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Simulação de escoamentos estratificados: esquemas  
numéricos de alta resolução em modelo acoplado de  
transporte e hidrodinâmico não-hidrostático

Porto Alegre

2019

Augusto Hugo Farias da Cunha

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Dissertação submetida ao Programa de Pós-Graduação em Recursos Hídricos e Saneamento Ambiental da UFRGS, como quesito parcial para obtenção do título de Mestre em Recursos Hídricos.

Orientador: David da Motta Marques

Coorientador: Carlos Ruberto Fragoso Jr.

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Augusto Hugo Farias da Cunha

# **Simulação de escoamentos estratificados: esquemas numéricos de alta resolução em modelo acoplado de transporte e hidrodinâmico não-hidrostático**

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Porto Alegre  
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## Resumo

A dissertação buscou contribuir para o entendimento do efeito da difusão numérica nas soluções hidrodinâmica e de transporte de modelos numéricos acoplados (hidrodinâmico e transporte), assim como a relação mútua entre ambas as soluções buscando um método eficiente e conservativo para simulação de escoamentos estratificados. A implementação dos métodos computacionais foram feitas no modelo IPH-ECO, uma ferramenta computacional capaz de simular processos físicos, químicos e biológicos em três dimensões. O trabalho foi dividido em duas partes principais que visam apresentar a melhoria dos métodos numéricos utilizados pelo modelo, assim como a verificação e validação dos métodos implementados (Capítulos 4 5).

A simulação de escoamentos estratificados requer a implementação de métodos numéricos mais robustos, como: como a aproximação não-hidrostática e métodos de alta-resolução (interpolação quadrática e limitadores de fluxo) capazes de reduzir a difusão numérica de maneira conservativa, buscando soluções com melhor representação física de processos, de forma a alcançar resultados satisfatórios com menor custo computacional.

Para solução hidrodinâmica, implementamos a pressão não-hidrostática, onde propomos o uso de uma nova condição de contorno na superfície livre (capítulo 4), e ainda um interpolador quadrático implementado no método Euleriano-Lagrangiano, utilizado na estimativa da velocidade ao fim da linha de corrente (capítulo 5). Para a solução do Transporte de Solute, esquemas de Limitadores de Fluxo foram implementados (capítulo 5). Utilizamos *benchmarks* consolidados na literatura puramente advectivos visando identificar o efeito da difusão numérica nas solução do transporte e hidrodinâmica comparando métodos de baixa resolução (interpolação bilinear e esquema *Upwind*) com métodos de alta resolução.

O algoritmo foi capaz de simular adequadamente a celeridade e a dispersão de frequência de ondas estacionárias em condição de águas profundas, utilizando uma resolução vertical 2 vezes menor que a condição clássica, conseqüentemente diminuindo o custo computacional médio de um passo de tempo da simulação em ca. 1.7 vezes, alcançando resultados similares (CBA  $\Delta t = 262$  s e FSFS  $\Delta t = 122$  s). Este resultado permite que modelos hidrodinâmicos semelhantes melhorem sua solução numérica com um menor custo de implementação, aplicando um tratamento simples, melhorando a performance das simulações não-hidrostáticas.

Os métodos de alta resolução foram capazes de diminuir substancialmente a difusão numérica na solução hidrodinâmica (ca. 10 vezes menor) e de transporte (Erro Relativo e RMSE ca. 3 vezes menor). Os resultados mostraram que a difusão numérica gerada por métodos de baixa resolução na solução hidrodinâmica pode ter grande impacto na solução do transporte, por tanto, para simular com maior precisão situações reais (dinâmica de escoamentos estratificados em reservatórios profundos) o uso combinado de métodos de alta resolução se mostra uma alternativa promissora, com baixo custo de implementação e alta eficiência.

Os métodos implementados neste trabalho permitem que modelos mais difusivos, como o IPH-ECO (Fragoso Jr et al., 2009), passem a considerar a difusão real ao invés da difusão numérica em suas modelagens, e portanto utilizar o coeficiente de difusão como um parâmetro de calibração do modelo.

**Palavras-chaves:** Difusão Numérica. Pressão Não-Hidrostática. Limitadores de Fluxo. Método Euleriano-Lagrangiano. Interpolação.

## Abstract

The dissertation sought to contribute to the understanding of the effect of numerical diffusion in the hydrodynamic and transport solutions of coupled numerical models (hydrodynamic and transport), as well, the mutual relationship between both solutions seeking an efficient and conservative method for simulation of stratified flows. The computational methods was implemented in the IPH-ECO model, computational tool capable of simulating physical, chemical and biological processes in three dimensions. The work was divided in two main parts that aim to the improvement of the numerical methods used by the model, as well as the verification and validation of the implemented methods (Chapters 4 5).

The simulation of stratified flows requires the implementation of more robust numerical methods, such as: non-hydrostatic approach and high-resolution methods (quadratic interpolation and flux-limiter) capable of conservatively reducing numerical diffusion, searching for solutions that better represented physical processes, in order to achieve satisfactory results with lower computational cost.

For the hydrodynamic solution, we implemented the non-hydrostatic pressure, where we propose the use of a novel boundary condition to the free surface (chapter 4), and a quadratic interpolator implemented in the Eulerian-Lagrangian method, used in the estimation of the velocity at the end of the stream-line (chapter 5). For the Solute Transport solution, flux-limiter schemes have been implemented (chapter 5). We use consolidated benchmarks in purely advective problems to identify the effect of numerical diffusion on the transport and hydrodynamics solutions by comparing low-resolution methods (bilinear interpolation and Upwind scheme) with high-resolution methods.

The algorithm (FSFS) was able to properly simulate the celerity and the dispersion of the frequency of stationary waves in deep water conditions, using a vertical resolution 2 times smaller than the classical condition (CBA), consequently decreasing the average computational cost of a time step of the simulation in ca. 1.7 times, achieving similar results (CBA  $\Delta t = 2.62$  s and FSFS  $\Delta t = 1.22$  s). This result allows similar hydrodynamic models to improve their numerical solution with a lower cost of implementation, applying a simple treatment, improving the performance of the non-hydrostatic simulations.

The high-resolution methods were able to substantially decrease the numerical diffusion in the hydrodynamic solution (ca. 10 times lower) and transport (Relative Error and RMSE ca. 3 times lower). The results showed that the numerical diffusion generated by low-resolution methods in the hydrodynamic solution may have a substantial impact on



the transport solution, therefore, to simulate more accurately real situations (dynamics of stratified flows in deep reservoirs) the combined use of high resolution is a promising alternative, with low implementation cost and high efficiency.

The methods implemented in this work allow more diffusive models, such as IPH-ECO ([Fragoso Jr et al., 2009](#)), to consider real physics diffusion instead of the numerical diffusion in their modeling, and therefore to use the diffusion coefficient as a model calibration parameter .

**Key-words:** Numerical Diffusion. Flux Limiters. Eulerian-Lagrangian Method. Interpolation

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**Lista de abreviaturas e siglas**

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CAPES	Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior
CBA	Classic Boundary Approach
ELM	método Euleriano-Lagrangiano
FSFS	Fictional Sublayer at the Free-Surface
IPH	Instituto de Pesquisas Hidráulicas
KGE	Kling-Gupta Efficiency
NSE	Nash-Sutcliffe Efficiency
PNH	Pressão não-hidrostática
RANS	Média de Reynolds Navier-Stokes
RMSE	Root mean square error
RWPT	Random Walk Particle Tracking
SPH	Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics
TVD	Diminuição da Variação Total (Total Variation Diminishing)
UFRGS	Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul

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## Lista de símbolos

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Variável	Unidade	Descrição
$C$	-	Concentração de um escalar
$C_{i,k}$	-	$C$ para o $i$ -ésimo elemento em uma camada $k$
$D_{i,k}$	$m^3/s$	coeficiente de fluxo de difusão para o $i$ -ésimo elemento em uma camada $k$
$D_{j,k}$	$m^3/s$	coeficiente de fluxo de difusão para $j$ -ésima face em uma camada $k$
$H$	$m$	altura total da coluna de água
$H_i$	$m$	$H$ para o $i$ -ésimo elemento
$H_j$	$m$	$H$ para $j$ -ésima face
$k^h$	$m^2/s$	coeficiente horizontal da difusividade de eddy
$k_{j,k}^h$	$m^2/s$	$k^h$ for $j$ -th side and $k$ -th layer
$k^v$	$m^2/s$	coeficiente vertical da difusividade de eddy
$k_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^v$	$m^2/s$	$k^v$ do $i$ -ésimo elemento na interface superior ou inferior da camada $k$
$L$	$m$	comprimento da base
$M$	-	índice para a camada na superfície livre
$N_p$	-	número de elementos
$N_s$	-	número de faces
$P_i$	$m^2$	área do $i$ -ésimo elemento
$Q_{i,k}$	$m^3/s$	fluxo advectivo para o $i$ -ésimo elemento em uma camada $k$
$Q_{j,k}$	$m^3/s$	fluxo advectivo para $j$ -ésima face em uma camada $k$
$S_i$	-	número de faces de um elemento $i$
$S_{i,k}^+$	-	faces $j$ de saída de fluxo de um elemento $i$ em uma camada $k$
$S_{i,k}^-$	-	Faces $j$ de fluxo de entrada de um elemento $i$ em uma camada $k$
$c$	$m/s$	celeridade da onda
$d_{i,k}$	$m^3/s$	coeficiente de fluxo para um $i$ -ésimo elemento em uma camada $k$
$d_{j,k}$	$m^3/s$	coeficiente de fluxo para uma $j$ -ésima face em uma camada $k$
$v_{j,k}^*$	$m/s$	$v_{j,k}$ interpolado no passo de tempo $t^n$
$v_a$	$m/s$	velocidade do vento na direção $y$

Variável	Unidade	Descrição
$w$	$m/s$	velocidade na direção $z$
$w_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}$	$m/s$	$w$ para um $i$ -ésimo elemento na interface superior ou inferior de uma camada $k$
$\tilde{w}_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}$	$m/s$	$w_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}$ após o passo da pressão hidrostática
$w_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^*$	$m/s$	$w_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}$ interpolado para o passo de tempo $t^n$
$x, y, z$	$m$	coordenadas cartesianas
$z_{k+\frac{1}{2}}$	$m$	coordenada $z$ da interface superior de uma camada $k$
$\Delta z_k$	$m$	espessura de uma camada $k$ na direção $z$
$\Delta z_{i,k}$	$m$	$\Delta z$ para um $i$ -ésimo elemento em uma camada $k$
$\Delta z_{j,k}$	$m$	$\Delta z$ espessura para uma $j$ -ésima face em uma camada $k$
$\Phi, \phi$	-	dunções de Limitador de Fluxo
$\Psi$	-	Fator de limitador de fluxo
$\delta$	$m$	distância entre centro de elementos adjacentes
$\delta_j$	$m$ )	$\delta$ para uma $j$ -ésima face
$\eta$	$m$	elevação da superfície livre
$\eta_i$	$m$	$\eta$ para um $i$ -ésimo elemento
$\tilde{\eta}_i$	$m$	$\eta$ após o passo da pressão hidrostática
$\epsilon_\eta$	-	tolerância do método iterativo de solução do $\eta$
$\gamma_B$	$m/s$	fator de fricção de fundo
$\gamma_T$	$m/s$	fator de fricção do topo
$\lambda_j$	$m$	comprimento de uma face $j$
$\nu^h$	$m^2/s$	viscosidade horizontal de eddy
$\nu^v$	$m^2/s$	viscosidade vertical de eddy
$\nu_{i,k}^v$	$m^2/s$	$\nu^v$ para um $i$ -ésimo elemento em uma camada $k$
$\nu_{j,k\pm\frac{1}{2}}^v$	$m^2/s$	$\nu^v$ para uma $j$ -ésima face na interface superior ou inferior de uma camada $k$
$\rho$	$kg/m^3$	densidade da água water density
$\rho_{i,k}$	$kg/m^3$	$\rho$ para um $i$ -ésimo elemento em uma camada $k$
$\rho_a$	$kg/m^3$	densidade do ar
$\rho_0$	-	densidade de referência da água
$\theta$	-	fator de implicitação da solução substep (subcycle) index
$n + \theta$	-	índice de sub-passo de tempo
$\Delta_h$	$1/m^2$	discretização do laplaciano horizontal
<b>F</b>	-	Operado de diferença finita explícito



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Modelos acoplados hidrodinâmico e transporte de soluto são ferramentas bem estabelecidas para simulação de escoamentos de superfície livre em grandes ecossistemas aquáticos, como lagos, estuários, reservatórios e zonas costeiras (e.g. Valipour et al., 2015; de Brito Jr et al., 2018; Vilas et al., 2017; Soullignac et al., 2017; Munar et al., 2018).

A representação da dinâmica da estratificação térmica em ecossistemas aquáticos regula muitos processos físicos, químicos e biológicos, tais como, distribuição de espécies, taxas de reações químicas e metabólicas, ciclagem de nutrientes e concentração de gases dissolvidos (Horne e Goldman, 1994). Esta estratificação depende da hidrodinâmica do corpo hídrico e das forçantes em seu sistema como, forçantes climatológicas (e.g. velocidade e direção, temperatura do ar e radiação solar) e forçantes da bacia hidrográfica de contribuição (e.g. vazões e temperatura dos afluentes e carga de matéria orgânica, etc.). Para modelagem numérica, a representação acurada desta dinâmica demanda soluções mais complexas que sejam capazes de representar acuradamente processos físicos chave como, distribuição do campo de velocidades (vertical e horizontal), ondas internas promovidas por gradientes de concentração, e a difusão real.

Neste contexto, duas principais questões em modelagem numérica se destacam: (i) Utilização de soluções mais completas da equação de Navier-Stokes; e (ii) difusão numérica. A primeira se refere à representação dos processos que geram escoamento. Na simulação hidrodinâmica, quando a razão das escalas de movimento vertical para horizontal não é pequena (e.g., fluxos mudando abruptamente a topografia de fundo, movimentos orbitais em movimentos de ondas curtas ou circulações verticais intensas), um modelo tri-dimensional com aproximação não-hidrostática pode ser necessário para simular escoamentos de superfície livre com precisão e baixo custo computacional (Casulli e Stelling, 1998; Casulli e Lang, 2004; Chen, 2003; Monteiro e Schettini, 2015; Liu et al., 2017). A segunda, refere-se à difusão artificial associada à solução numérica empregada nos termos de advecção e difusão das equações RANS (*Reynolds Averaged Navier Stokes*) e de transporte de soluto (Chapra et al., 2010).

Tal questão numérica é agravada quando soluções de mais baixa ordem são aplicadas para solução numérica de equações diferenciais parciais (e.g. Cheng et al., 1984; Laval et al., 2003a; Fringer et al., 2005; Zijlema e Stelling, 2005), levando a modelos numéricos,

por exemplo, considerar nulo o coeficiente de difusão, pois assumem que a difusão numérica representa a difusão real. Para aumentar a ordem da solução, uma alternativa numérica conservativa, com baixo custo de implementação e computacional, é a utilização de métodos de alta resolução na solução hidrodinâmica e de transporte, como: uso de interpolações não lineares no método Euleriano-Lagrangiano (ELM) e Limitadores de Fluxo aplicados à solução transporte de soluto (Cheng et al., 1984; Staniforth e Côté, 1991; Tamamidis e Assanis, 1993; Hodges et al., 2000; Fringer et al., 2005; Cox e Runkel, 2008; Kong et al., 2013; Ye et al., 2018; Zhang et al., 2018). Esta solução numérica menos difusiva permite que o modelo numérico utilize o coeficiente de difusão como parâmetro de calibração, e assim utilizando a equação RANS completa.

Para modelos de Transporte de Solute, normalmente é assumido que a solução numérica hidrodinâmica é livre de difusão numérica e que nenhum erro seja levado à solução de Transporte de Solute. Assim, a avaliação formal por modelos não acoplados do efeito da difusão numérica hidrodinâmica na solução de Transporte de Solute pode não ser apropriadamente abordada (Cheng et al., 1984; Ruan e McLaughlin, 1999; Cox e Runkel, 2008). Por outro lado, trabalhos que utilizam modelos acoplados propõem melhorias no módulo hidrodinâmico ou de transporte para investigar a difusão numérica em uma das soluções, separadamente, sem considerar que o uso ou não de métodos de alta resolução em uma solução pode afetar a outra (Wadzuk e Hodges, 2004; Fringer et al., 2005; Casulli e Zanolli, 2005; Kong et al., 2013; Ye et al., 2018; Zhang et al., 2018; Chandran et al., 2019). Posto isto, mais esforços ainda são necessários para entender como a difusão numérica, produzida por esquemas de baixa resolução em solução hidrodinâmica, pode ser transferida para o Transporte de Solutos, e como o uso combinado de esquemas de alta resolução podem reduzir o efeito da difusão numérica na solução do Transporte de Solute.

Para uma análise coerente dos resultados, os experimentos numéricos precisam ser aplicados utilizando um modelo hidrodinâmico não-hidrostático eficiente, pois trata-se de situações as quais a premissa da pressão hidrostática não representa adequadamente os processos físicos chave destas análises (Chen, 2003; Stelling e Zijlema, 2003; Zijlema e Stelling, 2005; Monteiro e Schettini, 2015; Liu et al., 2017). Para isto, identificamos ser necessário um modelo não-hidrostático que trate adequadamente a condição de contorno da superfície livre (Stelling e Zijlema, 2003; Yuan e Wu, 2004; Zijlema e Stelling, 2005; Lv, 2014; Lu et al., 2015; Liu et al., 2017; Escalante et al., 2018b), onde propomos um novo tratamento para condição de contorno, que dentre as existentes se enquadra com uma média eficiência e com baixo custo de implementação.

Para tanto, o trabalho teve como principal objetivo contribuir para o entendimento do efeito da difusão numérica nas soluções hidrodinâmica e de transporte, assim como a relação mútua entre ambas as difusões nas soluções numéricas. Desta forma, visando contornar o efeito de soluções numéricas simplificadas, buscou-se, verificar e validar

soluções numéricas mais completas com métodos de alta resolução no modelo acoplado hidrodinâmico-transporte IPH-ECO.

## 1.1 Questões Científicas

Com base no contexto apresentado, algumas questões científicas se destacam, as quais respondemos nas seções posteriores do presente trabalho:

1. A implementação de um tratamento exclusivamente para condição de contorno da superfície livre da pressão não-hidrostática pode melhorar de maneira significativa a eficiência de modelos não-hidrostáticos?
2. Qual impacto a difusão numérica gerada por esquemas de baixa resolução, aplicados à solução hidrodinâmica, pode gerar na solução do transporte de soluto aplicada com métodos de alta resolução em escoamentos estratificados?
3. Qual impacto a difusão numérica gerada por esquemas de baixa resolução aplicados à solução do transporte pode gerar na solução hidrodinâmica de escoamentos estratificados?
4. A redução da difusão numérica pelo uso combinado de métodos de alta resolução é eficiente para propriamente simular escoamentos estratificados?

## 2.1 Objetivo Geral

Contribuir para o entendimento do efeito da difusão numérica nas soluções hidrodinâmica e de transporte de soluto, assim como a relação mútua entre ambas as soluções.

Para tal foi necessário o aprimoramento da ferramenta computacional utilizada neste trabalho (IPH-ECO) para utilizar soluções mais completas e menos difusas.

## 2.2 Objetivos Específicos

1. implementar no modelo IPH-ECO soluções numéricas mais completas (pressão não-hidrostática), avaliando sua eficiência em representar escoamentos em águas profundas, escoamentos não lineares e redução do custo computacional de simulações hidrodinâmicas não-hidrostáticas.
2. Implementar métodos de alta resolução (limitadores de fluxo e interpolação quadrática) para estabelecer uma relação de difusão numérica entre o uso combinado ou não de métodos de alta resolução nas solução hidrodinâmica e de transporte de soluto

## 2.3 Organização do trabalho

A dissertação foi dividido em 6 capítulos, sendo os dois primeiros introdução e revisão bibliográfica, que embasam os principais temas abordados nos capítulos subsequentes. Com intenção de responder as questões científicas levantadas, dois estudos foram desenvolvidos, apresentados na forma de artigo, constituindo os capítulos 4 e 5 do trabalho final.

### **Capítulo 4**

Improvement of nonhydrostatic hydrodynamic solution using a novel free-surface boundary condition

## Capítulo 5

Combined use of high resolution numerical schemes to reduce numerical diffusion in coupled hydrodynamic and solute transport models

A pesquisa desenvolvida nesta dissertação teve início no Capítulo 4, onde a aproximação não-hidrostática com um tratamento da condição de contorno da superfície livre foi implementada no modelo IPH-ECO. O método foi verificado e validado através de experimentos numéricos. O algoritmo se mostrou capaz de simular adequadamente a celeridade e a dispersão de frequência de ondas estacionárias em um reservatório profundo de forma acurada utilizando menos camadas verticais que um modelo não-hidrostático clássico, sem tratamento na condição de contorno, consequentemente diminuindo o custo computacional de simulações não-hidrostáticas com um baixo custo de implementação.

O capítulo 5 apresenta experimentos numéricos visando identificar o efeito da difusão numérica na solução do transporte e hidrodinâmica. Implementamos métodos de interpolação de alta resolução (interpolação quadrática) e baixa resolução (interpolação bilinear) para estimar as velocidades ao final da linha de corrente (ELM passo-ii), além da implementação de limitadores de fluxo para reduzir a difusão numérica na solução do transporte de soluto. Anteriormente era utilizado no Modelo IPH-ECO uma interpolação linear simples neste passo do ELM. As implementações foram verificadas e validadas em experimentos numéricos puramente advectivos, onde identificamos que a difusão numérica gerada na solução hidrodinâmica pode ter grande efeito na solução do Transporte de Solutos.

A pressão não-hidrostática foi implementada como proposto por [Casulli e Lang \(2004\)](#), adicionando um novo tratamento para condição sua contorno na superfície livre. Os métodos de alta resolução implementados na solução hidrodinâmica e de transporte foram, respectivamente, a interpolação quadrática e esquemas de limitadores de fluxo. A interpolação quadrática (baseada em [Hodges et al., 2000](#)) é aplicada no Método Euleriano-Lagrangiano (ELM) para estimar as velocidades no ponto ao fim da linha de corrente. Os limitadores de fluxo ([Fringer et al., 2005](#); [Waterson e Deconinck, 2007](#); [Kong et al., 2013](#)) são aplicados à equação do transporte de soluto, funcionando como um termo de correção para situações em que a difusão numérica pode ser elevada. A seguir, será apresentado uma introdução sobre (i) o modelo utilizado e a contribuição deste trabalho em seu desenvolvimento; e (ii) cada um dos principais temas desenvolvidos neste trabalho, a saber, pressão não hidrostática, Método Euleriano-Lagrangiano e Limitadores de Fluxo.

### 3.1 Modelo IPH-ECO

O modelo IPH-ECO [Fragoso Jr et al. \(2009\)](#) é uma ferramenta computacional dinâmica capaz de simular ecossistemas aquáticos continentais (como rios, lagos, reservatórios e estuários), representando processos físicos, químicos e biológicos. O modelo encontra-se em desenvolvimento contínuo pelo Grupo de Pesquisa em Ecotecologia, do Instituto de Pesquisas Hidráulicas (IPH) da Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), consiste em dois módulos principais: o módulo hidrodinâmico e o módulo de qualidade da água. A parte Hidrodinâmica resolve as Equações de Reynolds Navier-Stokes em três dimensões usando uma técnica de diferenças finitas semi-implícitas em malhas triangulares não-estruturadas ou retangulares estruturadas, enquanto a parte da Qualidade da Água é capaz de simular os principais processos relevantes para o balanço de nutrientes, diagênese de sedimentos e estrutura de ambientes aquáticos. A ligação entre os dois módulos é realizada pela solução numérica de uma equação de transporte tridimensional responsável por termos advectivos, difusivos e reativos usando um esquema de volume finitos em malhas (não) estruturadas. A integração de tempo da Equação de Transporte é realizada usando um algoritmo Local *Time-Stepping* conservador e estável ([Cavalcanti et al., 2016](#)), permitindo simulações hidrodinâmica e de qualidade de água rápidas e precisas.

A primeira versão do modelo, denominada IPH-TRIM2D, foi construída por Walter Collischonn e apresentada no Congresso Brasileiro de Limnologia ([Collischonn e Marques, 2003](#)). O formato inicial considerou uma visão 2D (X-Y) do domínio usando uma grade estruturada e aplicada principalmente para simular a hidrodinâmica de lagos rasos. Posteriormente foi aprimorada por C. Ruberto Fragoso Jr. ([Fragoso Jr, 2005](#)) por meio da adição de um algoritmo linear de *wet- e dry-ing* ([Cheng et al., 1993](#); [da Paz et al., 2003](#)) e avanço na solução numérica de campo de velocidade e nível de água na inclusão do método  $\Theta$  ([Casulli e Cattani, 1994](#)), alterando a solução de transporte escalar, adicionando um novo esquema numérico conservativo para advecção [Gross et al. \(1998\)](#) e definindo um módulo simplificado para fitoplâncton biomassa ([Fragoso Jr et al., 2008](#)). No entanto, houve a necessidade de se compreender processos internos mais complexos e variáveis de qualidade da água, então realizado por realizado por C. Ruberto Fragoso Jr., ao associar o modelo IPH-TRIM2D a um modelo ecológico complexo, denominado PC-Lake ([Fragoso Jr et al.,](#)

2009; Janse, 2005). De modo resultante o modelo foi renomeado para IPHTRIM3D-PCLake (Fragoso Jr et al., 2009), e mais recentemente como modelo IPH-ECO (Cavalcanti et al., 2016; de Brito Jr et al., 2018). A ultima foi capaz de descrever fluxos tridimensionais e estratificação térmica em lagos rasos (Fragoso Jr et al., 2011).

Recentemente, a solução hidrodinâmica do modelo IPH-ECO foi aprimorada para utilizar domínios não estruturados em duas e três dimensões por Fabio F. Pereira (Pereira, 2010; Pereira et al., 2013) e J. Rafael Cavalcanti (Cavalcanti, 2017). Esta nova versão, denominada UnIPH-ECO, resolve as equações diferenciais parciais usando uma malha ortogonal triangular não estruturada. Além disso, o código do modelo foi aprimorado usando um novo algoritmo de secagem e inundação não-linear e uma nova solução de passo de Tempo Local para transporte escalar (Cavalcanti et al., 2015). É importante ressaltar que, o principal código do IPH-ECO está sendo melhorado e de forma constante atualizado pelos estudantes e pesquisadores que atuam em diferentes projetos associados ao Grupo de Pesquisa em Ecotecnologia da UFRGS. Para mais informações, foi desenvolvida a plataforma digital do programa, podendo ser acessada através do endereço <http://ipheco.yooh.com.br>.

O presente trabalho colabora com o desenvolvimento do modelo nos módulos hidrodinâmico e qualidade de água, melhorando sua capacidade de modelar escoamentos em águas profundas e estratificados em três dimensões, através da implementação de soluções mais completas das equações RANS e métodos de alta resolução. De modo específico, as implementações foram:

- pressão não-hidrostática com uma nova abordagem para o tratamento da condição de contorno da superfície livre (Casulli e Lang, 2004);
- Interpolação das velocidades ortogonais às faces, calculadas na solução hidrodinâmica, em componentes de velocidades x e y nas faces, vértices e arestas de uma célula computacional.
- interpolação bilinear aplicada ao passo-ii do ELM (Casulli e Cheng, 1992);
- interpolação quadrática aplicada ao passo-ii do ELM (Hodges et al., 2000);
- esquemas de limitadores de fluxo baseados nos gradientes consecutivos ( $r_f$ ) (Fringier et al., 2005; Waterson e Deconinck, 2007);
- implementação do cálculo do  $r_f$  baseado no proposto por Kong et al. (2013);

O modelo foi formalmente verificado e validado através de *benchmarks* para as soluções hidrodinâmica e de transporte. Os testes foram aplicados em malhas estruturadas e posteriormente serão feitas análises para verificação e validação do código em malhas não-estruturadas.



Com esta modificações o modelo possui o potencial de representação de processos similar à outros modelos consagrados como o ELCOM (Wadzuk e Hodges, 2004), SUNTANS (Fringer et al., 2006) e o FVCOM (Chen et al., 2011). O esquema abaixo relaciona o potencial de representação de processos do IPH-ECO à de outros modelos, ainda mostrado a representação atual (Fragoso Jr et al., 2009) e a atual.

