Improving predictions of coastal flooding via sub-mesh corrections

Johnathan Woodruff¹, J.C. Dietrich¹

A. Kennedy², D. Wirasaet², D. Bolster², Z. Silver², R. Kolar³ ¹North Carolina State University – Raleigh, NC, ²University of Notre Dame – South Bend, IN, ³University of Oklahoma – Norman, OK

Introduction

- High resolution is computationally **costly**
 - Hinders the speed of ADCIRC runs
 - Delays the forecast predictions
- This study aims to increase the accuracy and efficiency of ADCIRC by:
 - Adding sub-mesh correction factors to the governing equations
 - Running on coarsened meshes

1.

High resolution bathymetry surrounding Delacroix, LA



NOMAD mesh v1e MSL (HSOFS)

This mesh is used in real-time forecasting by NOAA and the ADCIRC Prediction System (APS).

> Interpolated bathymetry of the mesh

Sub-mesh Features

- Sub-mesh features:
 - Hydraulic features that influence flow
 - Exist below the resolution of the mesh
 - Include: small scale channels, ponds, marsh grasses, and roadways



Theory

- The primitive shallow water equations were first averaged using techniques outlined in Kennedy et al. 2019.
- These averaged primitive equations were then transformed into the GWCE and conservative momentum equations ADCIRC uses.

Averaged Variables Theory

- To obtain the averaged variables we integrate inside each element.
- A given dummy variable *Q* would be averaged as follows:

$$\langle Q \rangle_G \equiv \frac{1}{A_G} \iint_{A_W} Q dA \qquad \& \qquad \langle Q \rangle_W \equiv \frac{1}{A_W} \iint_{A_W} Q dA \qquad \text{Where: } A_W = \phi A_G$$

GWCE Conversion $\frac{\partial^2 \zeta}{\partial t^2} + \tau_0 \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \tilde{J}_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial J_y}{\partial y} - UH \frac{\partial \tau_0}{\partial x} - VH \frac{\partial \tau_0}{\partial y} = 0$ $\phi \frac{\partial^2 \langle \zeta \rangle_W}{\partial t^2} + \phi \tau_0 \frac{\partial \langle \zeta \rangle_W}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \langle \tilde{J}_x \rangle_W}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \langle \tilde{J}_y \rangle_W}{\partial y} - \langle U \rangle_W \langle H \rangle_G \frac{\partial \tau_0}{\partial x} - \langle V \rangle_W \langle H \rangle_G \frac{\partial \tau_0}{\partial y} = 0$

Where:

- ϕ is the wet area fraction
- Subscripts ()_W and ()_G mean the variable was averaged over the wet area or whole area respectively

GWCE Conversion

$$\begin{split} \langle \tilde{J}_x \rangle_W &= -\frac{\partial \langle U \rangle_W \langle U \rangle_W \langle H \rangle_G}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial \langle V \rangle_W \langle U \rangle_W \langle H \rangle_G}{\partial y} + f \langle V \rangle_W \langle H \rangle_G - g \langle h \rangle_G \frac{\partial \langle \zeta \rangle_W}{\partial x} - \phi \frac{g}{2} \frac{\partial \langle \zeta \rangle_W^2}{\partial x} \\ &+ \phi \left\langle \frac{\tau_{sx}}{\rho_0} \right\rangle_W - \frac{C_f |\langle U \rangle_W |\langle U \rangle_W \langle H \rangle_G}{\langle H \rangle_W} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(E_h \frac{\partial \langle U \rangle_W \langle H \rangle_G}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(E_h \frac{\partial \langle U \rangle_W \langle H \rangle_G}{\partial y} \right) + \tau_0 \langle U \rangle_W \langle H \rangle_G \\ \langle \tilde{J}_y \rangle_W &= -\frac{\partial \langle U \rangle_W \langle V \rangle_W \langle H \rangle_G}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial \langle V \rangle_W \langle V \rangle_W \langle H \rangle_G}{\partial y} - f \langle U \rangle_W \langle H \rangle_G - g \langle h \rangle_G \frac{\partial \langle \zeta \rangle_W}{\partial y} - \phi \frac{g}{2} \frac{\partial \langle \zeta \rangle_W^2}{\partial y} \\ &+ \phi \left\langle \frac{\tau_{sy}}{\rho_0} \right\rangle_W - \frac{C_f |\langle U \rangle_W |\langle V \rangle_W \langle H \rangle_G}{\langle H \rangle_W} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(E_h \frac{\partial \langle V \rangle_W \langle H \rangle_G}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(E_h \frac{\partial \langle V \rangle_W \langle H \rangle_G}{\partial y} \right) + \tau_0 \langle V \rangle_W \langle H \rangle_G \end{split}$$

