < t \leq 2T_{max} \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

477 At $T_{max} = 0.8$, time at maximum deformation, the flow is reversed. The flow
 478 is reversed smoothly during a transition period of $t_\epsilon = 0.1$.

479 This test case provides a good insight into the filamentary formation of
 480 materials as the filament tip is leading as opposed to trailing in the previous
 481 benchmark. For the base grid, 32×32 , the number of iterations is set to
 482 $n_{it} = 160$ for the entire simulation and $\Delta t = 0.01$. The number of itera-
 483 tions is increased proportionally with the mesh and therefore Δt is decreased
 484 proportionally with the mesh.

485 The dynamic test is performed for different grids from 32×32 to 256×256
 486 using a filamentary method. As the mesh is refined, this approach becomes
 487 less relevant. The symmetric difference error is compared with [20] despite
 488 an AMR capability being used in that paper. In addition, details of mass
 489 conversation and runtime are given in Table 5. Fig. 18 shows the maximum
 490 deformation and final reconstruction for 32×32 , 64×64 , 128×128 grids,
 491 respectively. It can be seen that coarser meshes lead to larger error in re-
 492 construction. In addition, the method exhibits some diffusion in the sense
 493 of "floating" elements. These "floating" elements could be attenuated with
 494 a higher tolerance in available cell volume fraction. Lower volume fraction
 495 tends to create long and thin polygons, hence a larger error in reconstruction.
 496 The lower bound of volume fraction available in a cell is set to 10^{-5} in our
 497 model, compared to 10^{-8} in most comparative studies. We note that both
 498 maximum deformation and final reconstruction show a symmetric left-right
 499 deformation. As the tip of the filament gets thinner, even the filamentary ap-
 500 proach cannot reconstruct the structure accurately. This leads to a shranked
 501 filament structure. When the grid is refined, the tip of the filaments are well-
 502 defined and the final solution shows acceptable errors. The mass difference
 503 is acceptable, bearing in mind the choice of only one round of redistribution.
 504 In terms of runtime, the performance is compared with AMR [20] which uses
 505 fewer cells than in this paper. The order of convergence of the solution shows
 506 a remarkable performance compared to methods described in other papers.

507 4.6. Benchmark: Rotating filament

508 The rotating filament benchmark is a test case where a thin rectangle is
 509 advected anti-clockwise in a rigid body rotation motion. The velocity field
 510 is the same as in Sec. 4.2 and is given in Eq. (13). The rectangle is centered
 511 at $(0.505, 0.75)$ in a unit domain. Its initial width is $w = 0.006$ and height is
 512 $h = 0.3$. For a coarse mesh, here a 100×100 grid, the initial condition may

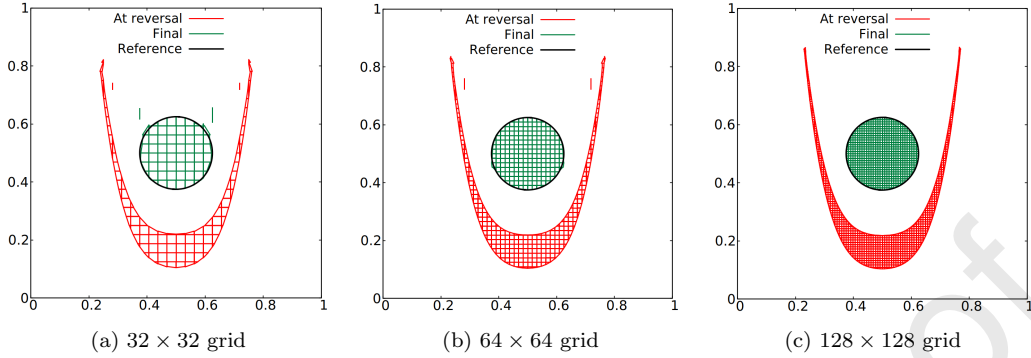


Figure 18: Intermediate and final reconstruction for the droplet flow test case for different mesh sizes. Red depicts the maximum deformation before reversal. Green depicts the final reconstruction. The black outline is the reference circle.

Table 5: Symmetric difference error, order of convergence, mass difference and runtime for the droplet flow test case at final reconstruction compared to reference papers.

Mesh size	32	64	128	256
E_{sym} in [20]	2.48×10^{-3}	6.37×10^{-4}	2.96×10^{-4}	-
Order of convergence	-	1.96	1.10	-
Runtime (s)	191.3	529.3	940.4	-
E_{sym}	1.71×10^{-3}	7.36×10^{-4}	1.26×10^{-4}	5.09×10^{-5}
Order of convergence	-	1.21	2.54	1.30
Mass difference	-1.16×10^{-9}	-1.07×10^{-7}	-4.49×10^{-11}	9.31×10^{-12}
Runtime (s)	3	9	29	166

513 already contain a filament structure. The corresponding number of iterations
 514 is set to $n_{it} = 300$ and $\Delta t = 2\pi/n_{it}$.