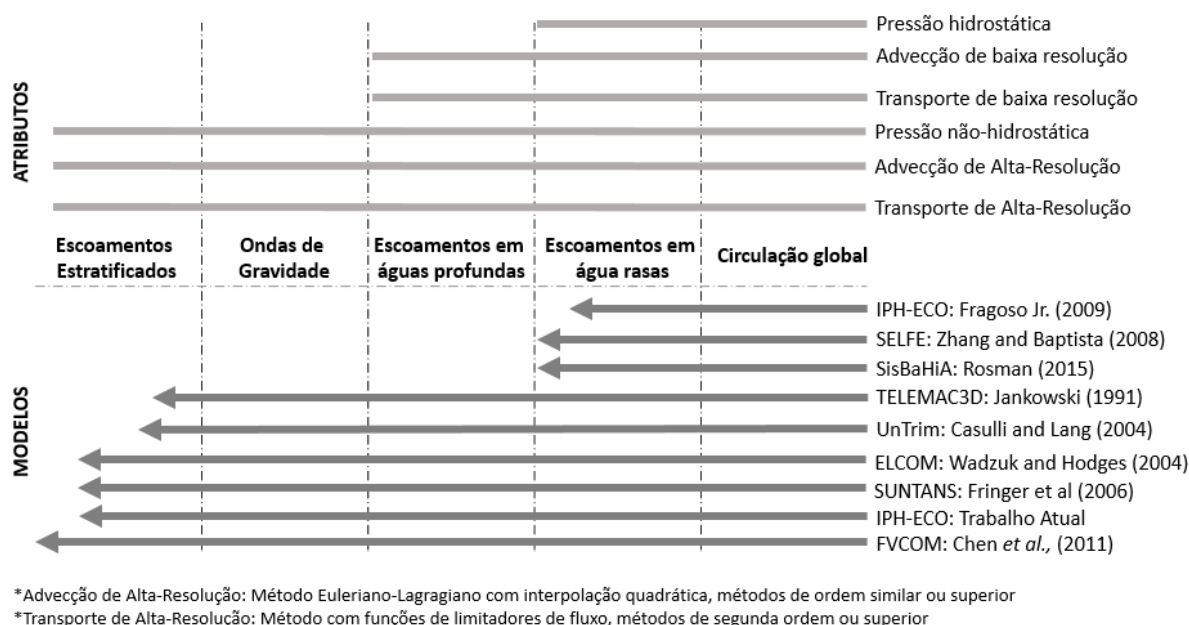


Figura 3.1 – Relação entre modelos numéricos, representação de processos e atributos implementados . Fontes: (Fragoso Jr et al., 2009; Casulli e Lang, 2004; Rosman et al., 2015; Fringer et al., 2006; Wadzuk e Hodges, 2004; Zhang e Baptista, 2008; Jankowski, 1999; Chen et al., 2011)

A avaliação foi feita relacionando os métodos numéricos implementados nos modelos numéricos quanto a pressão, esquema de advecção e esquema de transporte de soluto, especificamente, qual a robustez da implementação dos termos de pressão, advecção e transporte de soluto. Com a implementação dos novos métodos o modelo IPH-ECO passa da representação de processos em águas rasas para águas profundas com boa capacidade de representar ondas gravitacionais e escoamentos estratificados.

### 3.2 Pressão (Não)hidrostática

A seguir será apresentado as equações governantes de modelos hidrodinâmicos hidrostáticos e não-hidrostáticos, discutindo sobre a vantagem em utilizar modelos não-hidrostáticos, e em como melhorar sua eficiência.

A equação governante que descreve escoamentos de superfície livre pode ser derivada da equação RANS (*Reynolds Average Navier-Stokes*). Estas equações expressam o princípio físico da conservação do volume, massa e do momento (Casulli e Lang, 2004). As equações do momentum para um fluido incompressível com a pressão decomposta na soma das

partes hidrostática (pressão barotrópica e baroclínica) e não-hidrostática tem a seguinte forma:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} - fv = -\frac{\partial p_a}{\partial x} - g \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} - g \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ \int_z^\eta \frac{\rho - \rho_0}{\rho_0} d\zeta \right] - \frac{\partial q}{\partial x} \\ + \nu^h \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \nu^v \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} + fu = -\frac{\partial p_a}{\partial y} - g \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} - g \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[ \int_z^\eta \frac{\rho - \rho_0}{\rho_0} d\zeta \right] - \frac{\partial q}{\partial y} \\ + \nu^h \left( \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \nu^v \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = -\frac{\partial q}{\partial z} + \nu^h \left( \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \nu^v \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \right) \quad (3.3)$$

Sendo  $u(x, y, z, t)$ ,  $v(x, y, z, t)$  e  $w(x, y, z, t)$  são os componentes de velocidade nas direções horizontal ( $x$  e  $y$ ) e vertical ( $z$ ), onde  $\nu^h$  e  $\nu^v$  são os coeficientes de viscosidade turbulenta horizontal e vertical, respectivamente;  $t$  é o tempo;  $p_a(x, y, z, t)$  é a pressão atmosférica;  $\eta$  é a elevação de superfície livre de uma referência de nível de água. O segundo e o terceiro termos do lado direito das equações (3.1) e (3.2) representam as contribuições barotrópica e baroclínica da pressão;  $q(x, y, z, t)$  refere-se ao componente de pressão não-hidrostática;  $f$  é o parâmetro de Coriolis; e  $g$  é a aceleração gravitacional.

Modelos hidrodinâmicos usualmente adotam simplificações às equações RANS buscando obter resultados satisfatórios com um baixo custo computacional como, a utilização de modelos bidimensionais e aproximação hidrostática do termo de pressão. Quando a abordagem hidrostática é considerada, a equação (3.3) é negligenciada e  $q$  é definido igual a zero nas equações (3.1) e (3.2). Neste caso, assume-se que a aceleração vertical não tem um efeito significativo no campo de velocidade em comparação com a aceleração horizontal, que é a suposição geralmente aplicada para a simulação de águas rasas. Entretanto, há muitos casos onde esta suposição não representa adequadamente alguns processos físicos (escalas dos movimentos horizontais pelo menos 20 vezes menores do que a profundidade ou declividade superior a 1/20, [Rosman et al., 2015](#)), a figura 3.2 apresenta, por exemplo, o erro de fase gerado pela aproximação hidrostática em simulação de ondas estacionárias em situação de águas profundas. A escala e o tipo do processo físico a ser simulado é determinante para adoção ou não de modelos mais simplificados

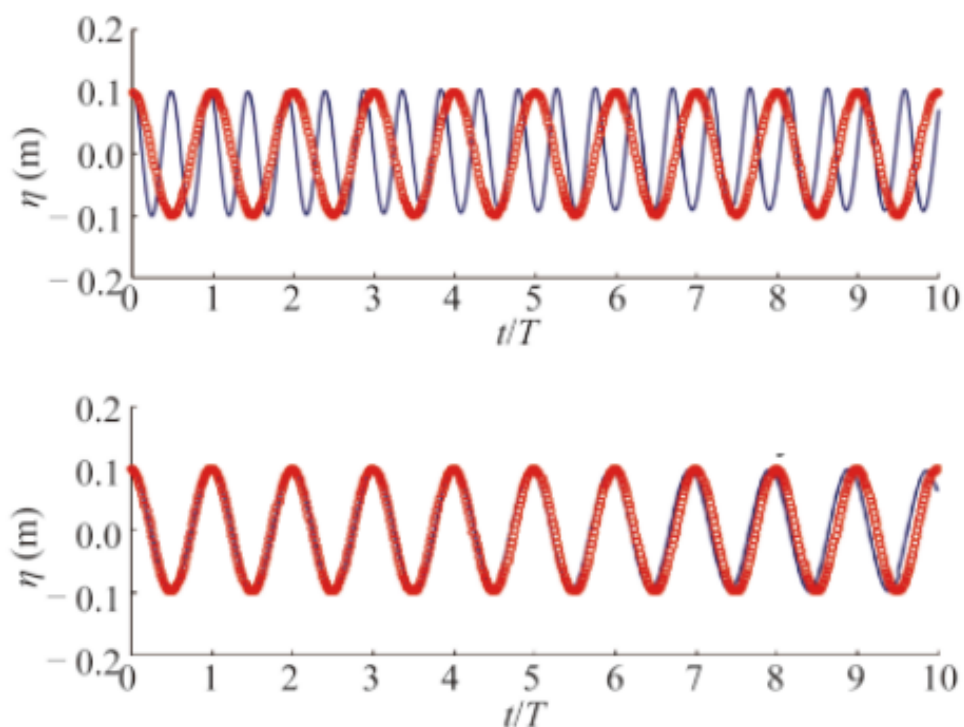


Figura 3.2 – Variação da superfície livre em  $x = y = 0,25$  m comparando o erro de fase entre solução analítica (círculo vermelho), solução hidrostática com 30 camadas (linha sólida figura superior) e solução não-hidrostática (linha sólida figura inferior). Fonte: Liu et al. (2017)

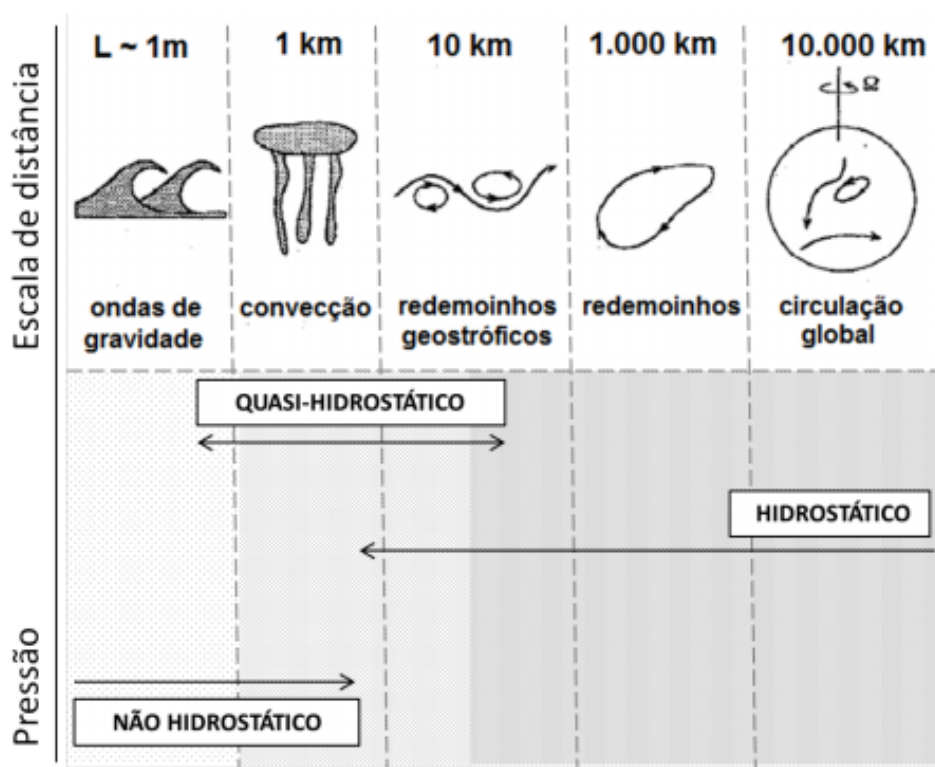


Figura 3.3 – Relação entre escala de processos e solução do termo de pressão indicada. Fonte: Marshall et al. (1997)

(Marshall et al., 1997). A figura 3.3 apresenta a relação entre escala de processos e tipo de aproximação (hidrostática ou não-hidrostática) que melhor se adéqua a sua representação.

Existe um *trade-off* entre o custo de implementação e o custo computacional quando abordagens hidrostáticas e não-hidrostáticas são comparadas. A abordagem não-hidrostática, em geral, requer métodos numéricos iterativos mais complexos (Stelling e Zijlema, 2003; Casulli e Lang, 2004; Lu et al., 2015), o que aumenta o custo computacional comparado à abordagem hidrostática usando uma mesma grade computacional. Entretanto, a abordagem não-hidrostática melhora a representação física do fenômeno requerendo um número menor de camadas verticais para alcançar resultados fisicamente satisfatórios em comparação com a abordagem hidrostática. Assim, para se obter resultados semelhantes à simulação não-hidrostática, a abordagem hidrostática necessita de alta resolução vertical, implicando em um maior custo computacional em relação à abordagem não-hidrostática (Liu et al., 2017).

Apesar do aprimoramento na solução, simulações com pressão não-hidrostática podem ainda requerer, na ótica do custo computacional, uma alta resolução vertical para modelar fluxos em larga escala com geometrias complexas. Desta forma, a diminuição do custo computacional de modelos hidrodinâmicos não-hidrostáticos tem sido foco de muitos trabalhos. A maioria deles se dedica a melhorar a habilidade do modelo em resolver a equação de Poisson para pressão, focando no tratamento da condição de contorno da pressão não-hidrostática na superfície livre e no uso de uma discretização do momento vertical menos dependente do perfil vertical das velocidades (e.g. Stelling e Zijlema, 2003; Yuan e Wu, 2004; Zijlema e Stelling, 2005; Lv, 2014; Escalante et al., 2018b).

Além disto, modelos híbridos, hidrostáticos e não-hidrostáticos, também têm sido implementados para reduzir o custo computacional. Eles identificam regiões onde a simplificação pode ser aplicada, ao invés de aplicar a abordagem não-hidrostática para todo o domínio computacional (e.g. Wadzuk e Hodges, 2004; Bohacek et al., 2018; Zhang et al., 2018). Outros esforços concentram-se em adaptar a solução numérica à implementação computacional em paralelo, que aloca os cálculos das estruturas de repetição (e.g. método dos gradientes conjugados para solução da pressão não-hidrostática) em diferentes processadores (e.g. Zhang et al., 2018; Escalante et al., 2018a). No entanto, a melhoria dos modelos hidrodinâmicos não-hidrostáticos também pode ser alcançada com baixo custo de implementação. Neste artigo focamos em uma nova condição de contorno de superfície livre para pressão não-hidrostática, sem quaisquer alterações das equações do momento.

No tocante à condição de contorno da pressão não-hidrostática na superfície livre, um dos focos deste trabalho (ver capítulo 4), dois tipos diferentes de condição de contorno são aplicados: primeira, uma condição de Dirichlet homogênea, a qual pressão hidrostática é assumida para superfície livre e definida como zero (e.g. Kanarska e Maderich, 2003;

Stelling e Zijlema, 2003; Wang et al., 2009; Zhang et al., 2018); a segunda é uma condição de Neumann, geralmente utilizada uma relação hidrostática para aproximar a pressão da superfície livre à zero (e.g. Casulli, 1999; Namin et al., 2001; Monteiro e Schettini, 2015; Bohacek et al., 2018). Bergh e Berntsen (2010) discute bem as diferenças entre ambas as condições em esquemas numéricos que definem a pressão não-hidrostática na interface entre células computacionais (*edge based*), mostrando que ambas condições geram bons resultados. Entretanto modelos que utilizam a condição de Neumann representam ligeiramente melhor escoamento não lineares.

Modelos numéricos, comumente, resolvem a equação de Poisson para pressão alocando a componente no centro da célula computacional (e.g. Jankowski, 1999; Yuan e Wu, 2004; Casulli e Lang, 2004; Liu et al., 2017; Bohacek et al., 2018), o que pode gerar uma definição incorreta da condição de contorno da pressão não-hidrostática se um tratamento adequado não for feito. Uma vez que a condição de contorno é definida no centro da camada superior, ao invés de precisamente na superfície livre, a condição de contorno utilizada torna-se mais imprecisa à medida que a distância entre o centro da camada superior e a superfície livre aumenta, conseqüentemente, uma alta resolução vertical (1-20 camadas) é necessária para obter resultados satisfatórios (Stelling e Zijlema, 2003; Yuan e Wu, 2004; Zijlema e Stelling, 2005; Cui et al., 2012; Lv, 2014; Liu et al., 2017).

Utilizando uma adequada resolução vertical, Yuan e Wu (2004) e Zijlema e Stelling (2005) mostraram que modelos não-hidrostáticos que definem a pressão no centro da célula computacional podem ter um erro de fase acumulado significativo após vários períodos, devido a erros na estimativa da celeridade da onda. Em função disso, um tratamento para a condição de contorno ou a utilização de um modelo *edge based* de pressão se faz necessária.

Poucas opções estão disponíveis para definir adequadamente a condição de contorno na superfície livre: i) implementação de discretização da pressão não-hidrostática definida na interface entre células computacionais (*edge based*) (e.g. Stelling e Zijlema, 2003; Lu et al., 2015); ii) utilização de um método de integração que estima a pressão não-hidrostática na superfície livre a partir da integração da pressão no centro da camada superior à superfície livre (e.g. Yuan e Wu, 2004; Lu et al., 2015; Lv, 2014; Liu et al., 2017); e iii) aplicação de um perfil linear por partes da pressão não hidrostática baseado no valor esperado para o fundo e topo que posteriormente seja ajustado o valor nas camadas (e.g. Escalante et al., 2018b).

Para que sejam melhoradas as soluções dos modelos com pressão definida no centro da célula computacional, as opções disponíveis podem exigir custo de implementação substancial, visto que os tratamentos da condição de contorno são desenvolvidos com base nas diferentes discretizações numéricas utilizadas pelos autores. Portanto, a adaptação de

modelos pode requerer ao menos alteração da discretização do momento vertical, além da implementação do devido tratamento da condição de contorno. Assim, a fim de reduzir o custo computacional de simulações hidrodinâmicas não-hidrostáticas com um método de baixo custo de implementação, foi proposto aqui uma condição de contorno na superfície livre que é baseada em uma subcamada fictícia, onde a condição de contorno existente (Dirichlet ou Neumann) pode ser aplicada, sem maiores alterações no código. Este item será melhor discutido no capítulo (4).

Contudo, qualquer que seja a abordagem (hidrostática ou não-hidrostática), os erros de difusão numérica permanecem críticos, e muitos trabalhos foram feitos para reduzi-la, adotando diversas abordagens. Técnicas de resolução mais alta (e.g. interpoladores quadráticos, cúbicos e splines e limitadores de fluxo) provaram ser uma alternativa promissora para minimizar esses erros numéricos (Cheng et al., 1984; Ruan e McLaughlin, 1999; Waterson e Deconinck, 2007; Kong et al., 2013; Ye et al., 2018). Embora trabalhos anteriores mostrem que esquemas de alta resolução podem não manter algumas características importantes de solução numérica (e.g. oscilações espúrias de ondas internas) (e.g. Wang e Lacroix, 1997), eles podem representar melhor comportamentos não-lineares do campo de velocidades de esquemas de baixa resolução (*UpWind* de primeira ordem, interpolador bilinear). Apesar da possibilidade dos esquemas lineares serem mais estáveis, monotônicos e facilmente implementados, há também a possibilidade de gerar resultados insatisfatórios devido à maior difusão numérica.

A seguir é apresentado uma breve revisão das vantagens de aplicação de algumas dessas técnicas de alta resolução nas soluções hidrodinâmica e de transporte.

### 3.3 Método Euleriano-Lagrangiano

Um modo de reduzir a difusão numérica é a implementação de esquemas de alta resolução na solução hidrodinâmica e de transporte. O método Euleriano-Lagrangiano (ELM) é um dos mais populares e precisos, usado para resolver numericamente os termos de advecção tanto na equação RANS quanto nas equações de transporte de solutos (Cheng et al., 1984; Ruan e McLaughlin, 1999; Cox e Runkel, 2008; Casulli e Cheng, 1992; Jankowski, 1999; Hodges et al., 2000; Wadzuk e Hodges, 2004; Walters, 2005; Fringer et al., 2005; Monteiro e Schettini, 2015). O objetivo do ELM é combinar a simplicidade da grade computacional Euleriana fixa com uma abordagem Lagrangiana estável e precisa. O método utiliza de técnicas de interpolação aplicados em duas principais etapas para estimar os termos advectivos (Staniforth e Côté, 1991). A Figura 3.4 apresenta um esquema de aplicação do método:

O local de partida da partícula (ponto vermelho) encontra-se no baricentro de uma dada face "j" na camada "k" no tempo "n + 1". (i) Ao longo dos subintervalos de tempo



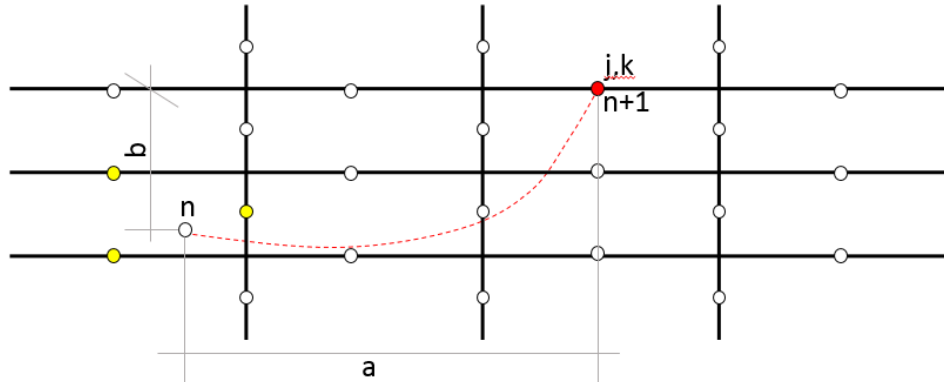


Figura 3.4 – Esquema bidimensional de aplicação do ELM apresentando o ponto de partida no tempo “ $n + 1$ ” (ponto vermelho), linha de corrente feita ao longo dos subintervalos de tempo (linha tracejada vermelha), ponto de parada no tempo  $n$  e pontos de interpolação utilizados para estimar a velocidade da partícula no tempo “ $n$ ” (pontos amarelos).

a linha de corrente é determinada através da aplicação de um método de rastreamento de partículas, que consiste em obter a localização ao fim do subintervalo de uma partícula fluida no passo Lagrangiano interpolando a posição final em função da velocidade do local de partida e do tempo (e.g. Passos Múltiplos de Euler, Runge-Kutta de quinta ordem). No entanto, a posição final de cada subintervalo não é um ponto de grade, logo, (ii) uma interpolação do campo advectivo utilizando nós da grade com velocidade conhecida (pontos amarelos) é necessária para estimar as componentes de velocidade no ponto ao fim da linha de corrente. O resultado dos erros de interpolação, em ambas as etapas, podem introduzir: (a) uma difusão numérica substancial, quando usados esquemas de interpolação de baixa resolução; ou (b) oscilação espúria de ondas internas, quando são usados esquemas de interpolação de alta resolução (Cheng et al., 1984; Oliveira e Baptista, 1998; Wang e Lacroix, 1997; Ruan e McLaughlin, 1999).

Uma das aplicações do ELM é o tratamento numérico das equações RANS, que decorre da discretização dos termos convectivos e viscosos da equação convecção-difusão em três dimensões (equações 3.1-3.3). A equação advecção-difusão sem o termo de Coriolis e termos de pressão, pode ser descrita como:

$$\frac{dc}{dt} = \frac{\partial c}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial c}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial c}{\partial z} = \mu \left( \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial y^2} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \nu \frac{\partial c}{\partial z} \right) \quad (3.4)$$

onde  $C$  é uma variável genérica (e.g. componentes da velocidade  $u, v, w$ ) (Casulli e Cheng, 1992). Para obter uma solução simples e aprimorar a estabilidade e acurácia de um esquema explícito de diferença finita, considere a equação 3.4 em sua forma Lagrangiana:

$$\frac{dc}{dt} = \mu \left( \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial y^2} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \nu \frac{\partial c}{\partial z} \right) \quad (3.5)$$

Onde a derivada substancial  $\frac{d}{dt}$  indica a taxa de variação no tempo, a qual é calculado ao longo de uma linha de corrente definida por:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = u, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = v, \quad \frac{dz}{dt} = w \quad (3.6)$$

Uma discretização explícita da equação (3.5) pode ser dada por:

$$\frac{(C_{j,k}^{n+1} - C_{j,k}^*)}{\Delta t} = \frac{\nu_{k+1/2} \frac{C_{j,k+1}^{n+1} - C_{j,k}^{n+1}}{\Delta z_{j,k+1/2}} - \nu_{k-1/2} \frac{C_{j,k}^{n+1} - C_{j,k-1}^{n+1}}{\Delta z_{j,k-1/2}}}{\Delta z_{j,k}} + \mu \Delta_h C_{j,k}^* \quad (3.7)$$

Para discretização Lagrangiana ser aplicada em uma grade Euleriana, uma linha de corrente retroativa é necessária para estimar a velocidade no tempo " $n$ " (abordagem Lagrangiana) necessária para alcançar a posição final " $j, k$ " no tempo " $n + 1$ " (Abordagem Euleriana).

A técnica de interpolação aplicada à segunda etapa do ELM tem um grande impacto na difusão numérica total produzida, especialmente quando os esquemas de interpolação de baixa resolução são utilizados, uma vez que obtenção das velocidades é amplamente afetada pelo processo repetitivo de interpolação a cada subintervalo de tempo (Staniforth e Côté, 1991). Cheng et al. (1984) demonstrou que a utilização de esquemas não-lineares de alta resolução pode eliminar a difusão numérica gerada pelo método. Desta forma, apesar de métodos de alta resolução ter a possibilidade de não manter algumas características importantes de solução numérica (e.g. oscilações espúrias de ondas internas), esquemas não-lineares de alta resolução aplicados ao ELM são preferíveis à esquemas lineares para simulação (Cheng et al., 1984; Casulli e Cheng, 1992; Wang e Lacroix, 1997; Ruan e McLaughlin, 1999).

Propomos neste trabalho uma interpolação quadrática baseada no coeficiente de Lagrange que utiliza 27 pontos, entre velocidade calculadas e estimadas, em um único elemento computacional (ver capítulo 5 para detalhes). A implementação foi baseada na interpolação quadrática de alta resolução e não oscilatória (*wiggles*) proposta por Hodges et al. (2000), que utiliza 27 pontos da grade computacional, precisando de ao menos 4 elementos para utilizar a interpolação. Apesar da técnica ainda não ter sido formalmente analisada (Hodges et al., 2006), sem registro posterior da análise formal desta. Outros estudos modelaram com sucesso simulações hidrodinâmicas e de transporte de solutos, indicando que a solução é satisfatória, demonstrando que é promissor em simular ondas gravitacionais internas e melhorar a habilidade do modelo em resolver escoamento estratificados de superfície livre (e.g. Hodges et al., 2000; Laval et al., 2003b, 2005; Hodges et al., 2006; Valipour et al., 2015; Vilas et al., 2017; Soullignac et al., 2017).



### 3.4 Transporte de Solute

A equação do Transporte é obtida através da discretização da equação da conservação de volume, expressa pela condição de incompressibilidade e a equação de continuidade, dada por:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = 0 \quad (3.8)$$

A integração da equação (3.8) na profundidade, utilizando a regra de integração de Leibniz, em cada uma das direções  $(x, y, z)$  e ainda usando a condição cinemática na superfície livre, resulta na equação de superfície livre:

$$\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int_{-h}^{\eta} u dz + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \int_{-h}^{\eta} v dz = 0 \quad (3.9)$$

A conservação de massa de uma variável escalar conservadora pode ser expressa pela seguinte equação:

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(uC)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(vC)}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial(wC)}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( K^h \frac{\partial C}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( K^h \frac{\partial C}{\partial y} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( K^v \frac{\partial C}{\partial z} \right) \quad (3.10)$$

Onde  $C$  é a concentração de uma substância conservativa a ser transportada (e.g. salinidade);  $K^h$  e  $K^v$  são os coeficientes de difusividade turbulenta horizontal e vertical, respectivamente.

A solução de Transporte de Solute pode ser resolvida por esquemas numéricos diferentes do ELM, tais como esquema *Total Variation Diminishing* (TVD) de alta ordem, *Random Walk Particle Tracking* RWPT e *Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics* (SPH), bem discutidos em Boso et al. (2013). Um esquema simples para discretizar a equação de conservação de massa, com baixo custo de implementação, é o *UpWind* de primeira ordem, no qual os limitadores de fluxo podem ser aplicados para reduzir a conhecida difusão numérica desta discretização (Casulli e Zanolli, 2005; Zhang et al., 2018).