Sub-mesh calculations

- Sub-mesh calculations are performed using a high resolution digital elevation model (DEM) underlying a ADCIRC mesh of coarser resolution.
- Sub-mesh correction factors such as φ, ⟨H⟩_G, and ⟨h⟩_G are found by integrating the sub-areas within each element.
- Sub-mesh quantities are precomputed and read into ADCIRC.



Sub-mesh calculations

- Within the elemental loops of the GWCE and Momentum codes averaged variables are looked up based on water surface elevation at each vertex.
- Averaged variables are also stored in vertex arrays to be used in wetting and drying and the nodal loops of the momentum code.



Sub-mesh in 2D

- In 2D the elements are split up into 3 sub-areas.
- Sub-mesh calculations are performed based on the DEM lying beneath the mesh for each subarea within the element.





12

over each sub-area

Wetting and Drying



Wetting and Drying Algorithm

- A totally new wetting and drying algorithm was used to replace the existing.
- The wet/dry state of each vertex is determined based on the wet area surrounding the vertex.
- Elemental wet/dry state is determined by the average wet area within each element.

Wetting and Drying Algorithm



Discretization

- The discretization of the governing equations mimics the Conservative Version 1 discretization.
- Conservative Version 1 assumes the un-differentiated terms are elementally averaged and uses a linear expansion in space for the conservative flux terms.

Results

- Sub-mesh ADCIRC was run on a coarsened mesh to demonstrate its ability to accurately predict water surface elevations.
- Traditional ADCIRC was run on both a coarsened and high resolution mesh as a baseline to compare submesh results.

Model Setup

- IM CODE DT = 1 second Kolar-Grav Lat. • $\tau_0 = 0.005$ Stress GWCE • FFACTOR = 0.0025 Cons. Form 1 Advec. GWCE • ESLM = 2.0**INTBP Velocity Corrected Area** No ramp **Based Lat. Stress** Integration Mom. 1 day runtime Cons. Form 1 Advec.
 - Sub-mesh $\phi_{dry} = 0.25$
 - 2 m diurnal tidal signal was used to force the model

Momentum

Implicit

Formulation

 High resolution (10 m) DEM featuring a 250 m wide winding channel was used to calculate the submesh variables.



- High resolution mesh was created using this DEM.
- This mesh resolves the small channel.

Vertices: 6420 Elements: 12742



20

- Coarse resolution mesh was created using the DEM.
- This mesh was created by simply paving elements over the domain.

Vertices: 192 Elements: 334



High Resolution



Vertices: 6420 Elements: 12742



Vertices: 192 Elements: 334 22



High Resolution

Coarse No SUB-MESH

Coarse SUB-MESH







Time (hr)

RUN TIMES	
High Resolution (no sub-mesh)	591 seconds
Coarse Resolution (no sub-mesh)	14.5 seconds
Coarse Resolution (sub-mesh)	20.75 seconds

- The sub-mesh adds roughly 40% to computation time.
 - This is likely to improve as the code is clean up for use on more realistic test cases.

Conclusion

- The sub-mesh code was able to accurately predict water surface elevation on a coarsened mesh.
- The computational cost of the sub-mesh model was close to 30 times less than the high resolution traditional run.
- Coarse mesh creation was extremely fast and easy compared to creating the high resolution mesh.

Future Work

- The wetting and drying routine is still being adjusted to allow for smaller ϕ_{dry} .
- A threshold of around 5% would be ideal in the future.
- The model is also experiencing stability problems at the top of the domain when running multi-day simulations.
- Testing on a realistic domain such as Caernarvon Marsh, LA is soon to come.

Thank you!

Questions?



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