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The Equal-Norm Multiple-Scale Trefftz Method for Solving the Nonlinear Sloshing Problem with Baffles

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ABSTRACT

In this paper, the equal-norm multiple-scale Trefftz method combined with the implicit Lie-group scheme is applied to solve the two-dimensional nonlinear sloshing problem with baffles. When considering solving sloshing problems with baffles by using boundary integral methods, degenerate geometry and problems of numerical instability are inevitable. To avoid numerical instability, the multiple-scale characteristic lengths are introduced into T-complete basis functions to efficiently govern the high-order oscillation disturbance. Again, the numerical noise propagation at each time step is eliminated by the vector regularization method and the group-preserving scheme. A weighting factor of the group-preserving scheme is introduced into a linear system and then used in the initial and boundary value problems (IBVPs) at each time step. More importantly, the parameters of the algorithm, namely, the T-complete function, dissipation factor, and time step, can obtain a linear relationship. The boundary noise interference and energy conservation are successfully overcome, and the accuracy of the boundary value problem is also improved. Finally, benchmark cases are used to verify the correctness of the numerical algorithm. The numerical results show that this algorithm is efficient and stable for nonlinear two-dimensional sloshing problems with baffles.

KEYWORDS

Generalized lie-group method; multiple-scale Trefftz method; Laplace equation; baffled sloshing tank

1 Introduction

With the continuous increase in global energy demand, the loading capacity of super-large oil tankers and floating production storage tanks are increasing. At the same time, the demand for liquefied petroleum gas carriers and liquefied natural gas carriers have increased, and the safety of the maritime navigation of liquid cargo ships has become a focus of interest. Early sloshing research mainly used experimental methods [1], but the corresponding disadvantages of high cost, long cycle, and complicated operation were greatly limited. In recent years, several methods for studying liquid sloshing have been proposed, by researchers such as Celebi et al. [2]



and Frandsen [3], who used the finite difference method to simulate nonlinear sloshing problems in rectangular tanks. Wang et al. [4] used the finite element method (FEM) to address two-dimensional nonlinear sloshing problems with random excitations. Akyildiz et al. [5] used volumetric fluids to simulate the sloshing motion of a baffled tank and compared the results to those of experimental cases to analyse pressure changes on the wall of the tank. Biswal et al. [6] used the FEM to calculate the nonlinear sloshing response of a liquid in a two-dimensional rectangular tank with a rigid baffle. Younes et al. [7] used vertical baffled and holes in rectangular tanks for experimental studies. Maleki et al. [8] studied the effects of horizontal and vertical baffled on sloshing motion. However, there were some problems with these methods that need to be solved. For example, in the simulated fluid mechanics process, there are some complex problems, such as extreme deformation and free liquid surface, and motion interface. When meshing is applied for numerical simulation, element distortion will occur, and the calculation will not easily converge or will produce a considerable calculation error. Hence, some numerical methods have been proposed to construct approximate solutions without encountering these defects, such as the boundary element method [9], the Trefftz method [10], the modified Trefftz method [11], the radial basis function collocation method [12], the meshless method [13], and smooth particle

Recently, with the rapid development of computing technology, Sajedeh et al. [15] solved the nonlinear sloshing behaviour of a liquid in a partially filled tank which was studied using the FEM based on new spherical Hankel shape functions. Wang et al. [16] studied the nonlinear sloshing characteristics of the liquid contained in a tank with a vertical baffle mounted at the bottom of the tank. Han et al. [17] concerned with nonlinear sloshing in a partially filled container due to the three-dimensional vehicle motion. The liquid sloshing is described by a set of linear modal equations derived from the potential flow theory, which can be applied to liquid sloshing induced by an arbitrary combination of lateral, longitudinal, and rotational excitations. Guan et al. [18] simulated nonlinear sloshing in the three-dimensional tanks under horizontal excitation and roll excitation, and the inhibition effect of different baffles on the sloshing phenomenon was investigated. Jiang et al. [19] investigated the coupling effects of internal sloshing flow on the sway motion response of rectangular box sections. Three-dimensional sloshing simulation [20] was realized. The numerical accuracy was also improved, and the result was more reliable, but the main concern was the small-amplitude sloshing problem [21].