A discretização dos termos que representam o transporte convectivo é um aspecto desafiador na simulação numérica de fluídos. No contexto das discretizações consideradas aqui, a introdução de esquemas lineares *Upwind* de segunda ordem ou superior (*k-scheme*) a partir da década de 60 marcou um grande passo à frente, permitindo soluções mais precisas de fluxos predominantemente convectivos em números mais altos de Reynolds (Waterson e Deconinck, 2007). Tais esquemas lineares, embora mais estáveis do que esquemas de pura diferença centrada, ainda permanecem vulneráveis a oscilações espaciais sem sentido físico (*wiggles*) sob algumas circunstâncias. A solução para este problema tem sido o uso de discretizações não lineares, sendo uma forma eficiente de construir um esquema de transporte convectivo *Upwind* não-linear de segunda ordem o uso dos limitadores de fluxo (Sweby, 1984; Roe, 1986; Waterson e Deconinck, 2007).

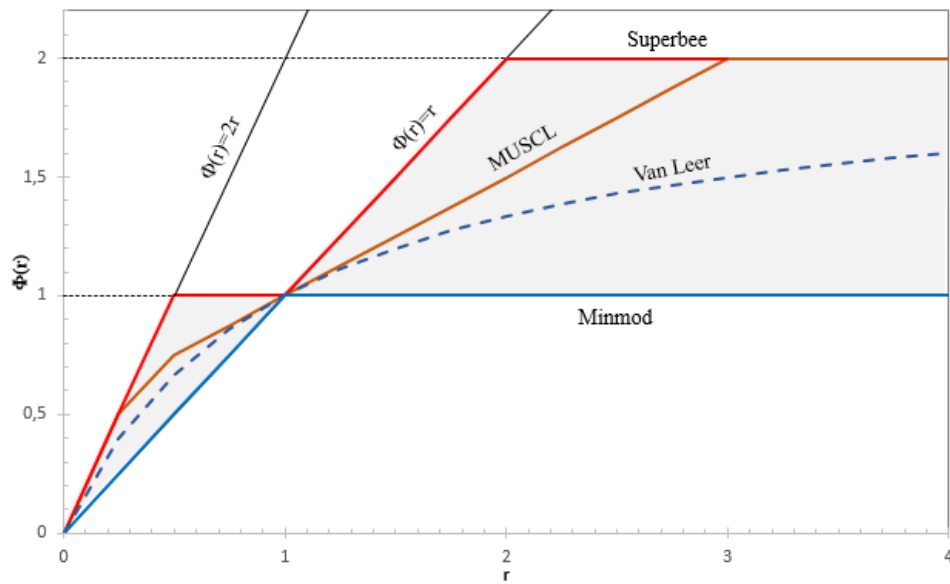


Figura 3.5 – Região TVD de segunda ordem (sombreado em cinza) onde alguns esquemas de limitadores de fluxo são definidos. Acima é limitado pelo esquema superbee (vermelho), abaixo pelo esquema Minmod (azul). Os esquemas Muscl e Van Leer estão plotados em azul tracejado e marrom, respectivamente. A abscissa "r" é a taxa dos gradientes consecutivos de concentração. Fonte: adaptado pelo autor, Sweby, 1984

O esquema do limitador de fluxo provou ser uma das abordagens mais eficazes para a construção de esquemas não lineares de alta resolução (Waterson e Deconinck, 2007). São funções simples que definem o esquema de convecção com base em uma relação de gradientes locais no campo da solução, com um limite de comportamento, a fim de manter a monotonicidade, geralmente limitado por uma condição TVD para esquemas de segunda ordem (Sweby, 1984; Waterson e Deconinck, 2007) (Figura 3.5). Os Limitadores de Fluxo tem sido amplamente utilizado para obter soluções menos difusas e estáveis, mesmo em situações críticas, como em gradientes de concentração acentuada em regiões com pequeno número de *courant* (Wadzuk e Hodges, 2004; Fringer et al., 2005; Casulli e Zanolli, 2005; Kong et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2018; Nangia et al., 2019). Uma boa revisão sobre construção de limitadores de fluxo pode ser encontrada nos trabalhos de Tamamidis e Assanis (1993); Fringer et al. (2005); Waterson e Deconinck (2007).

Muitas são as opções de funções de limitadores de fluxo que se ajustam aos limites TVD. Os trabalhos de Waterson e Deconinck (2007); Fringer et al. (2005) mostram algumas opções as quais 13 foram implementadas, a saber:

1. UpWind

$$\Phi(r_f) = 0 \tag{3.11}$$

2. Lax-Wendroff

$$\Phi(r_f) = 1 \tag{3.12}$$

3. MinMod

$$\Phi(r_f) = \max[\phi_{j,k}^n; \min(r_f, 1)] \quad (3.13)$$

4. MUSCL

$$\Phi(r_f) = \max[\phi_{j,k}^n; \min(2r_f; 0, 5 + 0, 5r_f; 2)] \quad (3.14)$$

5. Superbee

$$\Phi(r_f) = \max[\phi_{j,k}^n; \min(1; 2r_f); \min(2, r_f)] \quad (3.15)$$

6. SMART

$$\Phi(r_f) = \max \left[ \phi_{j,k}^n; \min \left( 2r_f; \frac{3r_f}{4} + \frac{1}{3}; 4 \right) \right] \quad (3.16)$$

7. SHARP

$$\Phi(r_f) = \min \left( \max \left[ \phi_{j,k}^n; 2r_f \frac{(r_f^{0,5} - 1)}{(r_f - 1)} \right] \right) \quad (3.17)$$

8. Van Leer

$$\Phi(r_f) = \frac{(r_f + |r_f|)}{(1 + r_f)} \quad (3.18)$$

9. Ultimate Quickest

$$\Phi(r_f) = \max \left[ \phi_{j,k}^n; \min \left( \frac{1}{2}(1 + r_f) + \frac{1}{6}(1 - r_f)(1 - 2|C|); \frac{2}{1 - |C|}; \frac{2r_f}{|C|} \right) \right] \quad (3.19)$$

10. Super-C

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(r_f) &= \min \left( \frac{2r_f}{|C|}; 1 \right), 0 \leq r_f \leq 1 \\ \Phi(r_f) &= \min \left( r_f, \frac{2}{1 - |C|} \right), r_f > 1 \\ \Phi(r_f) &= \phi_{j,k}^n \end{aligned} \quad (3.20)$$

11. Hyper-C

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(r_f) &= \min \left( \frac{2r_f}{|C|}; \frac{2}{1 - |C|} \right), r_f > 0 \\ \Phi(r_f) &= \phi_{j,k}^n \end{aligned} \quad (3.21)$$

12. OSPRE

$$\Phi(r_f) = \max \left[ \phi_{j,k}^n; 3r_f \left( \frac{r_f + 1}{2r_f^2 + 2r_f + 2} \right) \right] \quad (3.22)$$

13. SPL-1/3

$$\Phi(r_f) = \max \left[ \phi_{j,k}^n; \min \left( 2r_f; \frac{1}{3} + \frac{2r_f}{3}; \frac{2}{3} + \frac{r_f}{3}; 2 \right) \right] \quad (3.23)$$

Onde  $\Phi$  e  $\phi$  são funções que determinam o fator de correção  $\psi$  da equação do Transporte de Solute (ver capítulo 5 para mais detalhes) e  $C$  é o número de *Courant*. A importância de sua implementação se resume na praticidade de sua implementação e no potencial de redução da difusão numérica de forma estável, mesmo em cenários com bruscos gradientes de concentração. Fringer et al. (2005) avalia a eficiência de uma série de limitadores de fluxo através de um *benchmark* regido por uma onda gravitacional com coeficiente de difusão nulo, apresentando seus potenciais de redução de difusão numérica (figura 3.6), dentre os quais o Superbee, Ultimate-Quickest, MUSCL, BPEP1 e BPEP2 apresentaram os melhores resultados.

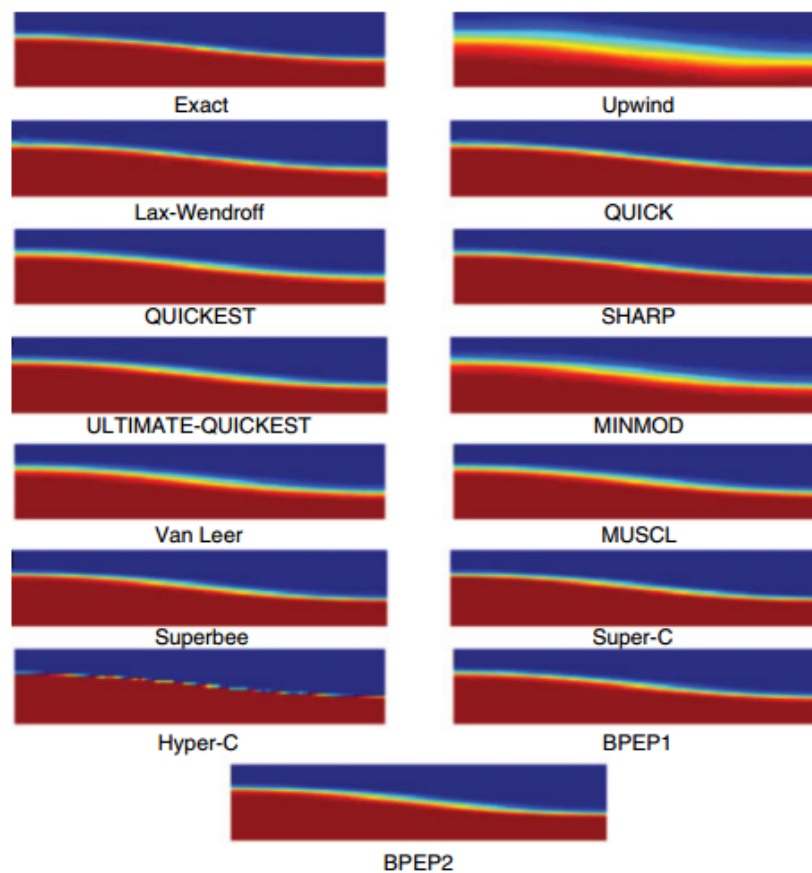


Figura 3.6 – Perfil de densidade após dois períodos de oscilação para diferentes esquemas de limitadores de fluxo. A solução exata corresponde a solução inicial. Fonte: Fringer et al., 2005

Os limitadores de fluxo são, em sua maioria, unicamente influenciados pelos gradientes consecutivos de concentração ( $r_f$ ) sendo sua estimativa determinante para eficiência na redução da difusão numérica de maneira estável. Diversas maneiras de estimar o  $r_f$  foram propostas (Darwish e Moukalled, 2003; Casulli e Zanolli, 2005; Li e Huang, 2008; Kong et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2015; Ye et al., 2018). O  $r_f$  proposto por Ye et al. (2018), Zhang et al. (2015) e Kong et al. (2013) mostram os melhores resultados dentre todos os métodos existentes, sendo menos difusivo e oscilatório que seus antecessores (ver figura 3.7).

Pela estabilidade e eficiência e reduzir a difusão numérica e facilidade em adaptação da solução ao tipo de malha em 3 dimensões (estruturada ou não-estruturada), o  $r_f$  proposto por Kong et al. (2013), se mostra uma alternativa promissora, pois se baseia apenas nas contrações e distâncias entre a célula computacional em análise e células vizinhas. Para as faces verticais (fluxo horizontal) o gradiente consecutivo é dado por:

$$r_{j,k}^n = \frac{C_{i,k}^n - C_{r(i,j_o),k}^n}{C_{r(i,j),k}^n - C_{i,k}^n} \quad (3.24)$$

onde  $j_o$  representa a face oposta à face  $j$  e  $C$  a concentração em seus respectivos elementos de malha. Para as faces horizontais (fluxo vertical) o  $r_f$  é dado por:

$$r_{j,k-\frac{1}{2}}^n = \frac{C_{i,k}^n - C_{i,k+1}^n}{C_{i,k-1}^n - C_{i,k}^n} \quad (3.25)$$

$$r_{j,k+\frac{1}{2}}^n = \frac{C_{i,k}^n - C_{i,k-1}^n}{C_{i,k+1}^n - C_{i,k}^n} \quad (3.26)$$

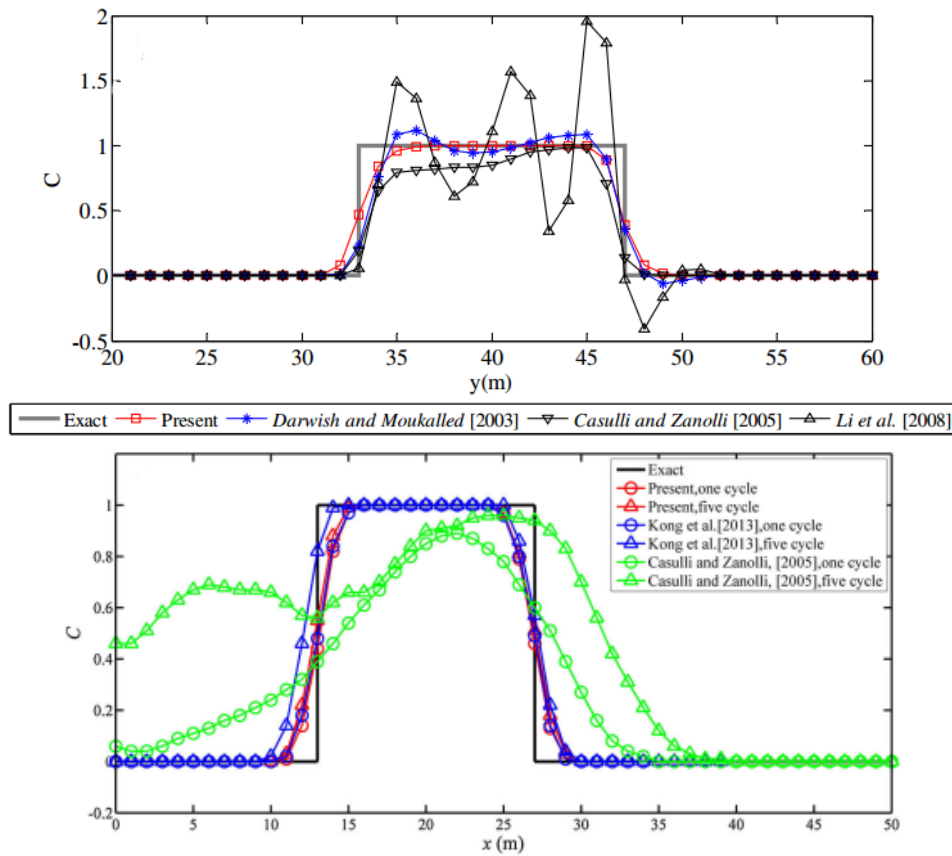


Figura 3.7 – Caso de advecção em campo de fluxo rotativos: Perfis de concentrações estimado com diferentes algoritmos de  $r_f$  em  $x = 20$  m após a) 1 ciclo (Fonte: Kong et al., 2013) e b) 1 ciclo ou 5 ciclos (Fonte: Ye et al., 2018).

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**Improvement of nonhydrostatic hydrodynamic solution using a novel free-surface boundary condition**

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IMPROVEMENT OF NONHYDROSTATIC HYDRODYNAMIC  
SOLUTION USING ANOVEL FREE-SURFACE BOUNDARY  
CONDITION

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Carlos Ruberto Fragoso Jr.  
David da Motta Marques

Artigo a ser submetido.

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# Improvement of nonhydrostatic hydrodynamic solution using a novel free-surface boundary condition

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Fragoso Junior · David da Motta-Marques

1 **Abstract** Hydrodynamic models based on RANS equation are well established tools to simulate three-  
2 dimensional free surface flows in large aquatic ecosystems, such as lakes, estuaries, reservoirs and coastal  
3 zones. When the ratio of vertical to horizontal motion scales is not small, a non-hydrostatic approximation  
4 is needed in order to accurately model three-dimensional free surface flows with low computational cost.  
5 Growing efforts have been made to improve the efficiency of non-hydrostatic hydrodynamic models. One  
6 such attempt improves the model ability in solving the elliptic equation to nonhydrostatic pressure,  
7 which properly address the free-surface boundary condition and uses a vertical momentum discretization  
8 less dependent on the velocity vertical profile. However, the improvements may demand a considerable  
9 implementation cost due to substantial changes, at least, in the vertical momentum discretization and  
10 in the treatment needed to properly address the nonhydrostatic pressure at the free-surface boundary  
11 condition. Thus, in order to improve the nonhydrostatic hydrodynamic solution with low cost of  
12 implementation, we proposed a novel free-surface boundary condition based on a fictional sublayer at  
13 the free-surface (FSFS). We applied the FSFS at a finite difference discretization with a fractional step  
14 framework based on Casulli and Lang (2004), which uses a Neumann type of boundary condition which  
15 applies a hydrostatic relation in the top layer. To evaluate the model performance, we compared the  
16 Classic Boundary Condition Approach (CBA) and the FSFS approach using two numerical experiments:  
17 (a) a standing wave in a three-dimensional closed basin, and (b) a wave propagation over a submerged bar,  
18 to test the model's capability in solving wave celerity and simulate non-linear wave propagations under  
19 different vertical resolutions scenarios (20 to 5 layers). Our findings showed that the FSFS approach had  
20 phase error 2 to 5 time lower than CBA, and with little additional computational cost (ca. 7%). The  
21 FSFS approach better represented wave celerity and frequency dispersion with fewer layers (10 layers)  
22 with low mean computational cost (c.a. 1.54 s), while the CBA best results (computational cost of c.a.  
23 2.62 s) had similar performance to the 8-layer (computational cost of c.a. 1.51 s) simulation with FSFS  
24 approach.

25 **Keywords** Pressure · Implementations Cost · Computational Cost

## 26 1 Introduction

27 Hydrodynamic models based on Reynolds Averaged Navier-Stokes (RANS) equation are well estab-  
28 lished tools to simulate three-dimensional free surface flows in large aquatic ecosystems, such as lakes,  
29 estuaries, reservoirs and coastal zones (Valipour et al., 2015; de Brito Jr et al., 2018; Vilas et al., 2017;  
30 Soullignac et al., 2017; Munar et al., 2018). These models usually are based on hydrostatic assumption of  
31 the pressure distribution, which is satisfactorily applied to large shallow water ecosystems with relatively  
32 low computational cost algorithm (Zhang et al., 2018). However, when the ratio of vertical to horizontal  
33 motion scales is not small, a non-hydrostatic approximation is needed in order to model accurately  
34 three-dimensional free surface flows with low computational cost (Marshall et al., 1997; Casulli and  
35 Stelling, 1998; Chen, 2003; Wadzuk and Hodges, 2004; Liu et al., 2017).

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36 Although a nonhydrostatic approach improves the physical representation of pressure, acceleration  
37 and velocities fields, more complex numeric methods and high vertical resolution may still be needed to  
38 model large-scale flows with complex geometries. To improve efficiency and reduce the computational cost  
39 of nonhydrostatic hydrodynamic models, a few alternatives were explored. Most of them are dedicated  
40 to improving the model's ability to solve the elliptic equation to nonhydrostatic pressure, which properly  
41 addresses the free-surface boundary condition and uses a vertical momentum discretization less dependent  
42 of the velocity vertical profile (Stelling and Zijlema, 2003; Yuan and Wu, 2004; Zijlema and Stelling, 2005;  
43 Lv, 2014; Liu et al., 2017; Escalante et al., 2018a). Hybrid hydrostatic and nonhydrostatic models have  
44 also been used to reduce computational cost. These models may identify regions where the simplification  
45 can be applied, instead of applied the nonhydrostatic approach to the entire computational domain  
46 (Wadzuk and Hodges, 2004; Bohacek et al., 2018; Zhang et al., 2018). To adapt source code to work as a  
47 parallel computational algorithm is also feasible solution applied, which allocated the loop calculations  
48 on the distributed threads (Zhang et al., 2018; Escalante et al., 2018b). However, improvement of  
49 nonhydrostatic hydrodynamic models can be also reached with a low implementation cost method,  
50 on this paper we focus in novel free-surface boundary condition to properly addresses the free-surface  
51 nonhydrostatic pressure, in order to reaching satisfactory results without changing the momentum  
52 equations.

53 Two different types of boundary conditions may be applied for nonhydrostatic pressure at the  
54 free-surface: (a) a homogenous Dirichlet condition, which pressure is set equal zero at the free-surface  
55 (e.g. Kanarska and Maderich, 2003; Stelling and Zijlema, 2003; Wang et al., 2009; Zhang et al., 2018)  
56 and (b) a Neumann condition, usually a hydrostatic relation to approximate pressure's value equal to  
57 zero at the free-surface (e.g. Casulli, 1999; Namin et al., 2001; Monteiro and Schettini, 2015; Bohacek  
58 et al., 2018), Both types of free-surface boundary condition were well discussed in Bergh and Berntsen  
59 (2009). However, many numerical models solve the Poisson's equation for pressure at the center of the  
60 computational cell (e.g. Jankowski, 1999; Yuan and Wu, 2004; Casulli and Lang, 2004; Liu et al., 2017;  
61 Bohacek et al., 2018), which may incorrectly address the nonhydrostatic boundary condition to the top  
62 layer instead at the free-surface, if a suitable treatment is not performed. This assumption becomes more  
63 inaccurate as the distance between the center of the top layer and the free surface increases, hence a high  
64 vertical resolution (1-20 layers) is needed in order to achieve accurate results for different case studies  
65 (Stelling and Zijlema, 2003; Yuan and Wu, 2004; Zijlema and Stelling, 2005; Cui et al., 2012; Lv, 2014;  
66 Liu et al., 2017).

67 In addition to using a suitable vertical discretization, Yuan and Wu (2004) and Zijlema and Stelling  
68 (2005) showed that cell-center nonhydrostatic models may have a significant accumulated phase error  
69 after several wave periods due to the wrong computation of wave celerity. Many efforts were carried out  
70 in order to properly overcome this issue, of which we can highlight: (a) an implementation of edge-based  
71 nonhydrostatic pressure (e.g. Stelling and Zijlema, 2003; Lu et al., 2015), (b) the use of an integration  
72 method to estimate the pressure at the free-surface based on pressure in the center of the top layer (e.g.  
73 Yuan and Wu, 2004; Lv, 2014; Liu et al., 2017, and and (c) the use of a piecewise linear profile of the  
74 non-hydrostatic pressure to estimate the pressure at the free-surface (e.g. Escalante et al., 2018a. For the  
75 existing cell-centered models, the previous algorithms may demand a substantial implementation cost  
76 due to substantial changes, at least, in the vertical momentum discretization and in the treatment needed  
77 to properly address the nonhydrostatic pressure at the free-surface boundary condition. Thus, in order  
78 to improve the nonhydrostatic hydrodynamic solution with low cost of implementation, we proposed a  
79 novel free-surface boundary condition based on a fictional sublayer at the free-surface (*FSFS*)

80 We applied the FSFS and the CBA approaches at a finite difference discretization with a fractional  
81 step framework based on Casulli and Lang (2004), which uses a Neumann type of boundary condition  
82 which apply a hydrostatic relation in the top layer. To evaluate the model performance, we used two  
83 widely applied numerical models benchmarks (Dingemans, 1994; Jankowski, 1999; Casulli and Lang,  
84 2004; Yuan and Wu, 2004; Fringer et al., 2005; Liu et al., 2017; Yin et al., 2017), which were selected to  
85 test our algorithm in two different purposes: (a) a standing wave in a three-dimensional closed basin to  
86 test the model's capability in solving wave celerity under different vertical resolutions; and (b) a wave  
87 propagation over a submerged bar to validate the proposed boundary condition at the free-surface and  
88 evaluated the effect of vertical resolution under a non-linear wave propagation.



## 89 2 Mathematical considerations

### 90 2.1 Governant equations

91 The RANS equations are used to describe three-dimensional free-surface flows. These equations  
92 express the physical principle of volume, mass, and momentum conservation. The momentum equations  
93 for an incompressible fluid have the following form:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} - fv = -\frac{\partial p_a}{\partial x} - g \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \\ - g \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ \int_z^\eta \frac{\rho - \rho_0}{\rho_0} d\zeta \right] - \frac{\partial q}{\partial x} + \nu^h \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \nu^v \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} - fu = -\frac{\partial p_a}{\partial y} - g \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} \\ - g \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[ \int_z^\eta \frac{\rho - \rho_0}{\rho_0} d\zeta \right] - \frac{\partial q}{\partial y} + \nu^h \left( \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \nu^v \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = -\frac{\partial q}{\partial z} + \nu^h \left( \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \nu^v \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \right) \quad (3)$$

94 where  $u(x,y,z,t)$ ,  $v(x,y,z,t)$ , and  $w(x,y,z,t)$  are the velocity components in the horizontal ( $x$  and  $y$ )  
95 and vertical ( $z$ ) directions, respectively; where  $\nu^h$  e  $\nu^v$  are the horizontal and vertical turbulent eddy  
96 viscosity coefficients, respectively;  $t$  is the time;  $p_a(x,y,z,t)$  is the atmospheric pressure;  $\eta$  is the free  
97 surface elevation from a water level reference. The second and the third terms on the right- hand side  
98 of equations (1) and (2) represent the barotropic and the baroclinic contributions to the hydrostatic  
99 pressure;  $q(x,y,z,t)$  denotes the nonhydrostatic pressure component;  $f$  is the Coriolis parameter; and  $g$  is  
100 the gravitational acceleration.

101 When a simple hydrostatic approach is considered, equation (3) is neglected and  $q$  is assumed to be  
102 equal to zero in equations (1) and (2). In this case, it is assumed that vertical acceleration do not have a  
103 significant effect in the velocity field in comparison with horizontal acceleration.

104 The volume conservation is expressed by the incompressibility condition and the continuity equation,  
105 given by:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = 0 \quad (4)$$

106 Integrating equation (4) over depth leads to the following equation:

$$\int_{-h}^\eta \left[ \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \right] dz = \int_{-h}^\eta \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dz + \int_{-h}^\eta \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} dz + \int_{-h}^\eta \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} dz = 0 \quad (5)$$

107 where “ $h$ ” is the bathymetry measured from theoretical undisturbed water surface (zero referential).  
108 Using the Leibniz integration rule, in each direction, in equation (5) and using a kinematic condition at  
109 the free-surface leads to the following free-surface equation:

$$\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int_{-h}^\eta u dz + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \int_{-h}^\eta v dz = 0 \quad (6)$$

110 Finally, the mass conservation of a conservative scalar variable may be expressed by the following  
111 equation:

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(uC)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(vC)}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial(wC)}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (K^h \frac{\partial C}{\partial x}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (K^h \frac{\partial C}{\partial y}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( K^v \frac{\partial C}{\partial z} \right) \quad (7)$$

112 where  $C$  is the concentration of a conservative substance being transported (e.g., salinity);  $K^h$  and  
113  $K^v$  are the horizontal and vertical turbulent eddy diffusivity coefficients, respectively.

114 For both the velocity field and scalar transport solutions, the boundary conditions are implemented  
115 under the assumption of “free-slip” boundaries. The Dirichlet and Neumann conditions were assigned

116 to represent the normal and tangential velocities in the solid boundaries, respectively. For the scalar  
 117 solution, a no-flux boundary condition is assumed in solid boundaries.

118 The tangential stress boundary conditions for the momentum equations (Equations 1 and 2) at the  
 119 free-surface are specified by the prescribed wind stresses, which can be approximated as:

$$\nu^v \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = \gamma_T(u_a - u), \nu^v \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} = \gamma_T(v_a - v); \quad \text{at } z = \eta \quad (8)$$

120 where  $u_a$  and  $v_a$  are the horizontal wind velocity components, and  $\gamma_T$  is a nonnegative wind stress  
 121 coefficient. The bottom friction is specified by:

$$\nu^v \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = \gamma_B u, \nu^v \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} = \gamma_B v; \quad \text{at } z = -h \quad (9)$$

122 where  $\gamma_B$  is a nonnegative bottom friction coefficient.

## 123 2.2 Grid and Variables Locations

124 The computational grid can be described as a generic unstructured orthogonal grid, having  $N_p$   
 125 elements, each having an arbitrary number of sides  $S_i \geq 3, i = 1, 2, \dots, N_p$  (Figure 1).