515 This benchmark can only be tested with a filament enabled approach on
 516 such coarse meshes. Indeed, even with a 200×200 grid, the filament body is
 517 subject to under-resolved filamentary structures. Fig. 19 shows the rotating
 518 filament at different stages of the full body rotation. The filament body is
 519 well reconstructed. However, both ends of the filament show cross-stream dif-
 520 fusion because the MOF method cannot reconstruct sharp edges accurately.
 521 In addition, the filament height is shortened due to the reconstruction error.
 522 The filament shortening matches with the height shown in [20]. The zoom
 523 on the top left of the figure highlights both shortening of the filament and
 524 cross-stream diffusion compared to the reference rectangle outlined in black.

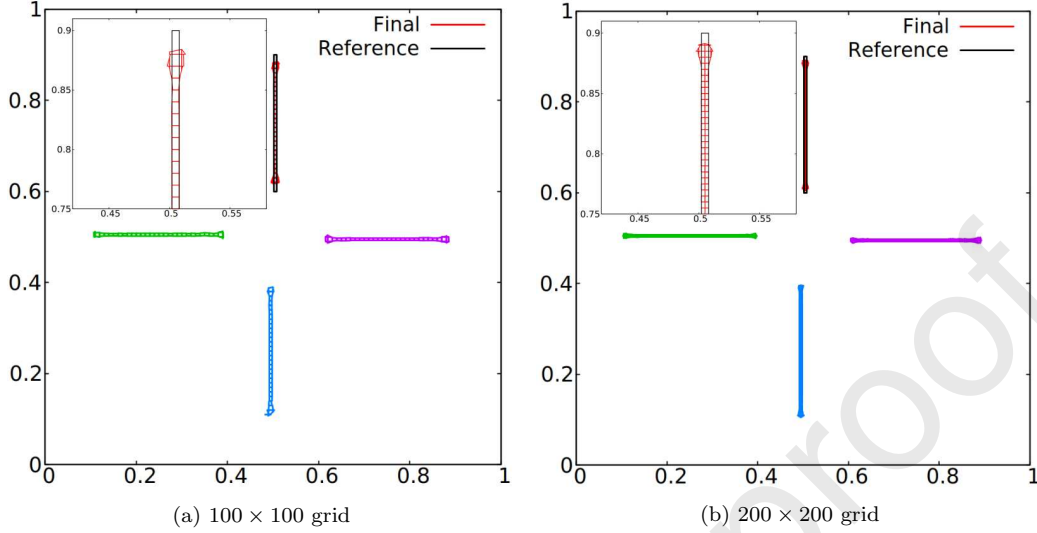


Figure 19: Solution of rigid body rotation for the rotating filament. Green depicts a quarter of rotation. Blue half rotation. Purple three quarter of rotation. Red depicts a full rotation and final solution. The black outline depicts the reference interface.

525 4.7. Benchmark: S-shape

526 The S-Shape test case comprises a circle of radius $r = 0.25$ initialised in
 527 the centre of a unit domain. The associated velocity field is nonlinear and
 528 divergence free and given by

$$\mathbf{u}(x, y, t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.25[(4x - 2) + (4y - 2)^3] \\ -0.25[(4y - 2) + (4x - 2)^3] \end{bmatrix} f(t) \quad (17)$$

529 The advection process creates a highly deformed and thin structure which
 530 means the filamentary capability is also enabled here. The amplitude $f(t)$
 531 is given in Eq. (16). However, in this benchmark problem the maximum
 532 deformation occurs at $T_{max} = 4$ and the smooth transition period is $t_\epsilon = 2$.

533 This case shows strong deformation and thin structures, mainly in the
 534 centre of the domain. A coarse mesh would struggle to reconstruct these
 535 structures. Indeed, for the 32×32 grid in Fig. 20, the central part may
 536 have three interfaces within a cell. Therefore, capping to three materials is
 537 a limiting factor, creating larger errors in reconstruction. Because of large
 538 reconstruction errors, several structures may merge and lead to different end
 539 results. The 64×64 grid is fine enough to have a maximum of two interfaces in
 540 a cell. The deformed interface shows an accurate representation at maximum
 541 deformation.