Some scholars began to explore the sloshing problem in other ways. Liu [22] proposed the modified Trefftz method to introduce a characteristic length in the T-complete basis function to improve numerical stability. Chen et al. [23] used the geometric multi-scale Trefftz method to solve the large-amplitude sloshing problem. Here, the concepts of the dissipation factor and control volume were first proposed to improve the accuracy of the solution. However, it is very expensive to obtain the dissipation factor and correction control volume. Chen [24] used the equal-norm multiple-scale Trefftz method (MSTM) in combination with the vector regularization method (VRM) to overcome boundary interference problems. With the development of group theory [25], many physical problems can be solved, such as coupling problems, boundary value problems, and ordinary differential equations. A group-preserving scheme (GPS) was one of the group theories, and Liu et al. [26] first derived the GPS based on the Lorentz group in the Minkowski space. However, the weighting factor of the GPS does not have linear properties; Liu [27] proved that the Lie-group scheme based on the general linear group in the Euclidean space was equivalent to the GPS in the Minkowski space. Hence, Chen et al. [28] proposed the MSTM combined with an explicit/implicit Lie-group scheme to overcome nonlinear sloshing behavior as well as to

hydrodynamics [14].

avoid the iterative correction of the controlled volume at each time step. Shih et al. [29] further extended the work [28] to verify nonlinear sloshing problems in two-dimensional rectangular and trapezoidal tanks.

Because degenerate geometry, energy conservation, and numerical instability problems exist in the nonlinear sloshing problems with baffles, a completely numerical procedure is constructed to address the initial and boundary value problems (IBVPs), respectively. First, when degenerate geometry and numerical instability problems occur in the boundary value problem (BVP), the T-complete basis function with different characteristic lengths and the VRM is applied to overcome boundary noise and high order numerical oscillations. Then, the explicit and implicit Lie group method in Euclidean space combined to perform time integration in the initial value problem (IVP) can avoid numerical iterative number, and the numerical solution of different time step by using the hybrid Lie group method has a linear relationship. Finally, for boundary noise disturbance and energy conservation at each time step, this paper introduces the weight factor of the IVP calculated by the GPS into the BVP to correct the dissipative factor. The new algorithm proposed in this paper will simultaneously overcome the above shortcomings.

2 A Trefftz Method for the Sloshing Problem

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Assuming that the fluid is incompressible, nonrotating, and nonviscous, the potential flow theory can be used to describe sloshing in a tank, but the surface tension can be ignored. The sloshing problem assumes that the fluid in the tank is an ideal fluid, which satisfies the basic conditions of the potential flow theory, that is, the fluid in the tank is inviscid and non-rotational (irrotational) and incompressible properties and the fluid has continuity, therefore, it can be approximated by Laplace equation.

It is assumed that the free surface does not overturn or rupture during sloshing. W is the width of the rectangular tank, and D is the depth of the water, as shown in Fig. 1. The two coordinate systems are shown in Fig. 1. One coordinate system is an inertial Cartesian coordinate system (X, Z) fixed in space: the X-axis is horizontal, and the Z-axis is vertical. The other coordinate system is the moving coordinate system (x_1, z_1) connected to the tank; the observation point is at the intersection of the undisturbed free surface and the left wall of the tank. The tank is expected to have a translational oscillation along the X-axis, so the width of the flow is independent of the tank, which means that the sloshing of the liquid is only a two-dimensional nonlinear motion in the coordinate system. Considering the moving coordinate system fixed on the tank, the sloshing equation can be obtained as follows:

$$\nabla^2 \phi = \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial X^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial Z^2} = 0, \quad \text{in } \Omega$$
⁽¹⁾

$$\frac{D\phi}{Dt} = \frac{1}{2} |\nabla\phi|^2 - gz_1 + \mathcal{A}(t) x_1, \quad \text{on } \Gamma_F$$
(2)

$$\frac{Dx_1}{Dt} = \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial X},\tag{3}$$

$$\frac{Dz_1}{Dt} = \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial Z} \tag{4}$$

To describe the change in the free surface over time, where g is the gravitational acceleration and D is the vertical height difference between the liquid surface and the original liquid surface in the tank, A(t) is the external force term, and the swinging force of only the x_1 component has a great influence on the dynamics of the tank due to the sloshing model of the tank moving along the x_1 -axis. In this paper, the rocking forces acting on the left and right walls are considered. Assuming that the normal velocity at the bottom of the tank and the boundary velocity between the two side walls are zero, the boundary conditions of the tank wall are as follows:

$$\phi_n = 0$$
, on Γ_W

(5)

where ϕ_n is the velocity potential in the normal direction and *n* is the normal vector.