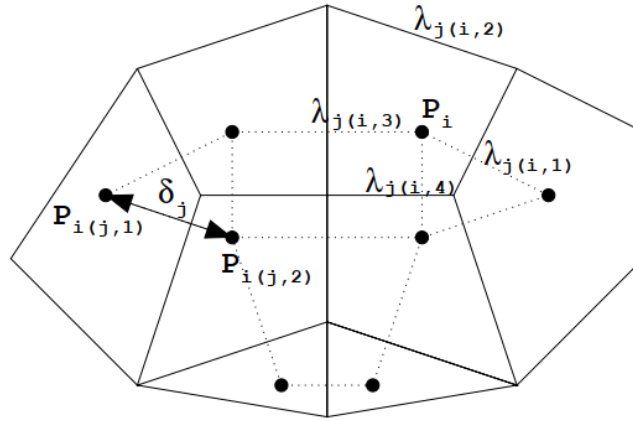


Fig. 1: Model representation of the grid. (Source: Casulli and Lang, 2004)

126 Let  $N_s$  be the total number of sides in the grid. The length of each side is  $\lambda_j, j = 1, 2, \dots, N_p$ .  
 127 The vertical faces of the  $i$ -th element are identified by an index  $j(i,l), l = 1, 2, \dots, S_i$ , so that  
 128  $1 \leq j(i,l) \leq N_s$ . Similarly, the two polygons which share the  $j$ -th vertical face of the grid are identified  
 129 by the indices  $i(j,1)$  and  $i(j,2)$ , so that  $1 \leq i(j,1) \leq N_p$  and  $1 \leq i(j,2) \leq N_p$ . The nonzero distance between  
 130 centers of two adjacent polygons which share the  $j$ -th side is denoted with  $\delta_j$ . Along the vertical  
 131 direction a simple finite difference discretization, not necessarily uniform, is adopted. By denoting with  
 132  $\Delta z_{k+\frac{1}{2}}$  a given top computational cell level surface, the vertical discretization step is defined by

$$\Delta z_k = \Delta z_{k+\frac{1}{2}} - \Delta z_{k-\frac{1}{2}} \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, N_s \quad (10)$$

133 The three-dimensional spatial discretization consists of elements whose horizontal faces are the  
 134 polygons of a given orthogonal grid, represented by the layers at  $k + \frac{1}{2}$  (upper face) or  $k - \frac{1}{2}$  (bottom  
 135 face), whose height, for each layer, is  $\Delta z_k$ . The water surface elevation ( $\eta$ ), is located at the barycenter  
 136 of the upper horizontal face for each  $i$ -th element. The velocity component normal to each horizontal  
 137 face is assumed to be constant over the face of each computational cell, which is defined at the point of  
 138 intersection between the face and the segment joining the centers of the two prisms which share the face;  
 139 the non-hydrostatic pressure component  $q_{i,k}^n$  and the concentrations  $C_{i,k}^n$  are located at the center of the  
 140  $i$ -th computational cell, half way between  $\Delta z_{k+\frac{1}{2}}$  and  $\Delta z_{k-\frac{1}{2}}$ . Finally, the water depth  $h_j$  is specified  
 141 and assumed constant on each vertical face of an element.

### 142 2.3 Numerical Approximation

143 We used a semi-implicit method ( $\theta$ -Method Casulli, 1990) of finite volume, with an Eulerian  
 144 Lagrangian Method (Casulli and Cheng, 1992) to solve the convective and viscous terms of the RANS  
 145 equations, which applies a quadratic interpolation (see Hodges et al., 2000) to estimate the velocity field  
 146 at the end of backtracking process (multi-step backward Euler with 10 sub-time steps). A fractional-step  
 147 framework (Casulli and Lang, 2004) is used to solve pressure component by splitting in hydrostatic and  
 148 nonhydrostatic parts. A complete description of numerical solution may be found in Casulli and Lang  
 149 (2004). Below, we outlined the algorithm procedure:

- 150 1. Definition of initial parameters, initial conditions and boundary condition
- 151 2. Solution of convective terms using the Eulerian-Lagrangian Method
- 152 3. Determination of the provisional free-surface elevation ( $\tilde{\eta}$ ) through the preconditioned conjugate  
 153 gradient iterations until the residual norm is smaller than a given tolerance  $\epsilon_q$ .
- 154 4. Numeric solution of provisional velocity field ( $\tilde{u}$  and  $\tilde{w}$ )
- 155 5. Solution of nonhydrostatic pressure ( $q$ ) through the preconditioned conjugate gradient iterations  
 156 until the residual norm is smaller than a given tolerance  $\epsilon_q$ .
- 157 6. Numeric correction of velocity field and free surface elevation

158 Here we described separately the conventional nonhydrostatic pressure discretization with the given  
 159 boundary condition, and how the *FSFS* boundary condition is applied in the conventional solution in  
 160 order to improve the nonhydrostatic hydrodynamic solution.

#### 161 2.3.1 Nonhydrostatic pressure discretization

162 A correction of provisional velocity field ( $\tilde{u}_{j,k}^{n+1}, \tilde{w}_{j,k}^{n+1}$ ) are computed after including the nonhydrostatic  
 163 pressure terms, specifically:

$$u_{j,k}^{n+1} = \tilde{u}_{j,k}^{n+1} - \theta \frac{\Delta t}{\delta_j} \left( \tilde{q}_{i(j,r),k}^{n+1} - \tilde{q}_{i(j,l),k}^{n+1} \right) \quad (11)$$

$$w_{j,k}^{n+1} = \tilde{w}_{j,k}^{n+1} - \theta \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta z_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}} (\tilde{q}_{i,k+1}^{n+1} - \tilde{q}_{i,k+1}^{n+1}) \quad (12)$$

164 where the vertical space increment  $\Delta z$  is defined as the distance between two consecutive level  
 165 surfaces, except near the bottom and near the free surface where  $\Delta z$  is the distance between a level  
 166 surface and the bottom or free-surface, respectively.  $\tilde{q}$  denotes the nonhydrostatic pressure term, which  
 167 in combination with the provisional free-surface elevation ( $\tilde{\eta}$ ), gives the pressure:

$$p_{j,k}^{n+1} = g (\tilde{\eta}_i^{n+1} - z_k) + \tilde{q}_{i,k}^{n+1} \quad (13)$$

168 where  $z_k$  is the  $z$ -coordinate of the  $k$ -th horizontal level surface and  $g$  is the gravity acceleration. In  
 169 each computational cell below the free-surface, the finite volume discretized incompressibility condition  
 170 is taken to be:

$$\sum_{L=1}^{S_i} s_{i,L} \lambda_{j(i,L)} \Delta z_{j(i,L),k}^n u_{j(i,L),k}^{n+1} + P_i \left( w_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1} - w_{i,k-\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1} \right) = 0 \quad k = m, m+1, \dots, M \quad (14)$$

171 where  $P_i$  is the area of the  $i$ -th polygon and  $S_i$  is the number of sides for the  $i$ -th element. At  
 172 the free-surface, the finite difference approximation of equation (6) considering  $w_{i,m-\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1} = 0$  and using  
 173 the incompressibility condition (14) is:

$$P_i \eta_i^{n+1} = P_i \eta_i^n - \theta \Delta t \sum_{l=1}^{S_i} \left[ s_{i,l} \lambda_{j(i,l)} \Delta z_{j(i,l),M}^n u_{j(i,l),M}^{n+1} \right] + \theta \Delta t P_i w_{i,M-\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1} \\ - (1 - \theta) \Delta t \sum_{l=1}^{S_i} \left[ s_{i,l} \lambda_{j(i,l)} \sum_{k=m}^M \Delta z_{j(i,l),k}^n u_{j(i,l),k}^n \right] \quad (15)$$

174 where  $\theta$  is the implicitness factor,  $s_{i,l}$  is sign function associated with the orientation of the normal  
 175 velocity defined on the  $l$  side of an element  $i$ . Assuming that the pressure at the FSFS is hydrostatic, the  
 176 pressure correction term ( $\tilde{q}_{i,M}^{n+1}$ ) is obtained by the following hydrostatic relation:

$$p_{j,M}^{n+1} = g(\eta_i^{n+1} - z_M) = g(\tilde{\eta}_i^{n+1} - z_M) + \tilde{q}_{i,k}^{n+1} \quad (16)$$

177 hence, equation 13 becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} P_i \tilde{\eta}_i^{n+1} &= gP_i(\eta_i^n - \tilde{\eta}_i^{n+1}) - g\theta \Delta t \sum_{L=1}^{S_i} \left[ s_{i,L} \lambda_{j(i,L)} \Delta z_{j(i,L),M}^n u_{j(i,L),M}^{n+1} \right] + g\theta \Delta t P_i w_{i,M-\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1} \\ &- g(1-\theta) \Delta t \sum_{L=1}^{S_i} \left[ s_{i,L} \lambda_{j(i,L)} \sum_{k=m}^M \Delta z_{j(i,L),k}^n u_{j(i,L),k}^n \right] \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

178 A system of equations to solve nonhydrostatic pressure is now derived by substituting the expressions  
 179 for the new velocities from (11-12) into (14) and (17), respectively. The following finite difference  
 180 equations are obtained

$$\begin{aligned} g\theta^2 \Delta t^2 \left[ \sum_{l=1}^{S_i} s_{i,L} \lambda_{j(i,l)} \Delta z_{j(i,l),k}^n \frac{\tilde{q}_{i[j(i,l),1],k}^{n+1} - \tilde{q}_{i[j(i,l),2],k}^{n+1}}{\delta_{j(i,l),k}} + P_i \left( \frac{\tilde{q}_{i,k}^{n+1} - \tilde{q}_{i,k+1}^{n+1}}{\Delta z_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^n} - \frac{\tilde{q}_{i,k-1}^{n+1} - \tilde{q}_{i,k}^{n+1}}{\Delta z_{i,k-\frac{1}{2}}^n} \right) \right] \\ = g\theta \Delta t P_i \left( \tilde{w}_{i,k-\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1} - \tilde{w}_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1} \right) - g\theta \Delta t \sum_{l=1}^{S_i} s_{i,L} \lambda_{j(i,l)} \Delta z_{j(i,l),k}^n \tilde{u}_{j(i,l),k}^{n+1}; \quad k = m, m+1, \dots, M-1. \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

181 and

$$\begin{aligned} g\theta^2 \Delta t^2 \left[ \sum_{l=1}^{S_i} s_{i,L} \lambda_{j(i,l)} \Delta z_{j(i,l),M}^n \frac{\tilde{q}_{i[j(i,l),1],M}^{n+1} - \tilde{q}_{i[j(i,l),2],M}^{n+1}}{\delta_{j(i,l),M}} - P_i \frac{\tilde{q}_{i,M-1}^{n+1} - \tilde{q}_{i,M}^{n+1}}{\Delta z_{i,M-\frac{1}{2}}^n} \right] + P_i \tilde{q}_{i,M}^{n+1} = \\ g\theta \Delta t P_i \tilde{w}_{i,M-\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1} - g\theta \Delta t \sum_{l=1}^{S_i} s_{i,L} \lambda_{j(i,l)} (\Delta z_{FSFS}) \tilde{u}_{j(i,l),M}^{n+1} + gP_i(\eta_i^n - \tilde{\eta}_i^{n+1}) - \\ g(1-\theta) \Delta t \sum_{l=1}^{S_i} \left[ s_{i,L} \lambda_{j(i,l)} \sum_{k=m}^M \Delta z_{j(i,l),k}^n u_{j(i,l),k}^n; \quad k = M \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

182 Once computed the nonhydrostatic pressure terms, the velocities field are corrected by equation  
 183 (11), while vertical velocity can be estimated, equivalently, by equation (12) or by the incompressibility  
 184 condition (14) by setting  $w_{i,m+\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1} = 0$ :

$$w_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1} = w_{i,k-\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1} - \frac{1}{P_i} \sum_{L=1}^{S_i} s_{i,L} \lambda_{j(i,L)} \Delta z_{j(i,L),k}^n u_{j(i,L),k}^{n+1}; \quad k = m, m+1, \dots, M-1 \quad (20)$$

185 This equation guarantees that the resulting velocity field is exactly discrete divergence free (Casulli  
 186 and Lang, 2004), thus we use this equation to compute the vertical velocity components.

187 The final free surface elevation is obtained by the hydrostatic relation (16) as follows

$$\eta_i^{n+1} = \tilde{\eta}_i^{n+1} + \frac{\tilde{q}_{i,M+1}^{n+1}}{g} \quad (21)$$

188 Finally, the nonhydrostatic pressure component can be obtained by:

$$q_{i,k}^{n+1} = \tilde{q}_{i,k}^{n+1} - \tilde{q}_{i,M+1}^{n+1}; \quad k = m, m+1, \dots, M, M+1 \quad (22)$$

189 making the non-hydrostatic pressure at free-surface equal to zero (i.e. for  $k = M+1$ ).

### 190 2.3.2 Free-surface boundary condition treatment

191 To apply the Fictional Sublayer at the Free-Surface (*FSFS*) into the existing computational domain  
 192 is only required one additional numerical vertical layer in the top of computational domain, which does  
 193 not account to the computational domain. As the height of the *FSFS* is assumed to be equal to zero,  
 194 the hydrostatic relation can be always guaranteed at the free-surface, independent of the number of  
 195 vertical layers. To use this method only is required a simple adaption in the numerical equations (18-19),  
 196 considering the type of the layer:

197 i) For bottom and middle layers (i.e.  $k = m$  to  $M - 1$ ), the equation (18) is applied using its original  
 198 form:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & g\theta^2 \Delta t^2 \left[ \sum_{l=1}^{S_i} s_{i,L} \lambda_{j(i,l)} \left( \Delta z_{j(i,l),M}^n - \Delta z_{FSFS} \right) \frac{\tilde{q}_{i[j(i,l),1],M}^{n+1} - \tilde{q}_{i[j(i,l),2],M}^{n+1}}{\delta_{j(i,l),M}} + \right] \\
 & \left[ P_i \left( \frac{\tilde{q}_{i,M}^{n+1} - \tilde{q}_{i,M+1}^{n+1}}{\Delta z_{i,M+\frac{1}{2}}^n} - \frac{\tilde{q}_{i,M-1}^{n+1} - \tilde{q}_{i,M}^{n+1}}{\Delta z_{i,M-\frac{1}{2}}^n} \right) \right] = g\theta \Delta t P_i \left( \tilde{w}_{i,M-\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1} - \tilde{w}_{i,M+\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1} \right) - \quad (23) \\
 & g\theta \Delta t \sum_{l=1}^{S_i} s_{i,L} \lambda_{j(i,l)} \left( \Delta z_{j(i,l),M}^n - \Delta z_{FSFS} \right) \tilde{u}_{j(i,l),M}^{n+1}; \quad k = M
 \end{aligned}$$

199 ii) For the top layer ( $k = M$ ), equation 18 is adapted to take into account the influence of FSFS height  
 200 ( $\Delta z_{FSFS}$ ) in  $\Delta z_{i,M+\frac{1}{2}}^n$  and  $\Delta z_{j(i,l),k}^n$ :

$$z_{i,M+\frac{1}{2}}^n = \frac{1}{2} \left[ (\Delta z_{i,M}^n - \Delta z_{FSFS}) + \Delta z_{FSFS} \right] = \frac{1}{2} (\Delta z_{i,M}^n) \quad (24)$$

201

$$\Delta z_{i,M-\frac{1}{2}}^n = \frac{1}{2} \left[ (\Delta z_{i,M}^n - \Delta z_{FSFS}) + \Delta z_{i,M-1}^n \right] \quad (25)$$

202 iii) For the FSFS layer ( $k = M + 1$ ), equation 19 is adapted to take into account the *FSFS* height and  
 203 the velocity field in the layer  $M$ . Preliminary simulations showed that making  $\Delta z_{FSFS} = 0$  a stable  
 204 solution is achieved for any vertical discretization:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & g\theta^2 \Delta t^2 \left[ \sum_{l=1}^{S_i} s_{i,L} \lambda_{j(i,l)} (\Delta z_{FSFS}) \frac{\tilde{q}_{i[j(i,l),1],M+1}^{n+1} - \tilde{q}_{i[j(i,l),2],M+1}^{n+1}}{\delta_{j(i,l),M}} - P_i \frac{\tilde{q}_{i,M}^{n+1} - \tilde{q}_{i,M+1}^{n+1}}{\Delta z_{i,(M+1)-\frac{1}{2}}^n} \right] + P_i \tilde{q}_{i,M+1}^{n+1} = \\
 & g\theta \Delta t P_i \tilde{w}_{i,M-\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1} - g\theta \Delta t \sum_{l=1}^{S_i} s_{i,L} \lambda_{j(i,l)} (\Delta z_{FSFS}) \tilde{u}_{j(i,l),M}^{n+1} + g P_i (\eta_i^n - \tilde{\eta}_i^{n+1}) \\
 & - g(1 - \theta) \Delta t \sum_{l=1}^{S_i} [s_{i,L} \lambda_{j(i,l)} \sum_{k=m}^M \Delta z_{j(i,l),k}^n u_{j(i,l),k}^n]; \quad k = M + 1 \quad (26)
 \end{aligned}$$

205 where

$$\Delta z_{i,(M+1)-\frac{1}{2}}^n = \frac{1}{2} \left[ (\Delta z_{i,M}^n - \Delta z_{FSFS}) + \Delta z_{FSFS} \right] = \frac{1}{2} (\Delta z_{i,M}^n) \quad (27)$$

## 206 3 Numerical Experiments

207 The proposed numerical approach was applied in two consolidated benchmarks usually use to  
 208 verification and validation of numerical models Dingemans (1994); Jankowski (1999); Casulli and Lang  
 209 (2004); Yuan and Wu (2004); Liu et al. (2017); Yin et al. (2017). Each numerical experiment has a  
 210 different purpose, as follows:

- 211 a Standing waves in a three-dimensional closed basin. This test case was widely applied in literature,  
 212 verifies the model capability of simulating 3D linear waves comparing the analytic solution with the  
 213 numerical solution in regard of phase and amplitude representation (Yuan and Wu, 2004; Zijlema  
 214 and Stelling, 2005; Monteiro and Schettini, 2015; Liu et al., 2017). We evaluated the model capability  
 215 in calculate the wave celerity and frequency wave dispersion with the Classic Boundary Approach  
 216 (hereafter named CBA) and with the proposed FSFS boundary condition under 6 different vertical  
 217 resolutions comparing the free surface elevation cumulative phase error, the mean computational  
 218 cost of one time-step, the number of wave periods and the relation with the free surface vertical  
 219 velocity after 30 seconds of simulation in comparison with the analytical solution. We also compared  
 220 the free surface elevation results with a few metrics (RMSE, BIAS, Volume Error, KGE, NSE) and  
 221 statistically tested the residual series (difference between analytical and simulated results) with  
 222 nonparametric Kruskal-Wallis test follow by a post-hoc Nemenyi to identify significative difference in  
 223 relation to the analytically results. The mean time of one time-step simulations was computed using  
 224 an Intel® Xenon® CPU-E5-1620 3.7 GHz computer with 32 GB of RAM memory in a Fortran  
 225 based numerical model.
- 226 b The wave propagation over a submerged bar was an experimental model idealized by Beji and  
 227 Battjes (1993), and was frequently used to validate numerical models (e.g. Beji and Battjes, 1994;  
 228 Dingemans, 1994; Stelling and Zijlema, 2003; Yuan and Wu, 2004; Cui et al., 2012; Yin et al., 2017).  
 229 The experiment was used to evaluate the accuracy to represent a non-linear wave pattern due to  
 230 physical changes at the bottom, by comparing free surface elevation between the FSFS approach  
 231 with a different vertical resolution between simulated and experimental results. The performance of  
 232 the model was evaluated with a few metrics (RMSE, BIAS, Volume Error, KGE, NSE) and also by  
 233 statistically tested the residues series with nonparametric Kruskal-Wallis test follow by a post-hoc  
 234 Nemenyi test.

### 235 3.1 3D standing waves in a closed basin

236 The flow induced by an initial wave amplitude set to 0.1 m in a closed cubic basin with 10 m of edge  
 237 was analyzed (figure 2). The spatial domain was discretized using a regular grid of 0.5 m resolution,  
 238 resulting in 8.000 computational cells. The time step and the total simulation time was 0.01 s and 30 s,  
 239 respectively. The analytic solution of free-surface water elevation is given by:

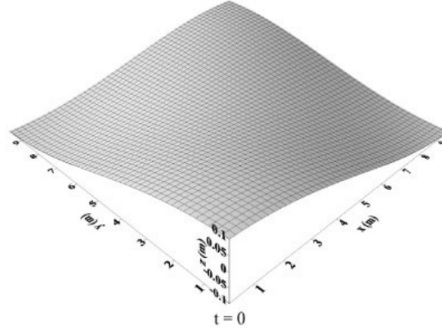


Fig. 2: The initial free-surface profile for a linear 3D standing wave oscillation in a closed basin. source: Yuan and Wu (2004)

$$\eta = A \cos(k_x x) \cos(k_y y) \cos\left(2\pi \frac{t}{T}\right) \quad (28)$$

240 where  $t$  is the time (the initial condition in the free surface may be obtained by doing  $t = 0$ ),  
 241  $T$  is the wave period equal to 3.1°s, with the wave number  $kx = ky = n/L$  with the total wave  
 242 number  $k = \sqrt{k_x^2 + k_y^2} = 0.44 \frac{rad}{m}$ . The analytic solution for each velocity component is described as  
 243 follows:

$$u = \frac{Agk_x}{\omega} \frac{\cosh[k_x(h+z)]}{\cosh(k_x h)} \sin(k_x x) \cos(k_y y) \sin(\omega t) \quad (29)$$

244

$$u = \frac{Agk_y \cosh[k_y(h+z)]}{\omega \cosh(k_y h)} \cos(k_x x) \sin(k_y y) \sin(\omega t) \quad (30)$$

245

$$w = \frac{Agk_x \sinh[k_x(h+z)]}{\omega \cosh(k_x h)} \cos(k_x x) \cos(k_y y) \sin(\omega t) \quad (31)$$

246 where  $\omega$  is giving by:

$$\omega = \sqrt{gK \tanh(Kh)} \quad (32)$$

247

248 The case study was applied under different vertical resolution scenarios (i.e. 20, 16, 13, 10, 8 and  
 249 5 vertical layers), with both *CBA* and the proposed *FSFS* condition (called methods). We evaluated  
 250 the cumulative phase error of a 3D standing wave by comparing the model outcomes (i.e. free-surface  
 251 elevation and free-surface vertical velocity component) at  $x = y = 0.25$  m with the analytical solution.  
 252 The performance between boundary condition approaches was evaluated by comparing the free surface  
 253 elevation residuals, and the performance between scenarios (considering different number of vertical  
 254 layers) was also evaluated by statistically tested the residues with nonparametric Kruskal-Wallis test  
 255 follow by a Nemenyi test, since the residues series do not follow a normal distribution (shapiro-wilk) and  
 256 have unequal variance (Bartlett test). The test aiming to identify a critical vertical resolution for the  
 257 *FSFS* method where the results are significant different from the best scenario for this benchmark (20  
 vertical layers).

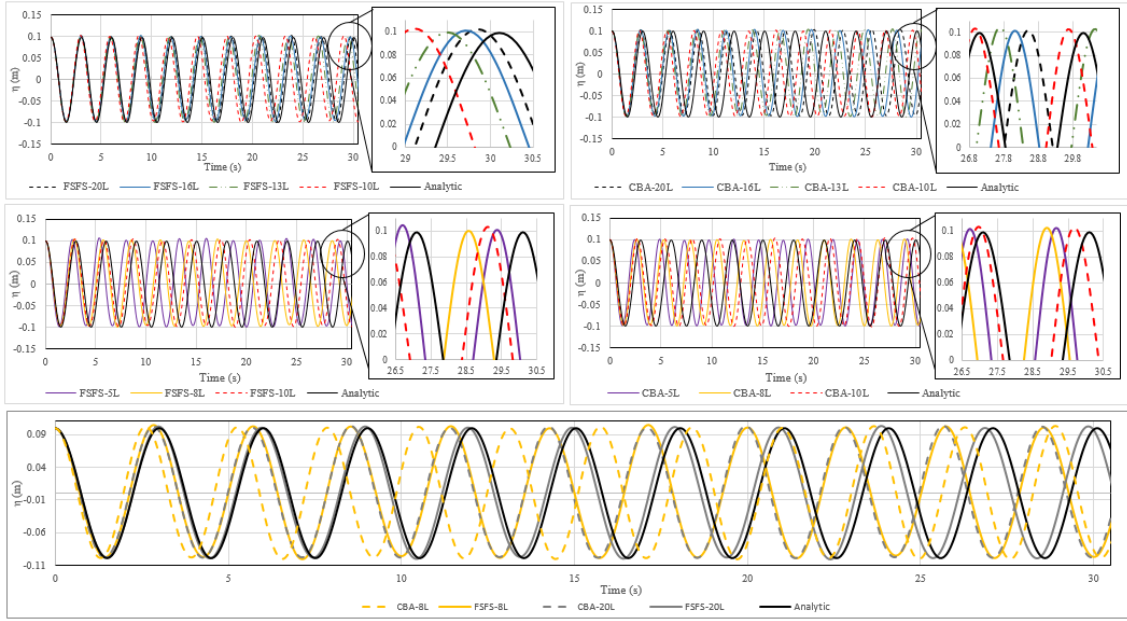


Fig. 3: Free surface elevation at  $x = y = 0.25$  m for 30 seconds of simulation comparing analytic solution (solid black line) with simulated solution for 20 to 5 layers scenario with *FSFS* condition (left side) and for *CBA* condition (right side). At the bottom, we compare methods thought the 20 layer scenario and 8 layers scenario.

258

259 The results showed an increase of phase error ( $\Phi_\epsilon$ ) with a reduction of the number of layers for both  
 260 method for instance, the phase error for FSFS20-L increased from 0.3 s, with 20 layers, to 0.4, 0.6, 1, 1.5  
 261 and 2.1 seconds for 16, 13, 10, 8 and 5 layers, respectively (table 3). The results obtained considering the  
 262 simulation with *CBA* approach shows higher phase error, which the 20-layer *CBA* simulation had similar  
 263 results with the 8-layers *FSFS* simulation (figure 3). The increased phase error from the low vertical  
 264 resolution results (less than ten) difficulties the direct comparison between methods due the increases  
 265 of wave periods, which may appear the *FSFS*-5L results better than the *FSFS*-10L. The cumulative  
 266 residual free surface elevation (figure 4) clarify the matter. In general, the error increases over time step  
 267 and it becomes higher with the reduction of number of layers, however, when phase error is critical,  
 the number of wave periods ( $N^{\circ}T$ ) increases, which reduced the cumulative free surface elevation error,

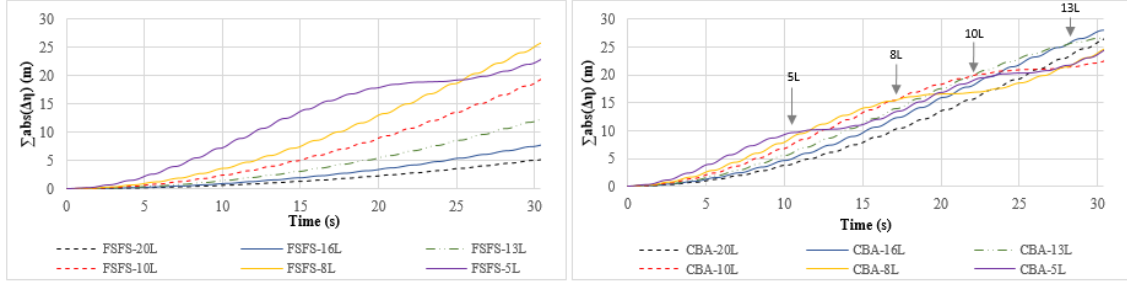


Fig. 4: Free surface elevation accumulated residuals series for FSFS approach (left) and for CBA approach (right), at  $x=y=0.25$  m for 30 seconds of simulation, comparing different layers scenarios

Table 1: Metrics between the analytical and simulated results from the FSFS method for each scenario for the first 10 seconds of simulation

Metrics	FSFS-20L	FSFS-16L	FSFS-13L	FSFS-10L	FSFS-8L	FSFS-5L
RMSE (mm)	7.40	11.52	18.29	30.53	45.30	89.20
BIAS (mm)	0.32	0.32	-0.77	-2.11	-3.54	-7.61
Error (%)	9.25	14.28	22.55	37.79	56.60	114.13
KGE	0.93	0.93	0.82	0.52	0.18	-0.88
NSE	0.99	0.97	0.93	0.81	0.57	-0.66

Table 2: Statistics metrics between the analytical and simulated results from the CBA method for each scenario for the first 10 seconds of simulation

Metrics	CBA-20L	CBA-16L	CBA-13L	CBA-10L	CBA-8L	CBA-5L
RMSE (mm)	47.06	57.68	68.75	83.48	95.63	107.80
BIAS (mm)	-4.35	-5.65	-6.88	-7.96	-7.57	-1.06
Error (%)	58.94	72.70	87.10	106.42	123.39	145.02
KGE	0.004	-0.30	-0.61	-0.91	-0.93	-0.20
NSE	0.54	0.31	0.017	-0.45	-0.90	-1.42

Table 3: Computational cost, Phases Error and number of wave periods between different methods and scenarios. The model was implemented with Fortran and simulated in a machine using an Intel R Xenon R CPU-E5-1620 3.7 GHz computer with 32 GB of RAM memory

$N^{\circ}L$	FSFS			CBA		
	$\Delta t(s)$	$N^{\circ} T$	$\Phi_{\epsilon}$	$\Delta t(s)$	$N^{\circ} T$	$\Phi_{\epsilon}$
20-Layers	2.8	10	0.3	2.62	10	1.6
16-Layers	2.21	10	0.4	2.14	10	2
13-Layers	1.68	10	0.6	1.67	10	2.4
10-Layers	1.54	10	1	1.45	11	3.1
8-Layers	1.51	10	1.5	1.34	11	3.8
5-Layers	1.22	11	2.1	1.08	12	4.6

268 therefore, the calculated metrics (table 1 and 2) was only comparable between 0 and 10 s of simulations  
 269 (figure 4). This effect can be better verified by the CBA accumulated residual series when the graphic  
 270 changes the slope, which occurs sooner as the number of layers reduced (figure 4).

