Finite-Element approximation of viscoelastic flows at large Deborah number

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Scaling assumptions in thin-layer viscoelastic flows show that the elongational rheology is most important at first order. Now, in presence of a freesurface, i.e. assuming the flow incompressible and nearly hydrostatic in Saint-Venant fashion, a *hyperbolic* system of PDEs can effectively be obtained which accounts for non-Newtonian normal stresses [2]. It consists in a non-Newtonian version of the shallow-water equations consistent at main-order with coupled Navier-Stokes/Maxwell equations. Then, as usual for hyperbolic systems, the homogeneous case without source term is of primary importance to build solutions. Here the homogeneous case coincides with the large-Deborah-number limit of the system. We shall discuss the numerical approximation of such limit cases with finite-elements in particular, and draw connections with other wellknown difficulties as concerns the numerical simulation of viscoelastic flows [1].

References

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- [2] François Bouchut and Sébastien Boyaval, A new model for shallow viscoelastic fluids, M3AS 23 (2013), no. 08, 1479–1526.