Figure 1: The rectangular tank (a) sketch and (b) characteristic lengths

For the convenience of description, polar coordinates are used here. The governing equations and boundary conditions are expressed as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \nabla^2 \phi = \phi_{rr} + (1/r) \phi_r + (1/r^2) \phi_{\theta\theta}, & 0 \le \theta \le 2\pi, & \text{in } \Omega \\ \beta_d \phi_d(r, \theta) + \beta_n \phi_n(r, \theta) = H(\theta), & 0 \le \theta \le 2\pi, & \text{on } \Gamma \end{cases}$$
(6)

Since the governing equation for the sloshing problem is a two-dimensional Laplace equation, we can use the linear combination of T-complete functions to express the numerical solution. The T-complete functions of the two-dimensional Laplace equation can be shown as: $\{1, r^k \cos k\theta, r^k \sin k\theta, k = 1, 2, 3, ..., m\}$, where *m* is the order of Trefftz Method. In the conventional Trefftz Method, the numerical solution can be expressed in terms of the above bases (T-complete functions). To address the boundary condition conveniently, we assume that β_d and β_n satisfy $\beta_d^2 + \beta_n^2 > 0$. If the whole boundary is governed by the Dirichlet boundary condition, then $\beta_d = 1$ and $\beta_n = 0$. Conversely, the whole boundary is governed by the Neumann boundary condition, $\beta_d = 0$ and $\beta_n = 1$. Using Fourier series expansion approximations $\phi(r, \theta)$, the potential ϕ can satisfy the Laplace equation as follows:

$$\phi(r,\theta) = A_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[A_k \left(r/R_{2k} \right)^k \cos k\theta + B_k \left(r/R_{2k+1} \right)^k \sin k\theta \right], \tag{7}$$

where A_0 , A_k and B_k are unknown coefficients to be determined, and $k = 1, ..., \infty$. R_{2k} and R_{2k+1} are equal-norm lengths and multiple-scale characteristic lengths, respectively, as shown in

Liu [30], and the Neumann boundary condition is expressed as follows:

$$\phi_n = \lambda(\theta) \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} r^k \left[\left(\gamma A_k - \gamma' B_k \right) \cos k\theta + \left(\gamma' A_k + \gamma B_k \right) \sin k\theta \right], \tag{8}$$

where

$$\lambda(\theta) = r(\theta) / \sqrt{r^2(\theta) + [r'(\theta)]^2}.$$

$$A_0 \beta_d + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(A_k E^k + B_k F^k \right) = H(\theta), \qquad (9)$$

where E_k , F_k , γ , and γ' are expressed as

$$\begin{cases} E^k := r^k \left(\beta_d \cos k\theta + \lambda \beta_n \gamma \cos k\theta + \lambda \beta_n \gamma' \sin k\theta \right), \\ F^k := r^k \left(\sin k\theta + \lambda \beta_n \gamma \sin k\theta - \lambda \beta_n \gamma' \cos k\theta \right), \\ \gamma := \frac{k}{rR_{2k}^k}, \\ \gamma' := \frac{kr'}{r^2 R_{2k+1}^k}. \end{cases}$$

In this paper, we introduce the collocation method. Eqs. (7) and (8) are imposed at different collocation points on two different boundaries with $[r(\theta), \theta] \in \Gamma_F$ and $[r(\overline{\theta}), \overline{\theta}] \in \Gamma_W$. Considering a mixed-boundary condition with ϕ on the free surface Γ_F and with ϕ_n on the tank wall Γ_W , when $\beta_d = 1$ and $\beta_n = 0$ is on the free surface Γ_F , $\beta_d = 0$ and $\beta_n = 1$ are on the tank wall Γ_W , so we have $\beta_d = 1$ and $\beta_n = 0$ on Γ_F , while $\beta_d = 0$ and $\beta_n = 1$ on Γ_W . Therefore, Eq. (9) can express as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \phi_d\left(r,\,\theta\right) = A_0 + \sum_{k=1}^m \left[\left(A_k a_k^j / R_{2k}^k \right) + \left(B_k b_k^j / R_{2k+1}^k \right) \right] = H_d\left(\theta_j\right), \quad (r,\,\theta) \in \Gamma_F, \\ \phi_n\left(r,\,\overline{\theta}\right) = \sum_{k=1}^m \left[\left(A_k c_k^j / R_{2k}^k \right) + \left(B_k d_k^j / R_{2k+1}^k \right) \right] = H_n\left(\overline{\theta}_j\right), \qquad (r,\,\overline{\theta}) \in \Gamma_W, \end{cases}$$
(10)