271 All statics metrics indicated a decreases of performance with a reduction of the number of layers.  
 272 The metrics show that CBA-20L simulation had similar results as the FSFS-8L, as well CBA-10L to  
 273 FSFS-5L. The CBA method also had a decreases of performance with a reduction of vertical resolution  
 274 (tables 1 and 2). When CBA method is used, the phase error was 2 to 5 times higher, and with little  
 275 difference in computational cost (ca. 7% smaller) (table 3) in comparison with *FSFS* method. We found  
 276 a phase error similar with previous works using 20 – layers with *CBA* method (Yuan and Wu, 2004;  
 277 Zijlema and Stelling, 2005).



278 The statistical test for FSFS approach showed significant differences between low (below 10 layers)  
 279 and high (above 13 layers) vertical resolution, considering the free surface elevation residuals, which  
 280 means, the simulation with 20 to 10 layers has similar (see table 4) and acceptable results (tables 1 and  
 281 2).

Table 4: Nemenyi posthoc test comparing the FSFS residue series of the simulation with 20 to 5 vertical layers to indentify significant statistical difference between results

N°-L	FSFS-20L	FSFS-16L	FSFS-13L	FSFS-10L	FSFS-8L
<b>FSFS-16L</b>	0.97833	-	-	-	-
<b>FSFS-13L</b>	0.24554	0.69401	-	-	-
<b>FSFS-10L</b>	< 0.05	< 0.05	0.05269	-	-
<b>FSFS-8L</b>	< 0.05	< 0.05	< 0.05	< 0.05 -	-
<b>FSFS-5L</b>	< 0.05	< 0.05	< 0.05	0.70396	0.5515

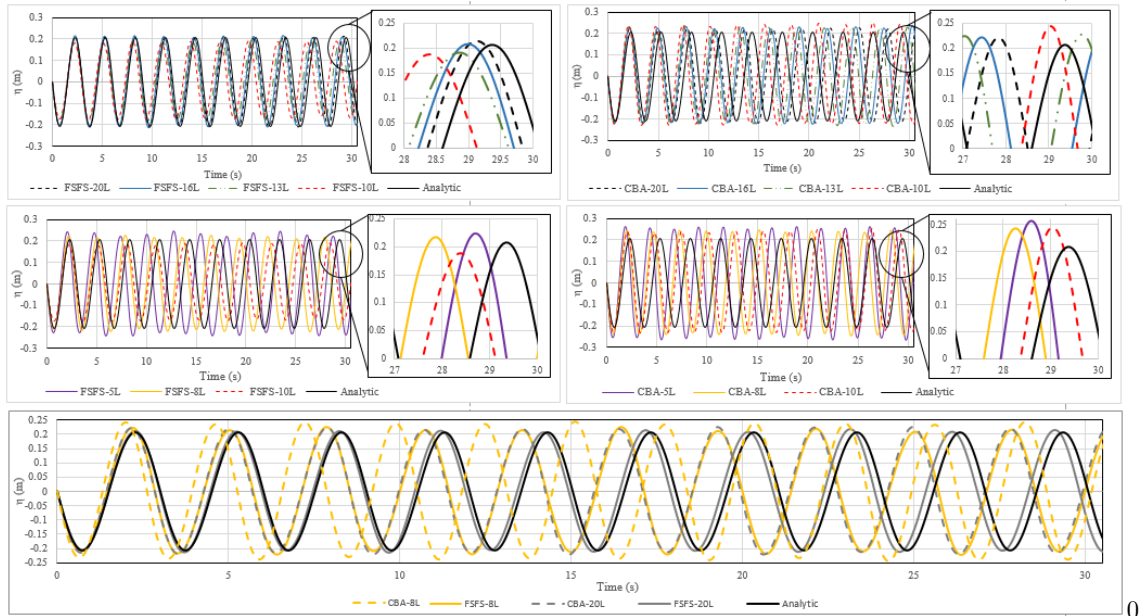


Fig. 5: Free surface vertical velocity ( $w$ ) at  $x=y=0.25$  m for 30 seconds of simulation comparing analytic solution (solid black line) with simulated solution for 20 to 5 layers scenario with *FSFS* condition (left side) and for *CBA* condition (right side). At the bottom, we compare methods thought the 20 layer scenario and 8 layers scenario.

282 Our findings indicated that accuracy of vertical velocity component is affected by the vertical  
 283 resolution applied, influencing directly the representation of wave phase (figure 5). For FSFS method, we  
 284 have noted that the magnitude of vertical velocity components increases if one uses a vertical discretization  
 285 up to 10 layers and the magnitude of vertical velocity components decreases for a vertical discretization  
 286 above 10 layers (Figure 5). For CBA approach the magnitude of vertical velocity components decreases  
 287 above 16, leading to a less flexible critical vertical resolution. Moreover, we also observed that the  
 288 variation in horizontal resolution did not affect by wave phase representation, which seems to be more  
 289 directly related with the wave damping (not analyzed in this paper).

### 290 3.2 Wave propagation over a submerged bar

291 A scheme of the experiment of the wave propagation over a submerged bar with an uneven bottom  
 292 may be seen in (Fig. 6) (Beji and Battjes, 1993). At the upward slope of the bar, the shoaling wave

293 becomes non-linear due to the generation of bound higher harmonic. At the downward slope, the  
 294 depth increases rather fast and these harmonics become free, resulting in an irregular pattern of waves  
 295 (Dingemans, 1994). The numerical reproduction of this pattern has shown to be very demanding in terms  
 296 of the accuracy of the computed dispersion frequency (Stelling and Zijlema, 2003).

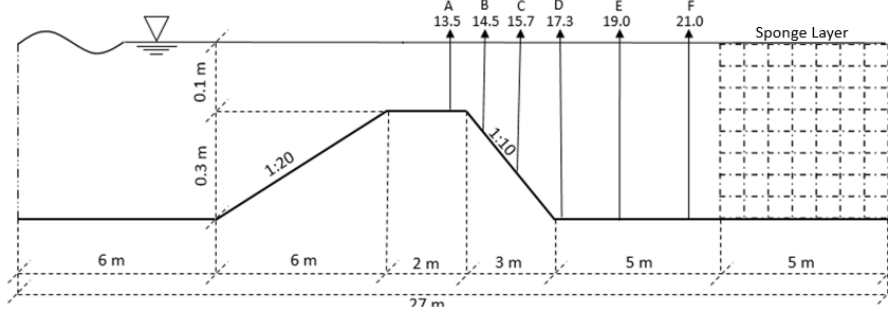


Fig. 6: Scheme of experimental bottom geometry and location of wave level gauges. Source: Beji and Battjes (1993)

297 The computational domain has a total length of 30 m, with an initial undisturbed water level of 0.4  
 298 m, was discretized using a regular grid of 0.025 m resolution. The time step and the total simulation  
 299 time was 0.005 s and 39 s, respectively. At the left boundary a sinusoidal wave condition, with period  
 300  $T = 2$  s and amplitude  $A = 0.01$  m, was imposed to represent the wave generator of the original  
 301 experiment. At the right outflow boundary, the experimental absorbed beach was computationally  
 302 represented by a 5m - *sponge* layer with a combination of a sponge layer technique (Park et al., 1999)  
 303 and a Sommerfeld-type radiation boundary condition, applied to minimize wave reflection, given by:

$$\epsilon_i = \begin{cases} \beta \left( \frac{x_i - x_{i0}}{l_i} \right)^2 \left( \frac{z_m - z}{z_m - z_M} \right) u_i & \text{if } x_i \geq x_{i0} \\ 0 & \text{if } x_i < 0 \end{cases} \quad (33)$$

304 where  $\epsilon_i$  is the sponge layer coefficient,  $x_{i0}$  is the initial point,  $l_i$  the total length. This term must be  
 305 added in the right side of equation (1) and (2).

306 We evaluated the capability of the model in correctly simulating the dispersion properties of the  
 307 flow comparing simulated and measured free-surface elevation between 33 and 39 s of simulation under  
 308 different vertical discretization scenarios using the proposed *FSFS* approach, since the first numerical  
 309 experiment showed that the *CBA* method only may reach similar results to *FSFS* approach using a  
 310 higher number of layers (figure 3). The *FSFS* approach was tested for 20, 16, 10, and 5 vertical layers  
 311 comparing the free surface elevation at the six stations with the measurements of free-surface elevation.  
 312 The performance of each scenario was evaluated by a few metrics (RMSE, BIAS, Error, KGE, NSE)  
 313 and also statistically tested using a nonparametric Kruskal-Wallis test in the residues series follow by a  
 314 Nemenyi test, since the residues series do not follows a normal distribution (shapiro-wilk) and have the  
 315 same variance (Bartlett test).

316 The results (figure 7) indicated that the non-linearity after the upward slope (a), at the beginning  
 317 and the middle of downward slope (b-c) were well represented by vertical resolutions from 20 to 10  
 318 layers, by comparing the experimental results patterns of Higher Amplitude Waves (HW) (e.g. 36.5s  
 319 station b) and Low Amplitude Waves (LW) (e.g. 36s station a). For the stations (d), (e) and (f), after  
 320 the deshoaling process, the simulations using 10, 16 and 20 layers were less accurate in representing the  
 321 non-linearity pattern. Specifically, the LW in station (d) (e.g. 35 to 36s) and the HW in stations (e)  
 322 and (f) (36s at station f). The 5-layers scenario showed the lower performance in comparison with the  
 323 other scenarios, with an oscillatory behavior for the HW In stations (a) and (b), substantial phase errors  
 324 (station c) and low capacity to represent LW and HW amplitudes (stations e and f).

325 The FSFS results (table 5) was capable in satisfactorily representing the phase, amplitude and wave  
 326 patten for all stations using a higher vertical resolution (20 to 10 layers with FSFS method) (NSE from  
 327 0.94 to 0.5). Although, the results had high RMSE and Bias (between 13.7 and -9.9) relative to the  
 328 mean maximum and minimum amplitudes for the six stations (4.1 and -6.3 mm) and had high Volume  
 329 Error (between 26% and 116%), always underestimating the free-surface level, and with low performance  
 330 in KGE parameter due the increased Volume Error. As we can see in figure 7, the high Volume Error

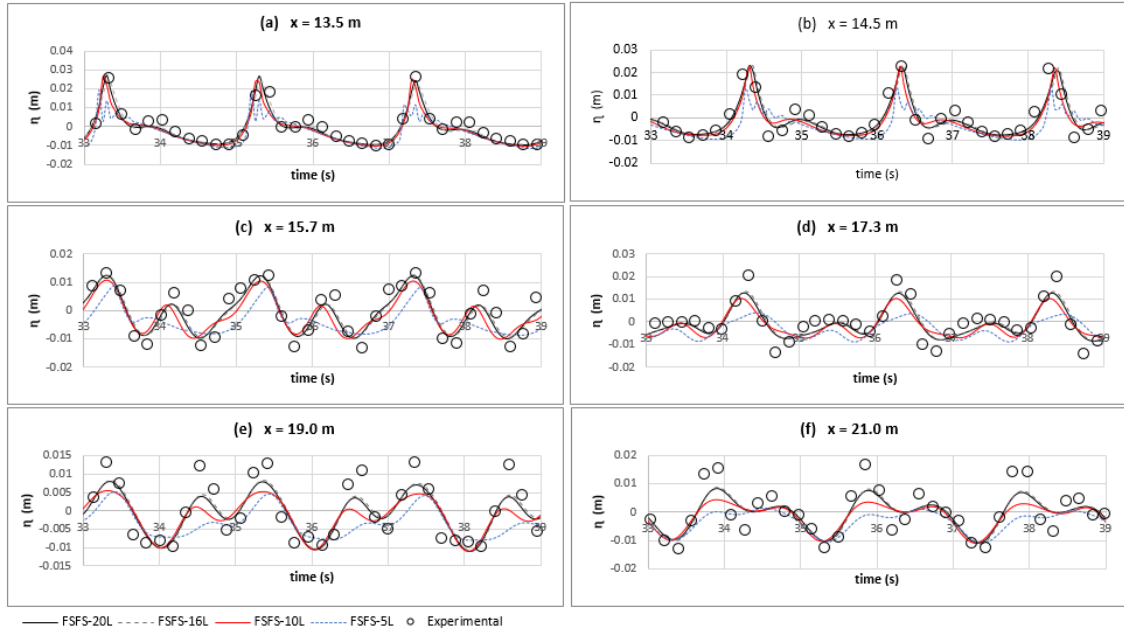


Fig. 7: Comparisons between experimental (circles) and computed data with 20-layers (solid black), 16-layers (dashed gray), 10-layers (solid red) and 5-layers (dashed blue), at 6 different level gauges.

Table 5: Statistics metrics between simulated and experimental results for the six stations for each used layer scenario with FSFS method

M	Station a: x = 13.5 m				Station d: x = 17.3 m			
	20L	16L	10L	5L	20L	16L	10L	5L
RMSE (mm)	2.67	2.31	3.40	5.23	4.12	4.08	5.57	8.05
BIAS (mm)	-0.67	-0.70	-1.26	-2.70	-0.60	-0.44	-1.34	-3.14
Error (%)	26.47	25.37	34.07	53.94	59.29	57.97	79.03	116.84
KGE	-0.95	-1.06	-2.69	-6.92	-4.57	-3.06	-11.30	-27.85
NSE	0.92	0.94	0.87	0.69	0.76	0.76	0.56	0.08
	Station b: x = 14.5 m				Station e: x = 19.0 m			
RMSE (mm)	3.68	4.21	4.18	6.74	4.30	4.23	5.69	7.22
BIAS (mm)	-0.80	-0.73	-1.23	-2.58	-0.65	-0.50	-1.39	-3.28
Error (%)	37.73	43.83	44.30	76.27	48.15	47.35	62.91	75.29
KGE	-0.83	-0.68	-1.80	-4.88	-54.45	-41.24	-117.00	-277.78
NSE	0.82	0.77	0.77	0.41	0.72	0.72	0.50	0.20
	Station c: x = 15.7 m				Station f: x = 21.0 m			
RMSE (mm)	3.91	3.64	5.45	7.64	4.57	4.59	5.61	7.09
BIAS (mm)	-0.63	-0.48	-1.37	-3.32	-0.65	-0.48	-1.38	-3.25
Error (%)	44.46	40.98	62.63	88.06	56.63	56.12	67.62	76.43
KGE	-1.13	-0.63	-3.58	-10.09	-9.80	-7.09	-22.02	-53.11
NSE	0.79	0.82	0.60	0.21	0.69	0.68	0.53	0.24

331 is expected. Moreover, the Kruskal-Wallis and Nemenyi statistical tests did not indicate a significant  
 332 difference between the residues series, except in the station A for 5 layers scenario.

#### 333 4 Discussion

334 The statement that: algorithms which define nonhydrostatic pressure at the center of free-surface  
 335 computational cell needs 10 to 20 vertical layers to resolve wave frequency dispersion to an acceptable  
 336 accuracy, were wildly reported to justified the use or the proposal of new approaches to the free-surface  
 337 boundary conditions for non-hydrostatic pressure and momentum equation discretization (Stelling and  
 338 Zijlema, 2003; Yuan and Wu, 2004; Zijlema and Stelling, 2005; Cui et al., 2012; Lv, 2014; Liu et al.,  
 339 2017). In general, this vertical resolution limitation is addressed to a classic finite difference discretization

with cell center nonhydrostatic pressure without boundary treatment at the free-surface computational cell (e.g. Casulli and Lang, 2004).

The improvement of nonhydrostatic hydrodynamic solution is due to the capability to set the values of dynamic pressure close to zero at the free-surface instead to the top layer, for any vertical resolutions using a *FSFS* condition. In a classic boundary approach, as expected the calculated nonhydrostatic pressure in the top layer increased with the reduction of the number of layers, differently when the proposed *FSFS* condition is used, which lead to a physically consistent numerical solution.

The results showed that the wave phase representation of short waves in deep water conditions ( $\frac{H}{\lambda} > 0.5m$ ) are related with the contour condition for the nonhydrostatic pressure at the free-surface, but also is influenced by vertical momentum discretization applied. Our findings showed that the proposed boundary condition for nonhydrostatic pressure at the free surface was capable to improve substantially the model capability in solving wave celerity and wave frequency dispersion in relation to the classic boundary condition approach with substantial diminishing in computation time to reach similar results (ca. 173%) and little additional computational cost (ca. 7%) to the same benchmark setup, though with a much higher performance (table 1 and 2).

Besides the boundary condition treatment, the phase representation is also related with the used of a vertical momentum discretization less dependent of the velocity vertical profile. The number of layers may affect the vertical velocity estimative, thus affecting the nonhydrostatic pressure estimation and hence, the free-surface elevation and velocities fields.

We also identify that there is a vertical resolution threshold where the vertical velocity component is highly affected in deep water conditions. When number of the layer is lower than a vertical resolution threshold the wave phase error substantially increases over simulation time and it becomes higher with a reduction of the number of layers. The vertical resolution threshold is less restrictive using *FSFS* approach (10 layers) in comparison with *CBA* approach (20 layers). In shallow water conditions, the vertical resolution seems to have a nonsignificant impact on wave frequency dispersion, which the *FSFS* approach had satisfactory phase representation to 5 layers or more, and also had satisfactory representations of nonlinear behavior, similar to previous work (Casulli and Lang, 2004; Walters, 2005; Cui et al., 2012; Monteiro and Schettini, 2015). In summary, *CBA* approach may obtain similar results to the *FSFS* approach if used a feasible vertical resolution, for instance, the 20-layers *CBA* simulation has similar results to the 8-layers *FSFS* simulation, although with a substantial gain in computational cost.

When compared with previous works solution (Stelling and Zijlema, 2003; Zijlema and Stelling, 2005; Yuan and Wu, 2004; Lv, 2014; Liu et al., 2017; Escalante et al., 2018a), the proposed approach applied at the free-surface has (i) low cost of implementation and (ii) medium performance. The *FSFS* approach only required a simple local boundary treatment, and it does not change the vertical moment numeric discretization, as the existing methods. Despite the numerical improvement and simple computational implementation, we observed a limitation imposed by the vertical resolution (number of layers) on the model accuracy, which makes medium performance model. As the vertical discretization influences directly the accuracy of horizontal and vertical velocities (see equations 18, 20, 23, 26) the proposed solution did not have good performance using a reduced number of layers (Less than 10).

All previous methods had satisfactory results with only 2 (Stelling and Zijlema, 2003; Yuan and Wu, 2004; Zijlema and Stelling, 2005; Escalante et al., 2018a) or 4 (Lv, 2014; Liu et al., 2017) layers for the same benchmark, and with similar computational cost for the same benchmark setup (10-layers simulation), 1.54 s (Intel Xenon 3.7 GHz), 1.83 s (Pentium 4 2.0 GHz Yuan and Wu, 2004) and 2.02 s (i7 2.93 GHz) (Liu et al., 2017) (works that registered the mean CPU time), although with CPU time less the 0.4 s for the best scenarios (2 or 4 layers).

Moreover, the results analysis clarify some questions related with the vertical resolution issue for this kind of cell-centered nonhydrostatic model. When a contour treatment is used for non-hydrostatic pressure the vertical resolution threshold can be more flexible, allowing to use approximately 2 times less layer to resolve wave dispersion to an acceptable accuracy in a deep water situation. Despite this paper indicated a threshold of 10 layer with the *FSFS* approach, more analysis is needed to establish a local relation between number of layers and flow characteristics to properly solve the wave frequency dispersion.

## 5 Conclusions

The treatment of non-hydrostatic pressure boundary condition at the top layer is mandatory to the numerical model reach satisfactory results compared to other models in licterature (e.g. Chen,

2003; Zijlema and Stelling, 2005; Cui et al., 2012; Liu et al., 2017). The proposed FSFS approach is a low implementation cost method to improve performance of non-hydrostatic models which can reach satisfactory results with 2 times less layers than CBA approach, hence reducing the mean computational cost of one time-step simulation in ca. 1.7 times, reaching similar results (CBA  $\Delta t = 2.62$  s and FSFS  $\Delta t = 1.22$  s).

Beside the improvements, the new boundary condition treatment is still limited by the used vertical momentum discretization, leading to low performance with low vertical resolution in a deep water situation (less than 10 vertical layers). In shallow water conditions, the vertical resolution seems to have a nonsignificant impact on wave frequency dispersion. Based on the difference between deep and shallow water condition, more efforts are still needed to establish a local relation between number of layers and flow characteristics to insure that the model properly solve the wave frequency dispersion with minimum vertical resolution.

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**Combined use of high resolution numerical schemes to reduce numerical diffusion  
in coupled hydrodynamic and solute transport models**

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COMBINED USE OF HIGH RESOLUTION NUMERICAL SCHEMES  
TO REDUCE NUMERICAL DIFFUSION IN COUPLED  
HYDRODYNAMIC AND SOLUTE TRANSPORT MODELS

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# Combined use of high resolution numerical schemes to reduce numerical diffusion in coupled hydrodynamic and solute transport models

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**Abstract** When the ratio of vertical to horizontal motion scales is not small, a non-hydrostatic approach may be necessary in order to accurately simulate three-dimensional free-surface flows in large aquatic ecosystems such as lakes, estuaries, reservoirs and coastal zones. Although the non-hydrostatic approach improves the physical representation of pressure, acceleration and velocity fields, it is not free of numerical diffusion. This numerical issue stems from the numerical solution employed in the advection and diffusion terms of the Reynolds averaged Navier-Stokes (RANS) and solute-transport equations. The combined use of high-resolution schemes in coupled hydrodynamic and solute-transport models is a promising alternative to minimize these numerical issues and determine the relationship between numerical diffusion in the two solutions. We evaluated the numerical diffusion in three numerical experiments, for different purposes. The first two experiments evaluated the potential for reducing numerical diffusion in a hydrodynamic solution, by applying a Quadratic interpolator over a Bilinear, applied in the ELM *step-ii* interpolation, and the capability of representing the propagation of complex waves. The third experiment evaluated the effect on numerical diffusion of using flux-limiter schemes over a first-order Upwind, combined with the interpolation methods applied in a coupled hydrodynamic and solute-transport model. The high-resolution methods were able to substantially reduce the numerical diffusion in a solute-transport problem. This exercise showed that the numerical diffusion of a hydrodynamic solution has a major influence on the ability of the model to simulate stratified internal waves, indicating that high-resolution methods must be implemented in the numerical solution to properly simulate real situations.

**Keywords** Numerical Diffusion · Eulerian–Lagrangian method · Interpolation · Flux Limite

## 1 Introduction

When the ratio of vertical to horizontal motion scales is not small (e.g., flows over abruptly changing bottom topography, orbital movements in short-wave motions, or intensive vertical circulation), a non-hydrostatic approach may be necessary in order to accurately simulate three-dimensional free-surface flows in large aquatic ecosystems such as lakes, estuaries, reservoirs and coastal zones (Marshall et al., 1997; Casulli and Stelling, 1998; Chen, 2003). There is a trade-off between implementation and the computation cost when hydrostatic and non-hydrostatic approaches are compared. The non-hydrostatic approach, in general, requires more-complex interactive numeric methods (Stelling and Zijlema, 2003; Casulli and Lang, 2004), which increases the computation cost compared to the hydrostatic approach using the same computation grid. The non-hydrostatic approach also improves the physical representation of the phenomenon and requires fewer vertical layers to obtain physically satisfactory results than does the hydrostatic approach. Therefore, to obtain similar results, the hydrostatic approach requires more

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vertical layers, necessitating a higher computation cost than with the non-hydrostatic approach (Liu et al., 2017).

Whatever the approach (hydrostatic or non-hydrostatic), the numerical-diffusion issue remains critical, and many studies have attempted to reduce it by adopting diverse approaches. Higher-resolution techniques (e.g., quadratic, cubic and spline interpolators and flux limiters) have proven to be a promising alternative in order to minimize these numerical issues (Cheng et al., 1984; Ruan and McLaughlin, 1999; Waterson and Deconinck, 2007; Kong et al., 2013; Ye et al., 2018). Although previous studies showed that higher-resolution schemes might not maintain some important characteristics of a numerical solution (e.g., spurious oscillations of internal waves) (Wang and Lacroix, 1997), they may better represent the nonlinear behavior of a velocity field than low-resolution schemes (Upwind solute-transport solver, bilinear interpolation). Although linear schemes might be more stable, monotonic, and easily implemented, they still might give unsatisfactory results due to higher numerical diffusion. Generally, higher-resolution techniques are applied to reduce numerical diffusion separately in RANS-based (Reynolds averaged Navier-Stokes) or solute-transport models, without determining the relationship with the numerical diffusion caused by the solutions.

The Eulerian-Lagrangian Method (ELM) is one of the most popular and accurate techniques used to numerically solve the advection terms in RANS and solute-transport equations (Cheng et al., 1984; Ruan and McLaughlin, 1999; Cox and Runkel, 2008; Casulli and Cheng, 1992; Jankowski, 1999; Hodges et al., 2000; Wadzuk and Hodges, 2004; Walters, 2005; Fringer et al., 2005; Monteiro and Schettini, 2015). The purpose of ELM is to combine the simplicity of the fixed Eulerian computational grid with a stable and accurate Lagrangian approach. In summary, the ELM has two major steps (Staniforth and Côté, 1991): (i) a particle-tracking method, which consists of obtaining the location of the departure point of a fluid particle in the Lagrangian step by integrating a characteristic equation backward in time using a certain number of sub-time steps; and (ii) a repeated interpolation of the advected field in each sub-time step in order to estimate the velocity components at the departure point. As the result of the interpolation errors in the two steps, the ELM may introduce a substantial numerical diffusion when low-resolution interpolation schemes are used, or spurious oscillation when high-resolution interpolation schemes are used in the hydrodynamic and mass-transport solutions (Cheng et al., 1984; Oliveira and Baptista, 1998; Ruan and McLaughlin, 1999).

The interpolation technique used in the second step has a major impact on the total numerical diffusion produced in ELM, especially when low-resolution interpolation schemes are used, since both particle tracking and velocity retrieval are substantially affected by the interpolation process (Staniforth and Côté, 1991). Accordingly, Hodges et al. (2000) proposed a stable non-conciliatory quadratic Lagrange interpolation for a three-dimensional mesh, where 27 grid points are used to estimate the velocity values during the particle-tracking process. This technique has not yet been formally analyzed (Hodges et al., 2006, without any posterior record of formal analyses), although previous studies successfully modeled hydrodynamic and solute-transport simulations, strongly indicating that the solution satisfactorily represented internal gravity waves and may improve the ability of ELM to solve the free-surface motion (Hodges et al., 2000; Laval et al., 2003, 2005; Hodges et al., 2006; Valipour et al., 2015; Vilas et al., 2017; Soullignac et al., 2017).

The solute-transport solution can also be reached using numerical schemes other than ELM, such as high-order Total Variation Diminishing (TVD) schemes, Random Walk Particle Tracking (RWPT) and Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics (SPH), which have been thoroughly discussed by Boso et al. (2013). One simple scheme to discretize the mass-conservation equation, with a low cost of implementation, is the first-order Upwind, to which the flux-limiter technique can be applied in order to reduce the well-known numerical diffusion of this discretization (Casulli and Zanolli, 2005; Zhang et al., 2018). The flux-limiter scheme proved to be one of the most effective approaches to constructing a nonlinear high-resolution scheme (Waterson and Deconinck, 2007). These schemes are simple functions that define a convection scheme based on a ratio of local gradients in the solution field, with a limited behavior in order to maintain the monotonicity, usually defined by a Total Variation Diminishing (TVD) condition (Sweby, 1984; Waterson and Deconinck, 2007). This method has been widely used to retrieve less diffusive and stable solutions, even in critical situations, such as in sharp concentration gradients in regions with a small Courant number (Wadzuk and Hodges, 2004; Fringer et al., 2005; Casulli and Zanolli, 2005; Kong et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2015; Ye et al., 2018; Zhang et al., 2018; Nangia et al., 2019).

