A Nitsche-based contact formulation for fluid-structure interactions with contact

Erik Burman¹, Miguel A. Fernández² and Stefan Frei^{3,*}

¹ Department of Mathematics, University College London, Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BT, UK, e.burman@ucl.ac.uk

² Inria de Paris, 2 rue Simone Iff, 75012 Paris, France, miguel.fernandez@inria.fr

³ Department of Mathematics, University College London, Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BT, UK, s.frei@ucl.ac.uk

Keywords: *fluid-structure interaction, contact mechanics, Nitsche's method, fully Eulerian approach, slip conditions*

In this presentation we develop a Nitsche-based contact formulation for fluid-structure interaction (FSI) problems with friction-free contact. Our approach is based on the works of Chouly and co-workers for contact problems in solid mechanics [1, 2]. The introduction of an artificial fluid allows us to formulate the FSI interface and the contact conditions simultaneously in equation form on a joint interface-contact surface $\Gamma(t)$. This equation can then be included fully implicitly within a monolithic variational formulation by using Nitsche's method.

To deal with the topology changes in the fluid domain at the time of impact, we use a monolithic Fully Eulerian approach for the FSI problem [3, 4]. For discretisation, both fitted and unfitted finite elements are considered. We compare the effect of slip- and no-slip interface conditions and show numerical results that illustrate the performance of the method.

REFERENCES

- [1] F. Chouly and P. Hild, A Nitsche-based method for unilateral contact problems: numerical analysis, *SIAM J. Numer. Anal.*, 51(2):1295-1307, 2013.
- [2] F. Chouly, P. Hild, and Y. Renard, Symmetric and non-symmetric variants of Nitsches method for contact problems in elasticity: Theory and numerical experiments, *Mathematics of Computation*, 84(293):1089-1112, 2015.
- [3] T. Dunne, An Eulerian approach to fluid-structure interaction and goal-oriented mesh refinement, *Int. J. Numer. Methods Fluids*, 51:1017-1039, 2006.
- [4] S. Frei, Eulerian finite element methods for interface problems and fluid-structure interactions, Dissertation, Heidelberg University, 2016.