,

where

$$\begin{cases} a_k^{\theta} := r^k \cos k\theta, \\ b_k^{\theta} := r^k \sin k\theta, \\ c_k^{\overline{\theta}} := \lambda r^k \left[\left(k \cos k\overline{\theta}/r \right) + \left(kr' \sin k\overline{\theta}/r \right) \right], \\ d_k^{\overline{\theta}} := \lambda r^k \left[\left(k \sin k\overline{\theta}/r \right) + \left(kr' \cos k\overline{\theta}/r \right) \right] \end{cases}$$

where for simple description $a_k^{\theta_j} = a_k(\theta_j)$, $b_k^{\theta_j} = b_k(\theta_j)$, $c_k^{\overline{\theta}_j} = c_k(\overline{\theta}_j)$, $d_k^{\overline{\theta}_j} = d_k(\overline{\theta}_j)$. θ and $\overline{\theta}$ represent the angle of the free surface and the wall concerning the horizontal axis.

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & a_{1}/R_{2} & b_{1}/R_{3} & . & a_{m}/R_{2m} & b_{m}/R_{2m+1} \\ 1 & a_{1}/R_{2} & b_{1}/R_{3} & . & a_{m}/R_{2m} & b_{m}/R_{2m+1} \\ 0 & c_{1}/R_{2} & d_{1}/R_{3} & . & c_{m}/R_{2m} & d_{m}/R_{2m+1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & a_{1}/R_{2} & b_{1}/R_{3} & . & a_{m}/R_{2m} & b_{m}/R_{2m+1} \\ 0 & c_{1}/R_{2} & d_{1}/R_{3} & . & c_{m}/R_{2m} & d_{m}/R_{2m+1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_{0} \\ A_{1} \\ B_{1} \\ \vdots \\ A_{m} \\ B_{m} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} H_{d}^{\theta_{0}} \\ H_{d}^{\theta_{1}} \\ \vdots \\ H_{d}^{\theta_{1}} \\ \vdots \\ H_{d}^{\theta_{m}} \\ H_{d}^{\theta_{m}} \\ H_{d}^{\theta_{m}} \end{bmatrix}$$
(11)

where R_{2k} and R_{2k+1} are as follows:

$$R_{2k} = \Psi\left(\frac{1}{m+1}\right) \left[\left(a_k^0\right)^2 + \sum_{j=1}^m \left[\left(a_k^j\right)^2 + \left(c_k^j\right)^2 \right] \right]^{1/(2k)}, \quad k = 1, \dots, m,$$
$$R_{2k+1} = \Psi\left(\frac{1}{m+1}\right) \left[\left(b_k^0\right)^2 + \sum_{j=1}^m \left[\left(b_k^j\right)^2 + \left(a_k^j\right)^2 \right] \right]^{1/(2k)}, \quad k = 1, \dots, m.$$

where

$$\Psi = \alpha \exp\left(T\Delta t^2\right) > 0,$$

where Ψ is dissipation factor, T is computational time and α is a dissipation factor which is a positive value chosen by the user.

Combining Eq. (10) into the linear system with n = 2m+1 dimensions, where *m* is a positive integer that can be selected according to the problem, the linear system in Eq. (11) can be written as follows:

$$\mathbf{Bq} = \mathbf{d}_1$$

(12)

where **B** is the coefficient matrix of the linear system, $\mathbf{q} = [A_0, B_1, B_1, \dots, B_m, B_m]^T$ is the vector of unknown coefficients, and \mathbf{d}_1 is the measurement data. When solving this expression, \mathbf{d}_1 is often affected by external forces and causes numerical errors. Therefore, this paper will use vector regularization to overcome this issue.

3 A Vector Regularization Method (VRM)

When a matrix is ill-posed and the measured data contain noisy disturbances, it is difficult to determine the stability of the system using conventional regularization techniques. Therefore, Liu et al. [31] proposed VRM, which proves that a solution exists when we have an ill-posed matrix and noisy disturbances occur. Considering that a given matrix **B** or **V** is an inversion of **B** and that \mathbf{I}_m is the identity matrix, we multiply Eq. (12) by \mathbf{B}^{T} , making it a positive-definite matrix: $\mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{d}_1$ (13) where

$$\mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{V}^{\mathrm{T}} = \mathbf{I}_{m}.$$

$$\mathbf{B}\mathbf{x}_0 = \mathbf{y}_0. \tag{15}$$

When the regularization parameter is $\mathbf{x}_0 = [1, ..., 1]$, we have

$$\mathbf{y}_0^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{V}^{\mathrm{T}} = \mathbf{x}_0^{\mathrm{T}}.$$
 (16)