For solute-transport models, it is usually assumed that the numerical solution is free of hydrodynamic numerical diffusion and that any error leads to mass transport solution, and therefore the formal evaluation of the effect of hydrodynamic numerical diffusion on the solute-transport solution may not be properly addressed (Cheng et al., 1984; Ruan and McLaughlin, 1999; Cox and Runkel, 2008).

90 Therefore, coupling of hydrodynamic and solute-transport models may be useful in order to determine  
 91 the relationship between numerical diffusion in the two solutions, which is still underexplored. Usually,  
 92 studies using a coupled model propose improvements of the hydrodynamic or transport module to  
 93 investigate numerical diffusion in one of the solutions separately, without accounting for the possibility  
 94 that the use, or not, of high-resolution methods in one solution may affect the other (Wadzuk and Hodges,  
 95 2004; Fringer et al., 2005; Casulli and Zanolli, 2005; Kong et al., 2013; Ye et al., 2018; Zhang et al., 2018;  
 96 Chandran et al., 2019). Thus, further effort is needed to understand how numerical diffusion, produced  
 97 by low-resolution schemes in the hydrodynamic solution, may be transferred to solute-transport.

98 To explore this question, we tested a nonlinear quadratic interpolation in contrast to a linear one  
 99 in ELM *step-ii*, combined with several flux-limiter schemes applied in the solute-transport module in  
 100 order to reduce numerical diffusion, and evaluated the effect of the combined use of these methods  
 101 on the solute-transport numerical diffusion. We used a coupled hydrodynamic solute-transport model  
 102 with non-hydrostatic and flux-limiter Upwind approaches to evaluate the numerical diffusion in three  
 103 numerical experiments, for different purposes: (a) the first two experiments evaluated the potential for  
 104 reducing the numerical diffusion in the hydrodynamic solution, by applying a non-linear interpolator  
 105 rather than a linear one, and the capability of representing the propagation of complex waves; (b) the  
 106 third experiment evaluated the effect of using high-resolution schemes on the numerical diffusion of  
 107 combined hydrodynamic and solute-transport models.

## 108 2 Mathematical considerations

### 109 2.1 Governing equations

110 The RANS equations are used to describe three-dimensional free-surface flows. These equations  
 111 express the physical principle of volume, mass, and momentum conservation. The momentum equations  
 112 for an incompressible fluid have the following form:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial x} + \mathbf{v} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial y} + \mathbf{w} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial z} - f\mathbf{v} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{p}_a}{\partial x} - g \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} - g \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ \int_z^\eta \frac{\rho - \rho_0}{\rho_0} d\zeta \right] - \frac{\partial \mathbf{q}}{\partial x} \\ + \nu^h \left( \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{u}}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{u}}{\partial y^2} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \nu^v \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial z} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial x} + \mathbf{v} \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial y} + \mathbf{w} \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial z} + f\mathbf{u} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{p}_a}{\partial y} - g \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} - g \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[ \int_z^\eta \frac{\rho - \rho_0}{\rho_0} d\zeta \right] - \frac{\partial \mathbf{q}}{\partial y} \\ + \nu^h \left( \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{v}}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{v}}{\partial y^2} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \nu^v \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial z} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{w}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \frac{\partial \mathbf{w}}{\partial x} + \mathbf{v} \frac{\partial \mathbf{w}}{\partial y} + \mathbf{w} \frac{\partial \mathbf{w}}{\partial z} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{q}}{\partial z} + \nu^h \left( \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{w}}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{w}}{\partial y^2} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \nu^v \frac{\partial \mathbf{w}}{\partial z} \right) \quad (3)$$

113 where  $\mathbf{u}(x,y,z,t)$ ,  $\mathbf{v}(x,y,z,t)$ , and  $\mathbf{w}(x,y,z,t)$  are the velocity components in the horizontal ( $x$  and  $y$ ) and  
 114 vertical ( $z$ ) directions, respectively; where  $\nu^h$  e  $\nu^v$  are the horizontal and vertical turbulent eddy viscosity  
 115 coefficients, respectively;  $t$  is the time;  $p_a(x,y,z,t)$  is the atmospheric pressure;  $\eta$  is the free-surface  
 116 elevation from a water-level reference. The second and third terms on the right-hand side of equations (1)  
 117 and (2) represent the barotropic and the baroclinic contributions to the hydrostatic pressure;  $q(x,y,z,t)$   
 118 denotes the non-hydrostatic pressure component;  $f$  is the Coriolis parameter; and  $g$  is the gravitational  
 119 acceleration.

120 When a simple hydrostatic approach is considered, equation (3) is neglected and  $q$  is assumed to be  
 121 equal to zero in equations (1) and (2). In this case, it is assumed that the vertical acceleration does not  
 122 have a significant effect on the velocity field in comparison with the horizontal acceleration, which is  
 123 the assumption usually applied for simulation of shallow waters (e.g. Jin and Ji, 2005; Cavalcanti et al.,  
 124 2016; Tang et al., 2017; Munar et al., 2018).

125 The volume conservation is expressed by the incompressibility condition and the continuity equation,  
 126 given by:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{w}}{\partial z} = 0 \quad (4)$$

127 Integrating equation (4) over depth leads to the following equation:

$$\int_{-h}^{\eta} \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{w}}{\partial z} \right] dz = \int_{-h}^{\eta} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial x} dz + \int_{-h}^{\eta} \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial y} dz + \int_{-h}^{\eta} \frac{\partial \mathbf{w}}{\partial z} dz = 0 \quad (5)$$

128 where  $h$  is the bathymetry measured from the theoretical undisturbed water surface (zero referential).  
 129 Using the Leibniz integration rule, in each direction, in equation (5) and using a kinematic condition at  
 130 the free surface leads to the following free-surface equation:

$$\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int_{-h}^{\eta} \mathbf{u} dz + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \int_{-h}^{\eta} \mathbf{v} dz = 0 \quad (6)$$

131 Finally, the mass conservation of a conservative scalar variable may be expressed by the following  
 132 equation:

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\mathbf{u}C)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(\mathbf{v}C)}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial(\mathbf{w}C)}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(K^h \frac{\partial C}{\partial x}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(K^h \frac{\partial C}{\partial y}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( K^v \frac{\partial C}{\partial z} \right) \quad (7)$$

133 where  $C$  is the concentration of a conservative substance being transported (e.g., salinity); and  $K^h$  and  
 134  $K^v$  are the horizontal and vertical turbulent eddy diffusivity coefficients, respectively.

135 For both the velocity field and scalar transport solutions, the boundary conditions are implemented  
 136 under the assumption of “free-slip” boundaries. The Dirichlet and Neumann conditions were assigned  
 137 to represent the normal and tangential velocities in the solid boundaries, respectively. For the scalar  
 138 solution, a no-flux boundary condition is assumed in solid boundaries

139 The tangential stress boundary conditions for the momentum equations 1 at the free-surface are  
 140 specified by the prescribed wind stresses, which can be approximated as:

$$\nu^v \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial z} = \gamma_T (\mathbf{u}_a - \mathbf{u}), \nu^v \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial z} = \gamma_T (\mathbf{v}_a - \mathbf{v}); \quad \text{at } z = \eta \quad (8)$$

141 where  $\mathbf{u}_a$  and  $\mathbf{v}_a$  are the horizontal wind velocity components, and  $\gamma_T$  is a non-negative wind stress  
 142 coefficient. The bottom friction is specified by:

$$\nu^v \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial z} = \gamma_B \mathbf{u}, \nu^v \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial z} = \gamma_B \mathbf{v}; \quad \text{at } z = -h \quad (9)$$

143 where  $\gamma_B$  is a non-negative bottom friction coefficient, which is typically represented by means of a  
 144 Manning or Chezy coefficient.

## 145 2.2 Grid and Variable Locations

146 The computation grid can be described as a generic unstructured orthogonal grid, having  $N_p$  elements,  
 147 each having an arbitrary number of sides  $S_i \geq 3$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N_p$  (figure 1).

148 Let  $N_s$  be the total number of sides in the grid. The length of each side is  $\lambda_j$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, N_p$ . The  
 149 vertical faces of the  $i$ -th element are identified by an index  $j_{(i,l)}$ ,  $l = 1, 2, \dots, S_i$ , so that  $1 \leq j_{(i,l)} \leq N_s$ .  
 150 Similarly, the two polygons that share the  $j$ -th vertical face of the grid are identified by the indices  
 151  $i_{(j,1)}$  and  $i_{(j,2)}$ , so that  $1 \leq i_{(j,1)} \leq N_p$  and  $1 \leq i_{(j,2)} \leq N_p$ . The non-zero distance between centers of  
 152 two adjacent polygons that share the  $j$ -th side is denoted by  $\delta_j$ .

153 Along the vertical direction, a simple finite difference discretization, not necessarily uniform, is  
 154 adopted. By denoting a given level surface as  $\Delta z_{k+\frac{1}{2}}$  the vertical discretization step is defined by:

$$\Delta z_k = \Delta z_{k+\frac{1}{2}} - \Delta z_{k-\frac{1}{2}} \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, N_s \quad (10)$$

155 The three-dimensional space discretization consists of elements whose horizontal faces are the polygons  
 156 of a given orthogonal grid, represented by the layers at  $k + \frac{1}{2}$  (upper face) or  $k - \frac{1}{2}$  (bottom face),  
 157 and whose height, for each layer, is  $\Delta z_k$ . The water-surface elevation ( $\eta$ ), is located at the barycenter  
 158 of the upper horizontal face for each  $i$ -th element. The velocity component normal to each horizontal  
 159 face is assumed to be constant over the face of each computation cell, which is defined at the point of  
 160 intersection between the face and the segment joining the centers of the two prisms that share the face.  
 161 The non-hydrostatic pressure component  $q_{i,k}^n$  and the concentrations  $C_{i,k}^n$  are located at the center of  
 162 the  $i$ -th computation cell, halfway between  $\Delta z_{k+\frac{1}{2}}$  and  $\Delta z_{k-\frac{1}{2}}$ . Finally, the water depth  $h_j$  is specified  
 163 and assumed constant on each vertical face of an element.

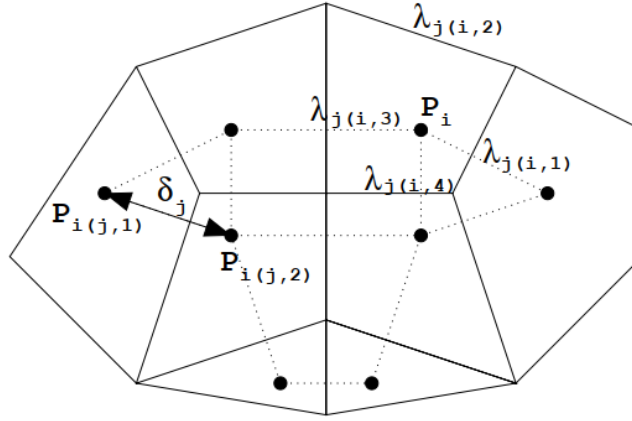


Fig. 1: Model representation of the grid. (Source: Casulli and Lang, 2004)

## 164 2.3 Numerical Approach

### 165 2.3.1 RANS equations

166 We used a semi-implicit method ( $\theta$ -Method, Casulli, 1990) in a finite-difference finite-volume model,  
 167 with a Eulerian-Lagrangian Method (Casulli and Cheng, 1992) to solve the convective and viscous terms  
 168 of the RANS equations, and a fractional-step framework (Casulli and Lang, 2004) solve the pressure  
 169 component by splitting the pressure into hydrostatic and non-hydrostatic parts. The first step of the  
 170 hydrodynamic solution is to compute the provisional water velocity and surface elevation, neglecting  
 171 the implicit contribution of the non-hydrostatic pressure. In the second fractional step, the provisional  
 172 velocity ( $\tilde{\mathbf{u}}$ ,  $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}$ ) and provisional surface elevation ( $\tilde{\eta}$ ) are corrected by non-hydrostatic pressure  
 173 terms. A complete description of the numerical solution for non-hydrostatic flows was provided by Casulli  
 174 and Lang (2004), and is here named CL04. Here, we describe in detail only the Eulerian-Lagrangian  
 175 method in order to clarify where the high-resolution methods were applied.

176 One difficulty in the numerical treatment of RANS equations arises from the discretization of the  
 177 convective and viscous terms of the convection-diffusion equation in three dimensions (Equations 1–3).  
 178 The advection-diffusion equation without Coriolis and pressure terms can be described as:

$$\frac{dc}{dt} = \frac{\partial c}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} + \mathbf{v} \frac{\partial c}{\partial y} + \mathbf{w} \frac{\partial c}{\partial z} = \mu \left( \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial y^2} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \nu \frac{\partial c}{\partial z} \right) \quad (11)$$

179 where  $c$  is a generic variable (e.g. velocity components  $\mathbf{u}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}$ ,  $\mathbf{w}$ ) (Casulli and Cheng, 1992). In order to  
 180 simply solve and improve the stability and accuracy of an explicit finite-difference method, consider  
 181 equation (11) in the Lagrangian form:

$$\frac{dc}{dt} = \mu \left( \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial y^2} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \nu \frac{\partial c}{\partial z} \right) \quad (12)$$

182 where the substantial derivative  $\frac{d}{dt}$  indicates that the rate of change over time, which is calculated along  
 183 the stream line, is defined by:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \mathbf{u}, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = \mathbf{v}, \quad \frac{dz}{dt} = \mathbf{w} \quad (13)$$

184 An explicit discretization of equation (13) can be given by:

$$\frac{(C_{j,k}^{n+1} - C_{j,k}^{*n})}{\Delta t} = \frac{\nu_{k+\frac{1}{2}} \frac{C_{j,k+1}^{n+1} - C_{j,k}^{n+1}}{\Delta z_{j,k+\frac{1}{2}}} - \nu_{k-\frac{1}{2}} \frac{C_{j,k}^{n+1} - C_{j,k-1}^{n+1}}{\Delta z_{j,k-\frac{1}{2}}}}{\Delta z_{j,k}} + \mu \Delta_h C_{j,k}^{*n} \quad (14)$$

185 where  $C_{i,j,k}^*$  denotes a generic variable at the  $j$ -th side of a grid at vertical level and time step  $n$ .

186 In order to apply the Lagrangian discretization in a Eulerian grid, a backward stream line is required  
 187 to estimate the departure velocity at time “ $n$ ” (Lagrangian approach) required to reach the final position  
 188 “ $j,k$ ” at time “ $n+1$ ” (Eulerian approach). (Eulerian approach). To estimate the particle departure

189 point, the ELM *step-i* interpolation is applied, which requires a particle-tracking method. A multi-step  
 190 backward Euler (MSE) was applied, but other methods can be satisfactorily applied as well (e.g. fifth-  
 191 order Runge-Kutta) (Oliveira and Baptista, 1998). However, the departure position is not a grid point,  
 192 and an interpolation formula using known node points must be used to define  $C_{j,k}^*$  (ELM *step-ii*).

193 A consistent semi-implicit finite difference discretization is used to calculate the provisional horizontal  
 194 velocity component from momentum equations (1–2) and takes the following form (CL04):

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_{j,k}^{n+1} &= \mathbf{F}\mathbf{u}_{j,k}^n - (1-\theta)\frac{\Delta t}{\delta_j} \left[ g(\eta_{i(j,r)}^n - \eta_{i(j,l)}^n) + (q_{i(j,r),k}^n - q_{i(j,l),k}^n) \right] - \\ &\theta g \frac{\Delta t}{\delta_j} (\eta_{i(j,r)}^{n+1} - \eta_{i(j,l)}^{n+1}) + \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta Z_{j,k}^n} \left[ \nu_{j,k+\frac{1}{2}}^v \frac{\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_{j,k+1}^{n+1} - \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_{j,k}^{n+1}}{\Delta Z_{j,k+\frac{1}{2}}^n} - \nu_{j,k-\frac{1}{2}}^v \frac{\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_{j,k}^{n+1} - \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_{j,k-1}^{n+1}}{\Delta Z_{j,k-\frac{1}{2}}^n} \right] \\ &k = m_j, m_{j+1}, \dots, M_j^n \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

195 where  $\mathbf{u}_{j,k}^n$  denotes the horizontal velocity component normal to the  $j$ -th side of the grid at vertical  
 196 level  $k$ , and time step  $n$ ;  $\eta_{i(j,r)}^n$  is the free-surface level at the right neighbor  $i$ -th element from the  $j$ -th  
 197 side and  $\eta_{i(j,l)}^n$  from left neighbor;  $q_{i(j,r),k}^n$  denotes the non-hydrostatic pressure component; and  $\mathbf{F}$  is  
 198 an explicit finite-difference operator, which accounts for the contributions from discretization of the air  
 199 pressure, Coriolis, baroclinic pressure, advection, and horizontal friction terms.

200 Analogously to equation (15), a semi-implicit finite-difference discretization for the provisional  
 201 vertical-velocity component (neglecting the non-hydrostatic pressure contribution) at the top of each  
 202 computation cell is derived from equation (3):

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{i,k}^{n+1} &= \mathbf{F}\mathbf{w}_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^n - (1-\theta)\frac{\Delta t}{\Delta Z_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^n} (q_{i,k+1}^n - q_{i,k}^n) + \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta Z_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^n} \\ &\left[ \nu_{i,k+1}^v \frac{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{i,k+\frac{3}{2}}^{n+1} - \tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1}}{\Delta Z_{i,k+1}^n} - \nu_{i,k}^v \frac{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1} - \tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{i,k-\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1}}{\Delta Z_{i,k}^n} \right] \quad k = m_i, m_{i+1}, \dots, M_i^n - 1 \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

203 where  $Fw$  accounts only for contributions from the discretization of the advection and horizontal-friction  
 204 terms. The Eulerian-Lagrangian method can be applied to discretize the finite difference operator  $\mathbf{F}$  in  
 205 equations 15 and 16, given by:

$$\mathbf{F}\mathbf{u}_{j,k}^n = \mathbf{u}_{j,k}^* + \nu^h \Delta t \Delta_h \mathbf{u}_{j,k}^* + f \Delta t \mathbf{v}_{j,k}^* - g \frac{\Delta t}{\delta_j \rho_0} \sum_{\ell=k}^{M_j} \omega_\ell \left[ \rho_{i(j,2),\ell}^n - \rho_{i(j,1),\ell}^n \right] \Delta z_{j,\ell}^n \quad (17)$$

206

$$\mathbf{F}\mathbf{w}_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^n = \mathbf{w}_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^* + \nu^h \Delta t \Delta_h \mathbf{w}_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^* \quad (18)$$

207 where  $\mathbf{u}_{j,k}^*$  denotes the horizontal velocity component normal to the  $j$ -th side of the grid interpolated  
 208 at time  $t^n$  at the end of the Lagrangian trajectory;  $\mathbf{v}_{j,k}^*$  denotes the horizontal velocity component  
 209 orthogonal to  $u_{j,k}^*$ ;  $\mathbf{w}_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^*$  denotes the vertical velocity component normal to the upper horizontal face  
 210 of element “ $i$ ” at layer “ $k + \frac{1}{2}$ ”.  $\omega_k = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\omega_\ell = 1$ , for  $\ell \neq k$ ;  $\Delta h$  is the discretization of the horizontal  
 211 Laplacian. The Lagrangian trajectory is calculated by integrating the velocity backward in time from a  
 212 face’s  $(j,k)$  barycenter at  $t^{n+1}$  to its location at time  $t^n$ . The second step of the interpolation technique  
 213 is discussed further below.

### 214 2.3.2 Solute-Transport Equation

215 We used a conservative finite-volume scheme with a semi-implicit approach based on CL04 with time-  
 216 accurate local time stepping based on Cavalcanti et al. (2015), in order to discretize the solute-transport  
 217 equation. The CL04 approach yields a conservative solution, also respecting the max-min property.

218 Assume that  $S_k^+$  represents the set of vertical faces belonging to the computation cell  $(i,k)$  through  
 219 which water is leaving the respective computation cell; and  $S_k^-$  represents the set of vertical faces through  
 220 which water is entering the same computation cell and ,  $p(i,j)$  is the neighbor of the computation cell

221  $(i,k)$  that shares the vertical face  $(i,j)$ . For each computational cell, equation (7) for scalar transport is  
 222 discretized as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_i \Delta z_{i,k}^{n+1} C_{i,k}^{n+1} &= P_i \Delta z_{i,k}^n C_{i,k}^n - \Delta t \left[ \sum_{j \in S_{i,k}^+} |Q_{j,k}^{n+\theta}| C_{i,k}^n - \sum_{j \in S_{i,k}^-} |Q_{j,k}^{n+\theta}| C_{r(i,j),k}^n \right] \\
 &- \Delta t \left[ |Q_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^{n+\theta}| C_{i,k}^n - |Q_{i,k-\frac{1}{2}}^{n+\theta}| C_{i,k-1}^n \right] + \Delta t \sum_{j \in S_{i,k}^+ \cup S_{i,k}^-} d_{j,k}^{n+\theta} [C_{r(i,j),k}^n - C_{i,k}^n] \\
 &- \Delta t \left[ d_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^{n+\theta} (C_{i,k+1}^{n+1} - C_{i,k}^{n+1}) - d_{i,k-\frac{1}{2}}^{n+\theta} (C_{i,k}^{n+1} - C_{i,k-1}^{n+1}) \right] \\
 &- \frac{\Delta t}{2} \left[ \psi_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^n |Q_{i,k+\frac{1}{2}}^{n+\theta}| (C_{i,k+1}^n - C_{i,k}^n) - \psi_{i,k-\frac{1}{2}}^n |Q_{i,k-\frac{1}{2}}^{n+\theta}| (C_{i,k}^n - C_{i,k-1}^n) \right] \\
 &- \frac{\Delta t}{2} \sum_{j \in S_{i,k}^+ \cup S_{i,k}^-} \psi_{j,k}^n |Q_{j,k}^{n+\theta}| (C_{r(i,j),k}^n - C_{i,k}^n)
 \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

223 where

$$d_{i,k\pm\frac{1}{2}}^{n+\theta} = \max \left( 0, D_{i,k\pm\frac{1}{2}}^n - \frac{1}{2} |Q_{i,k\pm\frac{1}{2}}^{n+\theta}| \right) \tag{20}$$

224

$$d_{j,k}^{m+\theta} = \max \left( 0, D_{j,k}^n - \frac{1}{2} |Q_{j,k}^{n+\theta}| \right) \tag{21}$$

225 where  $Q_{j,k}^{n+\theta} = \lambda_j \Delta z_{j,k}^n \mathbf{u}_{j,k}^{n+\theta}$  and  $Q_{i,k\pm\frac{1}{2}}^{n+\theta} = P_i \mathbf{w}_{j,k\pm\frac{1}{2}}^{n+\theta}$  are the advective-flux coefficients, and  $D_{j,k}^n =$   
 226  $\lambda_j \Delta z_{j,k}^n \frac{K_{j,k}^h}{\delta_j}$  and  $D_{i,k\pm\frac{1}{2}}^n = P_i \frac{K_{i,k\pm\frac{1}{2}}^v}{\Delta z_{i,k\pm\frac{1}{2}}^n}$  are the diffusive-flux coefficients. In equation (19) the first term  
 227 on the right side is the mass in layer  $k$  at time  $n$ ; the second is the horizontal-advection term; the third  
 228 is the vertical advection, followed by the horizontal and vertical-diffusion terms. The last two terms are  
 229 the numerical-diffusion reduction terms, which depend on the high-resolution scheme to estimate  $\psi$ .

230 The  $\psi$  represents the flux limiter itself, and is given by:

$$\psi_{j,k}^n = \Phi_{j,k}^n - \varphi_{j,k}^n \tag{22}$$

231 where  $\Phi$  is the partial flux limiter and  $\phi$  is a function that assures the independence between the max-min  
 232 property and mesh size, and is given by:

$$\varphi_{j,k}^n = \min \left( 1, \frac{2D_{j,k}^n}{Q_{j,k}^{n+\theta}} \right) \tag{23}$$

233 When the horizontal and vertical diffusion is set equal to zero,  $\varphi_{j,k}^n = 0$ , hence  $\psi_{j,k}^n = \Phi_{j,k}^n$ . The  
 234 Upwind scheme may be easily obtained when  $\Phi(r) = 0$ .

### 235 3 High-resolution schemes to reduce numerical diffusion

236 For the hydrodynamic solution, two different interpolators at ELM *step-ii* were tested: a simple  
 237 bilinear interpolation (Casulli and Cheng, 1992) and a quadratic interpolator (Hodges et al., 2000), both  
 238 applied in a regular structure grid. Regarding the solute-transport solution, three different flux limiters  
 239 were used: MUSCL, Superbee and Ultimate Quickest, which performed best for coupled hydrodynamic  
 240 and transport simulations in previous studies (Hodges et al., 2000; Fringer et al., 2005; Casulli and  
 241 Zanolli, 2005; Ye et al., 2018).

### 242 3.1 Flux-Limiter

243 In order to retrieve some accuracy from the solute-transport first order upwind scheme, an additional  
 244 "anti-diffusive" term is used (equation 22), the so-called flux limiter function. The high-resolution  
 245 methods applied to the solute-transport solution are described as follows:

246 1. UpWind

$$\Phi(r_f) = 0 \quad (24)$$

247 2. MUSCL (Van Leer, 1979)

$$\Phi(r_f) = \max[\phi_{j,k}^n; \min(2r_f; 0,5 + 0,5r_f; 2)] \quad (25)$$

248 3. Superbee (Roe, 1986)

$$\Phi(r_f) = \max[\phi_{j,k}^n; \min(1; 2r_f); \min(2, r_f)] \quad (26)$$

249 4. Ultimate Quickest (Leonard, 1991)

$$\Phi(r_f) = \max \left[ \phi_{j,k}^n; \min \left( \frac{1}{2}(1 + r_f) + \frac{1}{6}(1 - r_f)(1 - 2|C|); \frac{2}{1 - |C|}; \frac{2r_f}{|C|} \right) \right] \quad (27)$$

250 where  $C_r$  here is the Courant number.

251 The consecutive gradients ( $r_{\text{factor}}$ ) play an important role in the numerical diffusion of the mass-  
 252 transport equation. Several ways to estimate the  $r_{\text{factor}}$  have been proposed (Darwish and Moukalled,  
 253 2003; Casulli and Zanolli, 2005; Li and Huang, 2008; Kong et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2015; Ye et al.,  
 254 2018). The  $r_{\text{factor}}$  proposed by Ye et al. (2018) and Kong et al. (2013) gave the best results among all  
 255 existing methods Ye et al. (2018). For the sake of simplicity, we adopted the  $r_{\text{factor}}$  proposed by Kong  
 256 et al. (2013), which we found to be easier to implement, since the  $r_{\text{factor}}$  is calculated only based on the  
 257 concentration of neighbor cells.