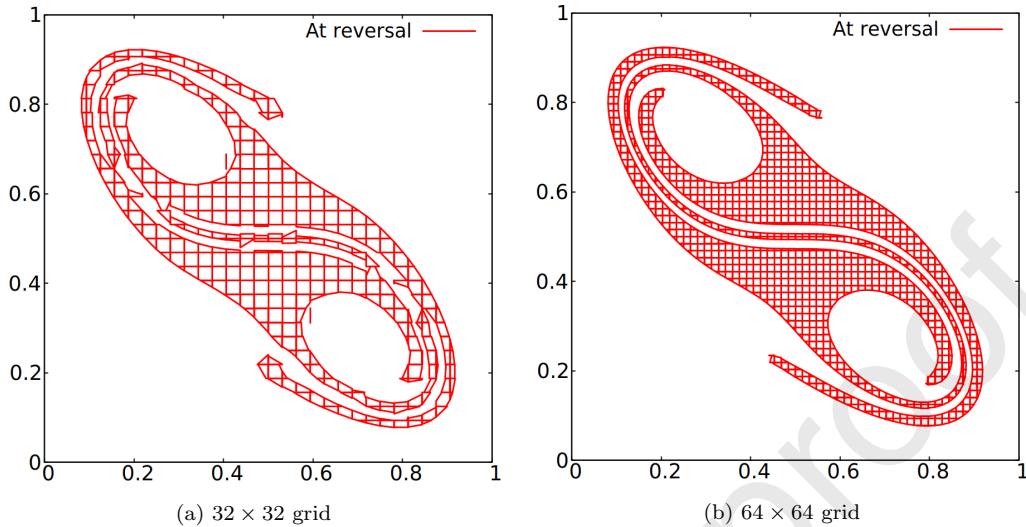


Figure 20: Maximum deformation for the S-shape benchmark.

542 5. Conclusions

543 In this paper, a new MOF method with a symmetric multi-material ap-
 544 proach has been presented where thin structures are resolved using a fila-
 545 ment approach for a fixed coarse mesh. A novel robust approach to solve
 546 the optimisation is proposed using a bisection method. No initial condition
 547 or parameters are necessary and the global minimum can be always found.
 548 A Lagrangian backtracking approach offers no limitation on the CFL num-
 549 ber when advecting materials. Solving under-resolved filaments inherently
 550 involves a higher computational cost, which is reduced by choosing to cap
 551 the number of conglomerates at three and using a symmetric approach. As
 552 a result, almost quadratic order of convergence is achieved and the error
 553 converges as the grid is refined. However in complex and large material de-
 554 formation, the limitation of this method is shown and the topology might
 555 not be well maintained at sharp edges.

556 This efficient approach is applied to several benchmark problems with
 557 different levels of deformation. Most of these benchmark problems are com-
 558 pared with different MOF approaches, filaments, AMR, CLSMOF and stan-
 559 dard MOF. First, the Zalesak slotted disc does not exhibit any filament
 560 behavior, yet our approach shows good qualitative results. Other bench-
 561 marks such as the reversible vortex and the droplet flow case are tested for

562 large deformation highlighting the quality of reconstruction of filaments on
563 coarse meshes. Finally, the rotating filament benchmark is presented, only
564 applicable using filament reconstruction for such coarse grids. The limitation
565 of our method is shown in the S-shape deformation benchmark. For most
566 benchmarks, the error and runtime are comparable or better than other MOF
567 methods. Furthermore, the accuracy in interface reconstruction is improved
568 for large deformation. In addition, runtime has been decreased compared to
569 most MOF methods.

570 The MOF method, like most interface capturing methods, diffuses when
571 advecting sharp edges. In addition, the tip of filaments is not well-resolved
572 regardless of the mesh resolution. In future work we would like to include the
573 possibility to reconstruct four conglomerates within a cell while maintaining
574 a high level of accuracy in reconstruction with an acceptable runtime. For
575 a fixed coarse mesh, this may lead to an increased precision in thin layered
576 filaments while reducing the natural diffusion of material. This approach
577 could involve an optimised selection of which material to reconstruct. We
578 would also like to use a selective adaptive mesh refinement method for com-
579 plex and large deformation. Coupling our accurate MOF method with a fluid
580 flow solver is our next priority with interest in both incompressible [29] and
581 compressible [30] multiphase flows.

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Declaration of interests

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

The authors declare the following financial interests/personal relationships which may be considered as potential competing interests:

Journal Pre-proof

P.H.: Conceptualization, Methodology, Software, Data curation, Validation, Investigation, Visualization, Writing- Original draft preparation.

T.N.P.: Conceptualization, Methodology, Investigation, Writing- Reviewing and Editing.

Z.X.: Conceptualization, Methodology, Investigation, Writing- Reviewing and Editing, Funding acquisition.

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