258 The  $r_{\text{factor}}$  is calculated only for horizontal and vertical water-leaving faces. For vertical faces  
 259 (horizontal flux) the consecutive gradient is given by:

$$r_{j,k}^n = \frac{C_{i,k}^n - C_{r(i,j_o),k}^n}{C_{r(i,j),k}^n - C_{i,k}^n} \quad (28)$$

260 where  $j_o$  represents the opposite face from face  $j$ . For horizontal faces (vertical flux), the  $r_{\text{factor}}$  is given  
 261 by:

$$r_{j,k-\frac{1}{2}}^n = \frac{C_{i,k}^n - C_{i,k+1}^n}{C_{i,k-1}^n - C_{i,k}^n} \quad (29)$$

262

$$r_{j,k+\frac{1}{2}}^n = \frac{C_{i,k}^n - C_{i,k-1}^n}{C_{i,k+1}^n - C_{i,k}^n} \quad (30)$$

### 263 3.2 Bilinear Interpolator

264 For a structure rectangular grid, the bilinear interpolator Casulli and Cheng (1992) uses 8 node  
 265 points within a cell. The interpolated velocity component at  $t^n$  can be found by:

$$c_{i-a,j-b,k-d}^n = (1-d)(1-a)[(1-b)\mathbf{u}_1^n + b\mathbf{u}_2^n] + a[(1-b)\mathbf{u}_4^n + b\mathbf{u}_3^n] + d(1-a)[(1-b)\mathbf{u}_5^n + b\mathbf{u}_6^n] + a[(1-b)\mathbf{u}_8^n + b\mathbf{u}_7^n] \quad (31)$$

266 where  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $d$  are the distances of the particle position at the end of a sub-time step ( $x_p, y_p, z_p$ )  
 267 normalized by the position of the nodes in each direction, where  $u_1$  was set as the initial position  
 268 ( $x_{u1}, y_{u1}, z_{u1}$ ). For the following example (figure 2), the normalized distances are set as:

$$a = \frac{|x_p - x_{u1}|}{|x_{u1} - x_{u2}|} \quad b = \frac{|y - y_{u1}|}{|y_{u1} - y_{u4}|} \quad d = \frac{|z_p - z_{u5}|}{|z_{u1} - z_{u2}|} \quad (32)$$

269 We used two different procedures to select the 8 node points used for bilinear interpolation of  $Fu$  and  
 270  $Fw$  at the end of the Lagrangian trajectory: Regarding  $Fu$  (figure 2.a), the interpolation process follows  
 271 the steps:

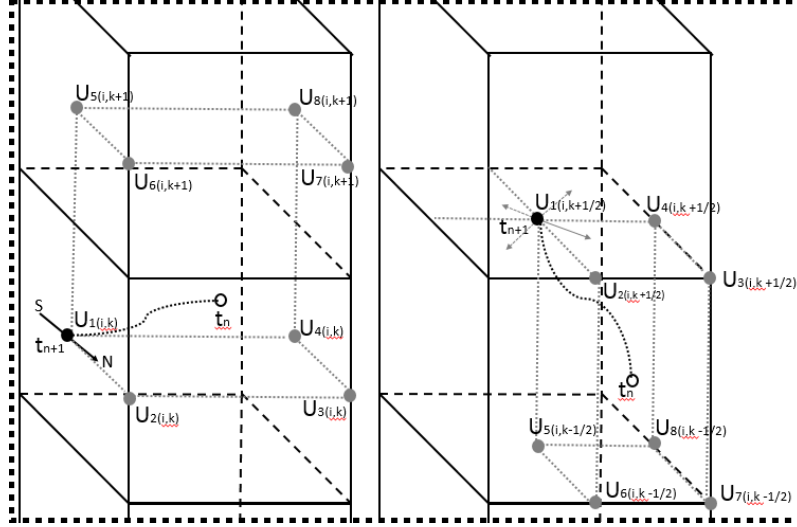


Fig. 2: Example of the velocity points used in the bilinear interpolation for the a) vertical faces (left), example for the particle stopped in up position, and b) horizontal faces (right), with the particle stopped in the fourth-quadrant position.

- 272 1. (1) For each time step, the particle starts at the barycenter of the  $j$ -th face at layer  $k$ , where the
- 273 multi-step backward Euler stream line is defined by linear interpolations to find the particle position
- 274 at the end of a sub-time step (ELM *step-i*);
- 275 2. (2) For each sub-time step, the particle position is analyzed in relation to the initial position (up
- 276 right, up left, down right or down left);
- 277 3. (3) Eight node points are selected in the cell, with four points in layer  $k$  (the same layer where the
- 278 particle stops), and four points in layer  $k \pm 1$ , depending on the particle position (up or down). The
- 279 used point are always 4 faces barycenter and 4 edge center, except for the top and bottom cells,
- 280 which uses 2 faces barycenter, 4 edge center and 2 nodes;
- 281 4. (4) The node indices are defined anticlockwise, where the first node is the initial position of the
- 282 particle at time  $n+1$ ;
- 283 5. Equation (31) is used to calculate the velocity component in the particle position in the sub-time
- 284 step;
- 285 6. Steps (1-5) are repeated until the end of the Lagrangian trajectory.

286 For *Fw* (figure 2.b), a similar procedure is adopted:

- 287 1. For each time step, the particle starts at the horizontal-face barycenter of the  $i$ -th element at layer
- 288  $(k + \frac{1}{2})$ , where the multi-step backward Euler stream line is defined by linear interpolations to find
- 289 the particle position at the end of a sub-time step (ELM *step-i*)
- 290 2. For each sub-time step, the particle position is analyzed in relation to the initial position (up or
- 291 down and in the direction of one of the four quadrants)
- 292 3. Eight node points are selected in the cell, with four points in layer  $(k + \frac{1}{2})$  (the same layer where the
- 293 particle starts), and four points in layer  $k - \frac{1}{2}$ , if the particle goes down, or  $k + \frac{3}{2}$ , if the particle goes
- 294 up. The used point are always 2 horizontal faces barycenter, 4 edge center and 2 nodes;
- 295 4. The node indices are defined anticlockwise, where the first node is the initial position of the particle
- 296 at time  $n + 1$ .
- 297 5. Equation (31) is used to calculate the velocity component in the particle position in the sub-time
- 298 step.
- 299 6. Steps (1-5) are repeated until the end of the Lagrangian trajectory.

### 300 3.3 Quadratic Interpolator

301 The Quadratic Lagrangian interpolation was adapted from Hodges et al. (2000), who extended

302 the 8-point Upwind bilinear stencil to a 27-grid point stencil using at least 8 computation cells. We

303 proposed to use 27-node points inside a single computation cell, using the calculated velocities at the



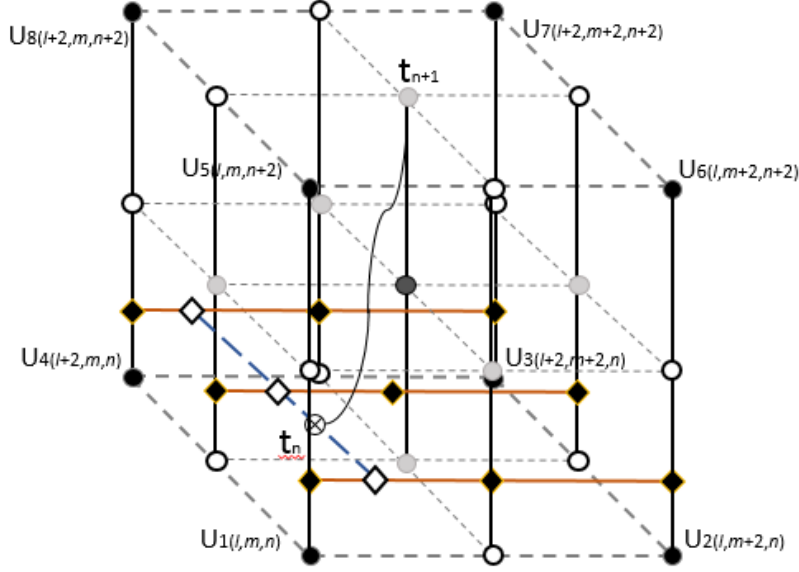


Fig. 3: Example of model node point velocities for the quadratic interpolation. This illustration shows 27 points inside a computation cell, using information from nodes (in black), edge centers (in white) and face barycenters (in gray). The subscripts  $(l,m)$  denote the position of the vertical line (black lines) to be interpolated in the first step.  $n$  denotes the bottom, middle or top of a computation cell. The orange lines represent the second interpolation step, and the blue line represents the final interpolation step to estimate velocity of the particle at time  $t^n$ .

304 face barycenters and interpolated velocities at the nodes, edge centers, face barycenters and element  
 305 center (figure 3).

306 The quadratic interpolation is more generic and uses the same procedure for the horizontal and  
 307 vertical faces. First, for each time step the particle starts at the face barycenter, where the backward  
 308 stream line is defined in 10 sub-time steps by linear interpolation to find the departure position at time  
 309  $n$  (ELM *step-i*). Second, for each sub-time step the interpolation follows 3 major steps, illustrated in  
 310 Figure 3, in order to determine the Lagrangian polynomial coefficients (e.g., Hodges et al., 2000). The  
 311 Lagrangian polynomial coefficients are given by:

$$\mathcal{L}^\beta = \prod_{\alpha=0, \alpha \neq \beta}^2 \frac{z^p - z_{n \pm \alpha}}{z_{n \pm \beta} - z_{n \pm \alpha}} \quad (33)$$

312 where each interpolation has 3  $\mathcal{L}$  coefficients, one for each node used in the interpolation line.  $z^p$  is the  
 313 particle position after the backtrack,  $\beta$  is the analyzed node position in the Upwind direction, and  $\alpha$  is  
 314 the other two points, both assuming values of 1, 2, or 3.

315 In summary, the interpolation process follows these steps:

- 316 1. (1) First, 9 z-direction interpolations are carried out (black lines in figure 3). Each vertical interpolation  
 317 generates a velocity component in the horizontal plane that passes through the z-position of the  
 318 particle, given by:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_{l+\gamma, m+\psi} = \mathcal{L}_{l+\gamma, m+\psi}^1 \mathbf{u}_{l+\gamma, m+\psi, n} + \mathcal{L}_{l+\gamma, m+\psi}^2 \mathbf{u}_{l+\gamma, m+\psi, n+1} + \mathcal{L}_{l+\gamma, m+\psi}^3 \mathbf{u}_{l+\gamma, m+\psi, n+2} \quad (34)$$

319 where each  $\mathcal{L}^\beta$  is multiplied by the respective velocity node and  $\gamma$  and  $\psi$  are the “ $l$ ” and “ $m$ ” displacement,  
 320 respectively, to indicate which vertical line has been interpolated.

- 321 1. (2) 3  $x$ -direction interpolations are carried out (orange line), using the estimated velocities found in  
 322 step (1), resulting in 3 new velocity components (white diamonds in figure 3), given by:

$$\bar{\mathbf{u}}_{m+\psi} = \mathcal{L}_{l, m+\psi}^1 \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_{l, m+\psi} + \mathcal{L}_{l+1, m+\psi}^2 \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_{l+1, m+\psi} + \mathcal{L}_{l+2, m+\psi}^3 \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_{l+2, m+\psi} \quad (35)$$

- 323 1. One interpolation is made to compute the  $y$ -direction displacement and find the final velocity for the  
 324 particle at time  $t^n$

$$\mathbf{u}_{i-a,j-b,k-d}^n = \mathcal{L}_j^1 \bar{\mathbf{u}}_j + \mathcal{L}_{j+1}^2 \bar{\mathbf{u}}_{j+1} + \mathcal{L}_{j+2}^3 \bar{\mathbf{u}}_{j+2} \quad (36)$$

- 325 1. A new departure velocity is used to define the particle position in the next sub-time step.  
 326 2. Steps (1) to (4) are repeated until the end of the Lagrangian trajectory.

## 327 4 Numerical Experiments

328 The proposed numerical approaches were used in three consolidated benchmarks usually use to  
 329 verification and validation of numerical models Dingemans (1994); Jankowski (1999); Casulli and Lang  
 330 (2004); Yuan and Wu (2004); Fringer et al. (2005); Liu et al. (2017); Yin et al. (2017). The first  
 331 two experiments tested the numerical diffusion produced by the hydrodynamic solution, and the last  
 332 experiment evaluated the numerical diffusion of the coupled hydrodynamic and solute-transport solution.  
 333 Each numerical experiment had a different purpose, as follows:

- 334 1. Standing waves in a three-dimensional closed basin. This test case verifies the capability of the  
 335 model to simulate 3D linear waves, including phase and amplitude representation (Yuan and Wu,  
 336 2004; Monteiro and Schettini, 2015; Liu et al., 2017). The motion in the basin is caused only by the  
 337 initial condition of the free surface. When the roughness, viscosity and diffusivity coefficients are  
 338 set equal to zero, the motion of the free surface should not lose energy. However, a wave damping  
 339 is caused by the numerical diffusion of the hydrodynamic solution. We evaluated the differences in  
 340 the numerical diffusion between the bilinear and quadratic interpolations, applied in ELM *step-ii*,  
 341 as well as the numerical diffusion considering the no-advection scheme. The numerical diffusion  
 342 was evaluated in terms of the cumulative wave damping, comparing the waves after 30 seconds of  
 343 simulation. Regarding the case of the no-advection scheme,  $u^*$ ,  $v^*$  and  $w^*$  (equations 17 and 18) are  
 344 set directly equal to the horizontal and vertical face velocities. The performance between methods  
 345 was evaluated with a few metrics (RMSE, BIAS, Volume Error, KGE, NSE). We also compared the  
 346 mass conservation of the computation domain for each time step, the cumulative mass conservation  
 347 over the course of the simulation, and the mean computation time of one time-step simulation, using  
 348 an Intel® Xenon® CPU-E5-1620 3.7 GHz computer with 32 GB of RAM memory in a Fortran  
 349 based numerical model.
- 350 2. The wave propagation over a submerged bar was an experimental model idealized by Beji and Battjes  
 351 (1993), and has been frequently used to validate numerical models (e.g., Beji and Battjes, 1994;  
 352 Dingemans, 1994; Stelling and Zijlema, 2003; Zijlema and Stelling, 2005; Yuan and Wu, 2004; Cui  
 353 et al., 2012; Yin et al., 2017). The experiment was used to evaluate the accuracy of representing an  
 354 irregular wave pattern caused by physical changes at the bottom, by comparing the quadratic and  
 355 bilinear interpolations used in ELM *step-ii*. The performance between methods was evaluated with  
 356 a few metrics (RMSE, BIAS, Volume Error, KGE, NSE);
- 357 3. The gravity-wave test consisted of a finite-amplitude deep-water standing wave in an inviscid fluid in  
 358 a non-equilibrium situation, where the baroclinic pressure makes a major contribution to promote  
 359 flow. The experiment evaluated the numerical diffusion in terms of density interface expansion,  
 360 analyzing the difference between the combined uses of the interpolation techniques used in ELM  
 361 *step-ii* and different flux-limiter schemes applied in a solute-transport solution. This test case also  
 362 evaluated the individual effect of each interpolation technique used in the hydrodynamic solution on  
 363 the solute-transport solution, using different flux limiters. We also compared the mean computation  
 364 time of one time-step simulation.

### 365 4.1 3D standing waves in a closed basin

366 A closed cubic basin with 10 m of edge and the wave amplitude set to 0.1 m was used (figure  
 367 4). The spatial domain was discretized using a regular grid with 0.5 m resolution, resulting in 8,000  
 368 computation cells. The time step was 0.01 s and the total simulation time was 30 s. We evaluated the  
 369 numerical diffusion produced by ELM, comparing the free-surface elevation at  $x = y = 0.25$  m with the  
 370 exact solution. We also compared the mass conservation between bilinear and quadratic interpolators,  
 371 neglecting the convective terms.

372 The analytical solution of the free-surface water elevation is given by:

$$\eta = A \cos(k_x x) \cos(k_y y) \cos\left(2\pi \frac{t}{T}\right) \quad (37)$$

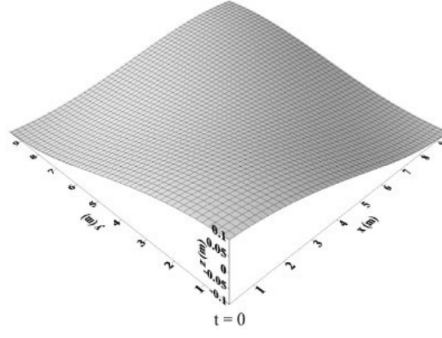


Fig. 4: The initial free-surface profile for a linear 3D standing wave oscillation in a closed basin. source: Yuan and Wu (2004)

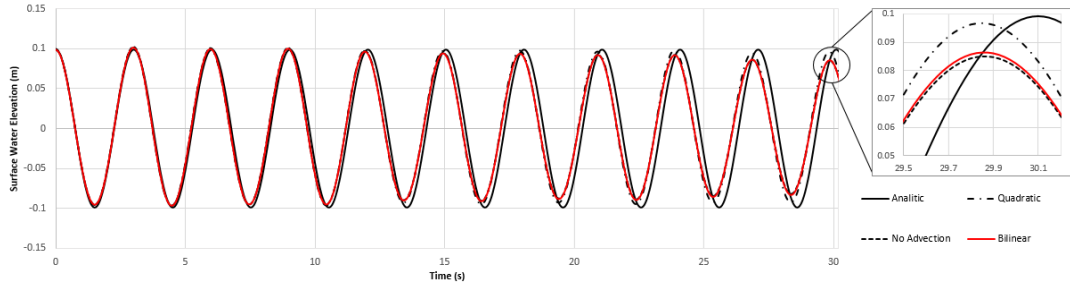


Fig. 5: Comparisons of the free-surface elevation at  $x = y = 0.25$  m. The solid black line is the analytical results, the dash-dot line is the quadratic interpolator results, the solid red line is the bilinear interpolator results, and the dashed black line is the results with no advection scheme

Table 1: Metrics between the analytical and simulated results each method for 30 seconds of simulation

Metrics	Quadratic	Bilinear	No Advection
RMSE (mm)	21.86	20.80	20.70
BIAS (mm)	0.18	0.52	0.56
Error (%)	27.22	25.94	25.79
KGE	0.87	0.66	0.64
NSE	0.90	0.91	0.91

373 where  $t$  is the time (the initial condition of the free surface may be obtained by setting  $t = 0$ ),  $T$  is  
 374 the wave period equal to 3.1 s, with the wave number  $k_x = k_y = n/L$  and the total wave number  
 375  $k = \sqrt{k_x^2 + k_y^2} = 0.44 \frac{rad}{m}$ . The analytic solution for each velocity component is described as follows:

$$376 \quad \mathbf{u} = \frac{Agk_x}{\omega} \frac{\cosh[k_x(h+z)]}{\cosh(k_x h)} \sin(k_x x) \cos(k_y y) \sin(\omega t) \quad (38)$$

$$377 \quad \mathbf{v} = \frac{Agk_y}{\omega} \frac{\cosh[k_y(h+z)]}{\cosh(k_y h)} \cos(k_x x) \sin(k_y y) \sin(\omega t) \quad (39)$$

$$378 \quad \mathbf{w} = \frac{Agk_x}{\omega} \frac{\sinh[k_x(h+z)]}{\cosh(k_x h)} \cos(k_x x) \cos(k_y y) \sin(\omega t) \quad (40)$$

379 where  $\omega$  is giving by:

$$380 \quad \omega = \sqrt{gK \tanh(Kh)} \quad (41)$$

381 The results showed that the numerical diffusion can be reduced when a higher-order interpolation is  
 382 used (figure 5). The numerical diffusion of the quadratic interpolator (measured in terms of the amplitude  
 383 error compared to the analytical solution) is ca. 10 times smaller than the bilinear interpolator after 30 s  
 of simulation. The bilinear scheme did not show a substantial improvement over the simulation neglecting  
 the convective terms (the numerical diffusion was only 10% lower). The Quadratic results show best

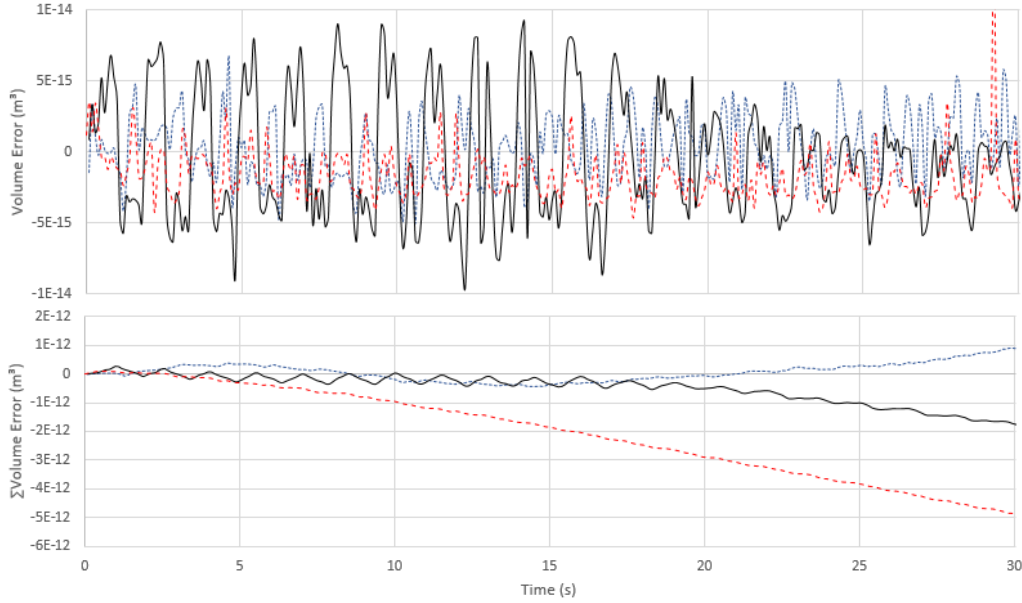


Fig. 6: Comparisons of the mass conservation of computational domain over the simulation (top) and the cumulative mass conservation (bottom) over the simulation time for the tested methods: No Advection (red dashed line), Bilinear (blue dotted line) and Quadratic (black solid line)

384 performance between methods (Bias 0.18 mm and KGE 0.87, see table 1), indicating best agreement  
 385 with the analytical solution, despite similar RMSE and NSE to the other methods. All analyzed metrics  
 386 shows that bilinear and no advection had similar performance. The phase representation showed good  
 387 agreement with the analytical solution, showing a cumulative phase error of only 0.3 s at the end of the  
 388 simulation, which is similar to previous studies (Yuan and Wu, 2004; Monteiro and Schettini, 2015). As  
 389 expected, the simulation neglecting the convective terms had a shorter computation time (ca. 1.65 s)  
 390 than the bilinear (ca. 2.23 s) and quadratic interpolations (ca. 2.37 s). The computation cost using a  
 391 quadratic interpolation was slightly higher (ca. 6%) than the bilinear interpolation.

392 The mass conservation analysis showed a more conservative behavior for the quadratic simulation  
 393 (Figure 6). The simulation neglecting the convective terms showed a substantial decreasing pattern after  
 394 5 s of simulation, differently from when the bilinear was used, in which the pattern appeared after 20 s.  
 395 The quadratic interpolation showed a more conservative pattern than the bilinear interpolation.

#### 396 4.2 Wave propagation over a submerged bar

397 A scheme of the experiment of the wave propagation over a submerged bar with an uneven bottom is  
 398 seen in (Figure 6) (Beji and Battjes, 1993). At the upward slope of the bar, the shoaling wave becomes  
 399 non-linear due to the generation of a bound higher harmonic. At the downward slope, the depth increases  
 400 rather fast and these harmonics become free, resulting in an irregular pattern of waves (Dingemans,  
 401 1994). The numerical reproduction of this pattern has proven to be very demanding with respect to the  
 402 accuracy of the computed dispersion frequency (Stelling and Zijlema, 2003).

403 The computation domain has a total length of 30 m, with an initial undisturbed water level of 0.4 m,  
 404 and was discretized using a regular grid of 0.025 m resolution. The time step was 0.005 s and the total  
 405 simulation time was 39 s. At the left boundary, a sinusoidal wave condition, with period  $T = 2$  s and  
 406 amplitude  $A = 0.01$  m, was imposed to represent the wave generator of the original experiment. At the  
 407 right outflow boundary, the experimental absorbed beach was computationally represented by a 5-m  
 408 sponge layer with a combination of a sponge layer technique (Park et al., 1999) and a Sommerfeld-type  
 409 radiation boundary condition, applied to minimize wave reflection, given by:

$$\epsilon_i = \begin{cases} \beta \left( \frac{x_i - x_{io}}{l_i} \right)^2 \left( \frac{z_m - z}{z_m - z_M} \right) u_i & \text{if } x_i \geq x_{io} \\ 0 & \text{if } x_i < 0 \end{cases} \quad (42)$$

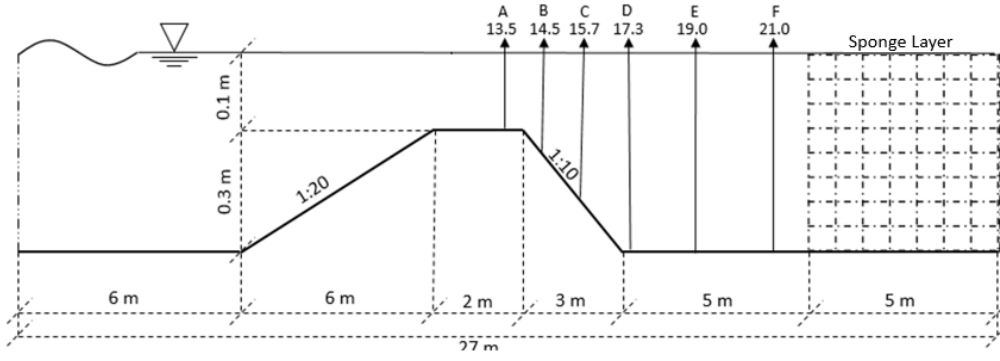


Fig. 7: Scheme of experimental bottom geometry and location of wave-level gauges. Source: Modified from Beji and Battjes (1993)

410 where  $\epsilon_i$  is the sponge layer coefficient,  $x_{i0}$  is the initial point, and  $l_i$  the total length. This term must be  
 411 added in the right side of equation (1) and (2).

412 The methods performance was compared by a few metrics (RMSE, BIAS, Volume Error, KGE,  
 413 NSE), and also through graphic visualization (Figure 8) of the wave pattern among the 6 stations. We  
 414 evaluated the capability of the model to correctly represent the measured free-surface water elevation at  
 415 between 33 and 39 s of simulation, comparing the bilinear and quadratic interpolation solutions with the  
 416 experimental results for the “low-amplitude waves” (LW), generated by the shoaling process, and the  
 417 “higher-amplitude waves” (HW).

418 The results indicated that the shoaling process on the upward slope was well described by both  
 419 interpolation techniques, although the bilinear interpolation poorly represented the LW at station  
 420 “A”. At the beginning of the downward slope, at station “B”, the bilinear simulation showed higher  
 421 free-surface elevation, poorly representing the LW minimums (B at 34.7 and 36.7 s), which is physically  
 422 incoherent with the measurements and simulations by others (e.g., Stelling and Zijlema, 2003), due to an  
 423 over-increased velocity in the de-shoaling process. The quadratic simulation more accurately represented  
 424 the de-shoaling process, although it did not accurately represent the maximum height of HW (35 and 37  
 425 s). Moreover, the simulation without advection scheme was not able to represent the de-shoaling process  
 426 and was numerically unstable due to a larger over-increase in velocity at the same point as the bilinear  
 427 interpolation over-increased it.

428 The bilinear overestimation of the free-surface level was propagated to the other stations. For the  
 429 other four stations, the bilinear case better represented the HW maximum amplitudes than the quadratic  
 430 simulation, but poorly represented the LW phase and shape (see “D” and “F” LW over the oscillation  
 431 pattern for the bilinear interpolation).

432 The quadratic interpolator had the best performance among methods table 2. The Quadratic method  
 433 better represented the amplitude and the wave patter for all stations (NSE between 0.47 and 0.94,  
 434 and RMSE between 2.17 and 4.29 mm). The results had high Volume Error (between 23% and 83%),  
 435 overestimating the free-surface level for most cases (except for some method at stations b, c, d and f),  
 436 and with low performance in KGE parameter for most cases. In summary, the quadratic solution was  
 437 better in interacting with uneven bottoms to represent complex non-linear wave simulations. Similar  
 438 results to the quadratic interpolation solution were reported by Dingemans (1994); Chen (2003); Walters  
 439 (2005); Cui et al. (2012); Monteiro and Schettini (2015).

#### 440 4.3 Gravity Wave

441 This benchmark setup is use to evaluate the numerical diffusion of numerical models under sharp  
 442 density gradients (Fringer et al., 2005). The equation that represents the initial density condition is:

$$\rho(x,z) = -\frac{\Delta\rho}{2} \tanh \left[ \frac{2 \tanh^{-1} \alpha}{k\delta} \left( kz - k\zeta + \frac{k}{2} \right) \right] \quad (43)$$

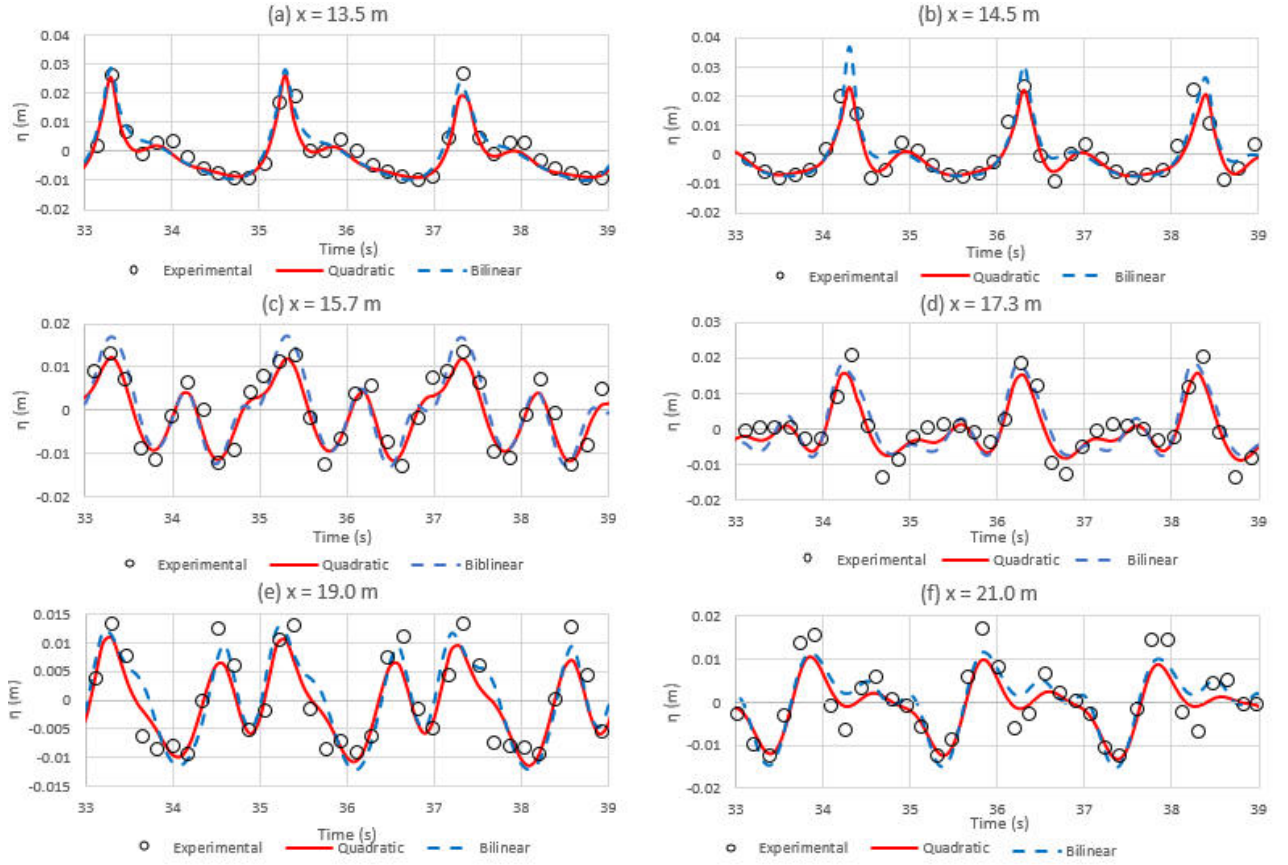


Fig. 8: Comparisons between experimental (circles) and computed data with a Bilinear interpolator (dashed line) and Quadratic interpolator (solid line), at 6 different level gauges.

Table 2: Metrics between simulated and experimental results for the six stations for bilinear and quadratic results

M	Station a: x = 13.5 m		Station d: x = 17.3 m	
	Bilinear	Quadratic	Bilinear	Quadratic
RMSE (mm)	3.57	2.17	5.18	4.29
BIAS (mm)	2.01	0.18	0.87	-0.56
Error (%)	47.52	23.65	83.78	60.00
KGE	-0.90	0.82	0.23	0.46
NSE	0.83	0.94	0.56	0.70
	Station b: x = 14.5 m		Station e: x = 19.0 m	
RMSE (mm)	4.79	4.25	4.97	3.81
BIAS (mm)	0.14	-0.64	2.49	0.76
Error (%)	64.77	50.22	52.79	45.31
KGE	0.39	0.35	-6.12	-1.18
NSE	0.33	0.47	0.60	0.76
	Station c: x = 15.7 m		Station f: x = 21.0 m	
RMSE (mm)	4.66	3.51	4.04	3.67
BIAS (mm)	-0.19	-1.25	1.34	-0.28
Error (%)	56.71	39.63	57.48	43.84
KGE	0.65	-1.07	-4.92	-0.26
NSE	0.67	0.81	0.69	0.75

443 where  $\alpha = 0.99$ ,  $k = \pi$  is the wave number,  $ka$  represent the fluid interface inclination,  $k\delta$  is the non  
444 dimensional interface thickness, and  $k\zeta$  is the interface initial condition, giving by (Thorpe, 1968):

$$k\zeta(x) = ka \left[ \left( 1 - \frac{(ka)^2}{64} \right) \cos(kx) - \frac{(ka)^2}{8} \cos(3kx) \right] \quad (44)$$

445 The constant values follow those used by Fringer et al. (2005).  $ka = 0.1$ ,  $k\delta = 0.05$ , the density  
446 difference between the layers is  $\frac{\Delta\rho}{\rho_0} = 0.03$ , with an analytical wave period of 9.43 s. In this test the

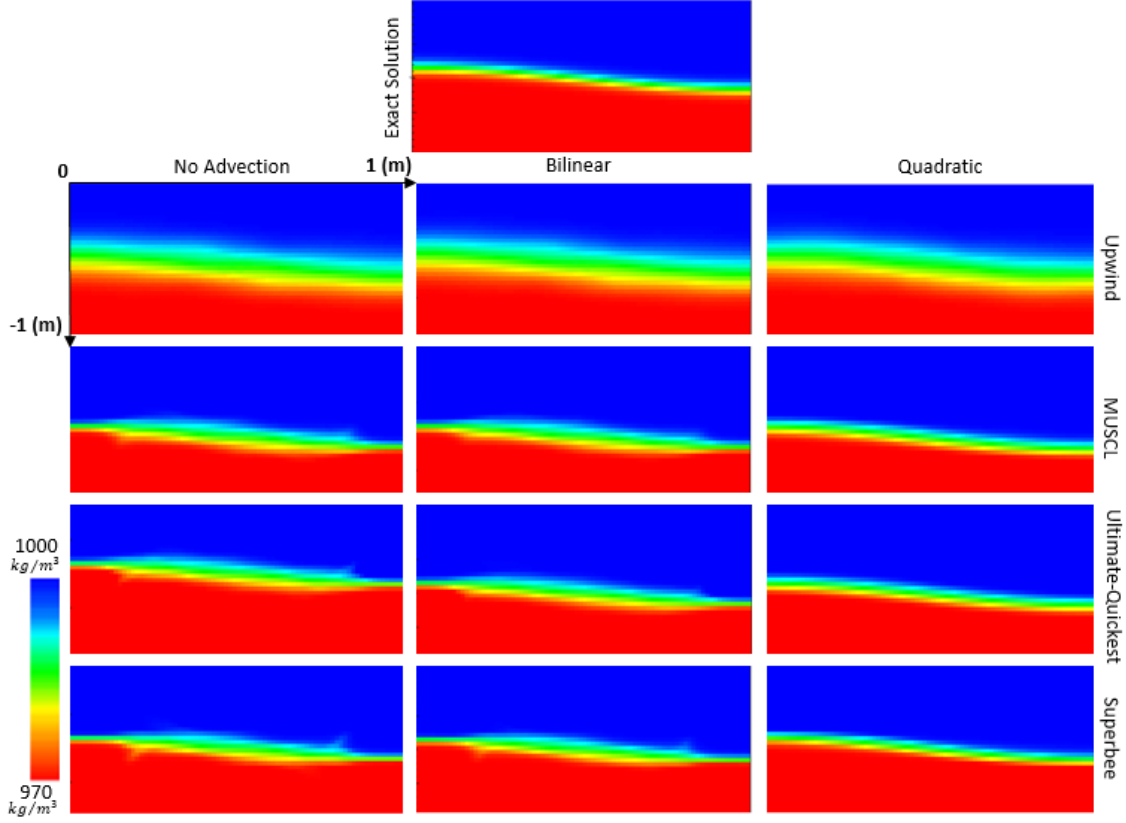


Fig. 9: Comparisons of density profiles between the exact no-diffusive solution, and the No Advection (left), Bilinear (middle) and Quadratic (right) interpolators for several flux-limiter schemes, after two wave periods.

447 bottom roughness and diffusion coefficients were both equal to zero. The spatial domain was a  $1 \text{ m} \times 1$   
 448 m, discretized using a regular grid of  $0.0125 \text{ m}$  resolution, resulting in 6,400 computation cells. The time  
 449 step was  $0.0236 \text{ s}$  and the total simulation time was two wave periods.

450 Because the vertical and horizontal diffusion were set equal to zero (i.e. pure advection transport),  
 451 the initial and final shape of the gravity wave must be the same. We evaluated the numerical diffusion  
 452 produced, neglecting the convective terms, and using both bilinear and quadratic interpolations in ELM  
 453 *step-ii* combined with different flux-limiter schemes. The model outcomes (i.e. water density profiles) were  
 454 compared with the exact solution. In order to evaluate the effects of different schemes and interpolation  
 455 techniques on the numerical diffusion, we calculated the  $L_{\text{error}}$  norm of the density (Table 3), and  
 456 compared the simulated vertical density profiles at  $x = 0.0 \text{ m}$  and at  $x = 0.4 \text{ m}$  with the exact solution.

457 The  $L_{\text{error}}$  was calculated using the following expression:

$$L = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_i} \sum_{k=1}^{N_k} |\rho_{i,k}^{2T} - \tilde{\rho}_{i,k}| \delta A_{i,k}}{\sum_{i=1}^{N_i} \sum_{k=1}^{N_k} |\tilde{\rho}_{i,k}| \delta A_{i,k}} \quad (45)$$

458 where  $\tilde{\rho}$  is the density from the exact solution, and the  $\rho^{2T}$  is the simulated density after two  
 459 periods, and  $\delta A_{i,k}$  is the area of grid cell  $(i,k)$ , which in our case is equal for all computation cells.

460 The comparison between the simulated density profiles and the exact solution is shown in Figure 9.  
 461 Our findings indicated that the numerical diffusion produced by the hydrodynamic solution had a major  
 462 influence on the total numerical diffusion.

463 The Upwind scheme showed a higher numerical diffusion than the high-resolution schemes, considering  
 464 the two interpolation techniques in ELM *step-ii* (RMSE ca. 2.8 times bigger, table 4). For the high-  
 465 resolution schemes, the numerical diffusion was reduced mainly when combined with the quadratic  
 466 interpolation in ELM (RMSE ca. 3 times smaller). A similar numerical diffusion pattern was found when  
 467 the convective terms were neglected or when a bilinear interpolation was used in ELM *step-ii*, with



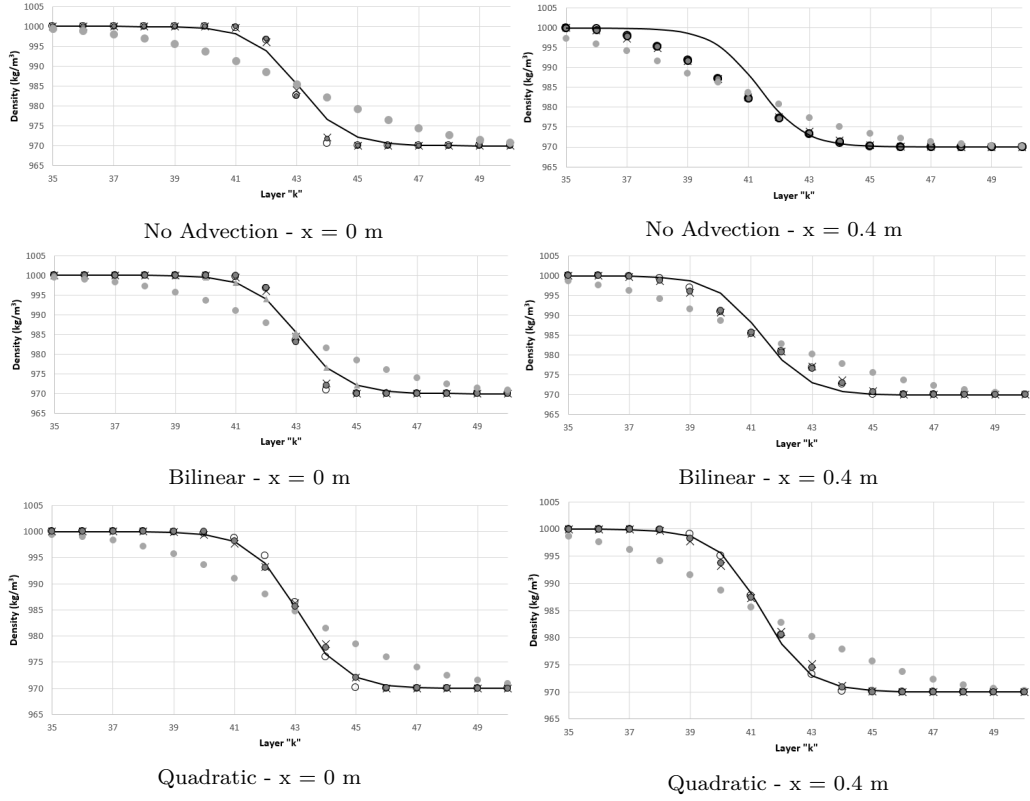


Fig. 11: Comparisons between density profiles of the exact solution, and the No-Advection (top), Bilinear (middle) and Quadratic (bottom) interpolations for all flux-limiter schemes, after two wave periods, at  $x = 0.0$  m (left) and  $x = 0.4$  m (right).

Table 3: Relative errors (%) for the different advection schemes after two wave periods, for the bilinear and quadratic interpolators

Flux limiters	$L_{NoAdv}$	$L_{Bilinear}$	$L_{Quadratic}$	Fringer <i>et. al</i> 2005
UpWind	5.10	4.98	4.98	3.9
MUSCL	1.66	1.23	0.48	0.6
Ultimate-Quickest	1.40	0.94	0.46	0.4
SuperBee	1.36	0.88	0.30	0.4

Table 4: Root Means Square errors ( $\text{kg/m}^3$ ) for the different flux limiter schemes after two wave periods, for the No advection scenario, bilinear and quadratic interpolators.

Flux limiters	$RMSE_{NoAdv}$	$RMSE_{Bilinear}$	$RMSE_{Quadratic}$
Upwind	2.08	1.97	1.97
MUSCL	1.16	0.72	0.38
Ultimate-Quickest	1.15	0.69	0.28
Superbee	1.16	0.70	0.24

468 a higher diffusive behavior in the middle of the spatial domain and an anti-diffusive pattern near the  
 469 boundary domain for the higher-resolution schemes, as seen in Figure 11 and 9.

470 The Upwind scheme showed a higher relative error ( $L_{\text{error}}$  norm ca. 5%) for all simulations. The  
 471 results showed that the high-resolution methods substantially reduced the relative errors compared  
 472 to the Upwind scheme, and the Superbee performed best among the higher-resolution schemes. The  
 473 quadratic and Fringer et al. (2005) had similar results to the tested high-resolution methods, however  
 474 the hydrodynamic discretization and its influence in the result was not discussed in Fringer et al. (2005)



475 work. The  $L_{\text{error}}$  indicated that the bilinear interpolation substantially improved the representation of the  
 476 density profile compared to the simulations neglecting the convective terms. Regarding the computation  
 477 cost, the higher-resolution methods had similar computation times for each time step, differing only with  
 478 the interpolation technique, with 1.25, 1.51 and 1.62 s for the No-advection, Bilinear and Quadratic  
 479 interpolations, respectively. The Upwind scheme had a shorter computation time, with 1.01, 1.15 and  
 480 1.61 s for the no-advection, bilinear and quadratic interpolations, respectively.

## 481 5 Discussion

482 The numerical experiments in the hydrodynamic solution showed that the quadratic interpolation  
 483 method, using 27 node points in a single computation cell, substantially reduced the numerical diffusion  
 484 in the hydrodynamic solution, which had a positive effect on the solute-transport solution. This is the  
 485 first study to verify and validate the quadratic interpolation method in ELM *step-ii*.

486 The results of the first experiment showed a good amplitude representation of the waves, with a  
 487 satisfactory phase representation only 0.3 s slower than the analytical result. This was expected, since the  
 488 phase representation is more related to the non-hydrostatic pressure and vertical momentum discretization  
 489 (Yuan and Wu, 2004; Zijlema and Stelling, 2005). The second experiment successfully validated the  
 490 proposed interpolation, which proved to be capable of representing complex wave problems. The bilinear  
 491 interpolator applied at ELM *step-ii* had a numerical diffusion ca. 10 times higher than the quadratic  
 492 interpolation. Moreover, the bilinear interpolation did not yield a substantial improvement in terms  
 493 of numerical diffusion, compared with the simulations neglecting the convective terms. The quadratic  
 494 interpolation also substantially improved the mass conservation over the course of the simulation,  
 495 indicating that a high-resolution method can be applied to find mass-conservative solutions in free-surface  
 496 simulations in complex wave problems, including shallow or deep waters. Higher numerical diffusion  
 497 was also observed when the bilinear interpolator in ELM *step-ii* was used with different flux-limiter  
 498 schemes in the mass-transport solution (Cheng et al., 1984), indicating that high-resolution schemes  
 499 can be successfully used to attenuate the numerical diffusion for coupled hydrodynamic and transport  
 500 solutions. The set of numerical experiments showed that the quadratic interpolation is a powerful and  
 501 promising method to reduce numerical diffusion, with a slight increase in computation cost related to a  
 502 bilinear interpolator (7.3% more), and also can be applied in 1D, 2D or 3D models. Other key factors  
 503 related to the numerical solution are also responsible for the numerical diffusion, such as the fractional  
 504 step error (Chen, 2003), caused by splitting the pressure solution into hydrostatic and non-hydrostatic  
 505 modules, which was appropriately treated here following Casulli (1999); and the interpolation method  
 506 used to define the stream line trajectory in ELM *step-i* (Staniforth and Côté, 1991).

507 In this study, we used different flux-limiter schemes to efficiently solve the mass-transport equation,  
 508 which also proved to be an accurate alternative to reduce the numerical diffusion when coupled with a  
 509 quadratic interpolation in ELM. The last numerical experiment showed that the Upwind scheme has  
 510 serious numerical-diffusion problems ( $L_{\text{error}}$  norm ca. 5%), and can be considered inappropriate for  
 511 modeling stratified basins. The SuperBee flux limiter showed the best results among the high-resolution  
 512 methods used in this study ( $L_{\text{error}}$  norm ca. 0.3% with quadratic interpolation). Although further  
 513 investigation is still needed to indicate the best flux limiter, the SuperBee has been used as a default in  
 514 some models (e.g., Hodges et al., 2000; Casulli and Zanolli, 2005; Ye et al., 2018; Zhang et al., 2018),  
 515 has proven to be capable of simulating stratified basins with or without sharp gradients, and has also  
 516 been mass conservative. Despite the satisfactory results, the flux limiters used here are only non-linear  
 517 second-order schemes (Fringier et al., 2005; Waterson and Deconinck, 2007). Numerical diffusion can  
 518 be reduced even more by a different linear or non-linear higher-order discretization, but this usually  
 519 requires a complex numerical solution, which is computationally expensive and also may be vulnerable  
 520 to unphysical spatial oscillations (wiggles) under some circumstances (Leonard, 1991). The flux limiter is  
 521 a simple approach that is easily implemented, especially when Kong's  $r_{\text{factor}}$  is applied.

522 The results indicate that high-resolution schemes are suitable for reducing numerical diffusion, but  
 523 combining their use in hydrodynamic and solute-transport solutions can improve the overall result  
 524 even more. When the Upwind scheme was used, the differences between interpolation techniques were  
 525 overcome by the higher Upwind numerical diffusion, although when flux-limiter methods were also used,  
 526 the differences were clearer. The combined use of high-resolution methods shows that the interpolation  
 527 technique in the hydrodynamic solution has a substantial effect on the mass-transport solution, and that,  
 528 despite the improvement over Upwind, applying linear interpolators at the ELM *step-ii* still yields a  
 529 relative error that is 2 to 3 times larger than with a non-linear interpolator, with a similar behavior to

530 the no-advection solution, which may generate unsatisfactory results for the transport solution in cases  
531 of sharp stratification.

532 A higher diffusive behavior in the middle of the spatial domain of gravity wave than in the nearby  
533 boundary domain was found for all simulations, as expected. Fringer et al. (2005) showed that in regions  
534 of the flowfield where the local Courant number is reduced (the middle), the interfacial diffusion is  
535 increased, which makes a zone that is sensitive to the velocity field. The results of the gravity-wave  
536 experiment were strongly influenced by the diffusion-over-time steps, since as the interface became more  
537 diffuse, the wave period and velocity field changed; that is, the use of a more diffusive method in a  
538 hydrodynamic solution may generate cumulative errors, leading to unsatisfactory results. The quadratic  
539 interpolation proved to better reduce the numerical diffusion in these critical areas, due to the less  
540 diffusive behavior in the hydrodynamic solution, and better predicted the sharp change of the velocity  
541 field in the middle region of the wave. Moreover, the results for the quadratic interpolation indicated  
542 that it performed better than the bilinear interpolation and similarly to the results reported by Fringer  
543 et al. (2005) in the transport solution. The bilinear interpolation, although it had a smaller relative error  
544 than the no-advection solution (1.5 times less), showed the same unsatisfactory diffusive behavior in the  
545 middle region.

546 The proposed combined use of the quadratic interpolation applied at ELM *step-ii* and the flux-limiter  
547 technique substantially reduced the numerical diffusion in solving mass-transport problems, showing  
548 that high-resolution methods must be implemented in the numerical solution to properly simulate more  
549 complex real situations. These methods can be easily implemented, as proposed here.

## 550 6 Conclusion

551 The combined use of high-resolution methods (quadratic interpolation and flux-limiter functions)  
552 showed to be a suitable alternative to reduced numerical diffusion, and with low cost of implementation  
553 in relation to higher order discretizations.

554 The analyses in a coupled numerical model allowed to understand how the numerical diffusion at one  
555 solution may affect the other. The numeric diffusion at hydrodynamic solution promoted by low-resolution  
556 methods (low-order interpolation at ELM) may have a substantial impact on solute transport solution,  
557 even if a high-resolution method were applied at solute transport solution (Relative error and RMSE ca.  
558 3 times bigger).

559 When a low-order method are used in solute transport solution (Upwind scheme) the numerical  
560 diffusion differences between methods in hydrodynamic solution were overcome by the higher Upwind  
561 numerical diffusion. Thus, in order to accurately modeling stratified flows in real situations the combined  
562 use of high-resolution methods is mandatory.

563 Numerical models that use low-resolution methods usually neglected the diffusive part of the transport  
564 equation (eq. 7) (diffusivity coefficients equal to zero), assuming the numerical diffusion as the physical  
565 diffusion, which may difficult the Model's calibration. The applied high-resolution methods allowed  
566 using the diffusivity coefficients as parameters to the model calibration. Therefore, we recommended the  
567 application of the implemented methods at real situations to evaluated the Model's performance in the  
568 representation of the temperature dynamic of stratified flows in deep lakes or reservoirs.

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**Conclusão**

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O trabalho foi desenvolvido em grandes temas, passando pela implementação e tratamento adequado do termo de pressão não-hidrostática, identificação das relações da difusão numérica gerada na solução hidrodinâmica e de transporte e utilização de soluções numéricas mais completas de alta resolução para simulação de escoamentos estratificados em geometrias complexas.

O algoritmo utilizado para implementação da aproximação não hidrostática no modelo IPH-ECO se mostrou capaz de simular adequadamente a celeridade e a dispersão de frequência de ondas estacionárias em condição de águas profundas ( $\frac{H}{\lambda} > 0.5m$ ) utilizando uma resolução vertical mais flexível (10-layers ou mais) que um modelo não-hidrostático clássico, sem tratamento na condição de contorno (20-layers ou mais). Apesar da melhoria, o resultado ainda é limitado pela discretização utilizada para equação do momento vertical, enquadrando o método como de baixo custo de implementação e eficiência média.

A discretização utilizada tem uma dependência do perfil vertical de velocidades, que é menos preciso a medidas que a resolução vertical utilizada na simulação aumenta. Isto faz com que o modelo precise de uma resolução vertical apropriada para obter resultados satisfatórios. Quando comparado com a abordagem clássica de implementação da aproximação não-hidrostática, o método proposta tem um ganho substancial, gerando resultados semelhantes utilizados uma resolução vertical 2 vezes menor. Este resultado permite que modelos hidrodinâmicos semelhantes melhorem sua solução numérica com um baixo custo de implementação, aplicando um tratamento simples na condição de contorno da pressão não-hidrostática na superfície livre, consequentemente melhorando a performance em simulações hidrodinâmicas não-hidrostáticas.

Ainda quanto a melhoria do módulo hidrodinâmico, o interpolador bilinear aplicado ao passo-ii do ELM teve difusão numérica ca. 10 vezes maior que a interpolação quadrática. Além disso, a interpolação bilinear não apresentou melhoria substancial, em termos de difusão numérica, em comparação com a simulação sem esquema de advecção (negligenciando os termos convectivos). A interpolação quadrática diminuiu substancialmente a difusão numérica e melhorou a conservação de massa sobre a simulação, indicando que métodos de alta resolução podem ser utilizados para alcançar soluções conservativas em simulações de superfície livre.

A maior difusão numérica também foi observada quando o interpolador bilinear, aplicado ao passo-ii do ELM, foi utilizado em conjunto com diferentes esquemas de Limitadores de Fluxo na solução de transporte de massa (Cheng et al., 1984), indicando que esquemas de alta resolução podem ser usados com sucesso para atenuar o difusão para soluções de modelos acoplados hidrodinâmicos e de transporte. O conjunto de experimentos numéricos mostrou que

a interpolação quadrática é um método poderoso e promissor para reduzir a difusão numérica, com um ligeiro aumento do custo computacional em relação a um interpolador bilinear (7.3 % a mais) e também pode ser aplicado em modelos 1D, 2D ou 3D.

Quanto ao Transporte de Solute, a análise da difusão numérica gerada mostrou que o esquema *UpWind* tem sérios problemas de difusão numérica ( $L_{error}$  ca. 5%) e pode ser considerado um modelo não adequado para simulação de escoamentos estratificados. O Limitador de Fluxo *SuperBee* teve os melhores resultados dentre os métodos de alta resolução testados ( $L_{error}$  ca. 0,3% e RMSE ca.  $0,24 \text{ kg/m}^3$  utilizando interpolação quadrática). Apesar de maiores análises ainda serem necessárias para definir o melhor limitador de fluxo, o *Superbee* vem sendo utilizado com sucesso por alguns modelos (e.g. Hodges et al., 2000; Casulli e Zanolli, 2005; Ye et al., 2018; Zhang et al., 2018), o que prova ser capaz de simular escoamentos estratificados.

Esquemas de alta resolução são adequados para reduzir a difusão numérica, mas o uso combinado deles em soluções Hidrodinâmica e de Transporte de Solute pode melhorar ainda mais o resultado geral. Quando o esquema *UpWind* foi usado, as diferenças entre as técnicas de interpolação foram mascaradas pela elevada difusão numérica do esquema, entretanto, quando métodos de alta resolução foram utilizados na solução do transporte, as diferenças foram claras (eficiência ca. 3 vezes maior). O uso combinado de métodos de alta resolução mostra que a técnica de interpolação na solução hidrodinâmica tem um efeito substancial na solução de transporte de massa, e que, apesar da melhoria dos Limitadores de Fluxo em relação ao *Upwind*, a aplicação de interpolações lineares no passo-ii do ELM mostra um Erro relativo de 2 a 3 vezes maior que quando usado um interpolador não-linear, se aproximando do comportamento de uma solução sem termos advectivos.

A difusão numérica gerada por métodos de baixa resolução na solução hidrodinâmica pode ter grande impacto na solução do transporte, por tanto, para simular com maior precisão situações reais (dinâmica de escoamentos estratificados em reservatórios profundos) o uso combinado de métodos de alta resolução se mostrou necessário, ainda sendo de baixo custo de implementação, em relação à discretizações de alta ordem das equações governantes, e com elevada eficiência na redução da difusão numérica. Os resultados alcançados neste trabalho permitem que modelos mais difusivos, como o IPH-ECO (Fragoso Jr et al., 2009), passem a considerar a difusão física real ao invés da difusão numérica em suas modelagens, e portanto utilizar o coeficiente de difusão como um parâmetro de calibração do modelo.



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