When combining Eqs. (14) and (16), the over-determined system can be written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{T}} \\ \mathbf{y}_{0}^{\mathrm{T}} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{V}^{\mathrm{T}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I}_{m} \\ \mathbf{x}_{0}^{\mathrm{T}} \end{bmatrix},$$
(17)

where

$$\mathbf{O} := \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{T}} \\ \mathbf{y}_{0}^{\mathrm{T}} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Multiplying Eq. (16) by \mathbf{O}^{T} , an $m \times m$ matrix equation can be obtained:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}\mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{T}} + \mathbf{y}_{0}\mathbf{y}_{0}^{\mathrm{T}} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{V}^{\mathrm{T}} = \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{y}_{0}\mathbf{x}_{0}^{\mathrm{T}}.$$
(18)

According to the matrix operators in Eq. (18) applied to \mathbf{d}_1 and $\mathbf{V}^T \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{d}_1$, this method can be described by the following matrix equation:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}\mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{T}} + \mathbf{y}_{0}\mathbf{y}_{0}^{\mathrm{T}} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{d}_{1} + (\mathbf{x}_{0} \cdot \mathbf{d}) \mathbf{y}_{0}.$$
⁽¹⁹⁾

Changing **B** of the above formula to \mathbf{B}^T , a linear equation equivalent to Eq. (13) can be obtained as follows:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{y}_{0}\mathbf{y}_{0}^{\mathrm{T}} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{q} = \mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{d}_{1} + (\mathbf{x}_{0} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{1})\mathbf{y}_{0}.$$
⁽²⁰⁾

For the convenience of calculation, Eq. (20) is expressed as

$$\overline{\mathbf{K}}_{\mathbf{g}}\mathbf{q} = \overline{\mathbf{V}}_{\mathbf{f}} \tag{21}$$

where

$$\overline{\mathbf{K}}_{\mathbf{g}} = \mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{y}_{0}\mathbf{y}_{0}^{\mathrm{T}},$$

 $\overline{\mathbf{V}}_{\mathbf{f}} = \mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{d}_1 + (\mathbf{x}_0 \cdot \mathbf{d}_1) \mathbf{y}_0.$

To maintain energy conservation and no volume correction, a weighting factor in the group preservation algorithm can be obtained:

$$\Theta_{\mathbf{g}}\overline{\mathbf{K}}_{\mathbf{g}}\mathbf{q} = \Theta_{\mathbf{f}}\overline{\mathbf{V}}_{\mathbf{f}},\tag{22}$$

1000

where $\Theta_{\mathbf{f}}$ and $\Theta_{\mathbf{g}}$ are the weighting factors calculated in the GPS; when time t = 0, $\Theta_{\mathbf{f}} = \Theta_{\mathbf{g}} = 1$. Then, we can rewrite Eq. (22):

$$\overline{\mathbf{K}}_{\mathbf{g}}\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{R},\tag{23}$$

where

$$\mathbf{R} = (\Theta_{\mathbf{f}} / \Theta_{\mathbf{g}}) \overline{\mathbf{V}}_{\mathbf{f}}$$

Finally, the conjugate gradient method (CGM) is used to solve for q in Eq. (23).

4 An Explicit/Implicit Lie-Group Scheme

Eqs. (2)-(4) in vector form are as follows:

$$\dot{\mathbf{v}} = \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{v}, t), \quad t \in \mathbf{R}, \quad \mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{R}^n,$$
(24)

$$\mathbf{v} := \begin{bmatrix} \phi & x_1 & z_1 \end{bmatrix}^{\mathrm{T}}, \quad \mathbf{F} := \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \phi|^2 - gz_1 + \mathbf{A}(t) x_1 & \partial \phi / \partial X & \partial \phi / \partial Z \end{bmatrix}^{\mathrm{T}}.$$
(25)

where u and v are as follows:

$$u = \mathbf{q}^{\mathrm{T}} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial X}$$
$$v = \mathbf{q}^{\mathrm{T}} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial Z}$$

According to the formulas by Liu [27], an explicit scheme based on the Lie-group (ESGL) is used for the integration of the nonlinear dynamical system in Eq. (24), which can be used to derive the following scheme:

$$\mathbf{v}_{\ell+1} = \mathbf{v}_{\ell} + \Theta \mathbf{F}_{\ell},\tag{26}$$

$$\mathbf{a}_{\ell} = \mathbf{F}_{\ell} / \left\| \mathbf{v}_{\ell} \right\|, \tag{27}$$

$$\hat{\rho}_{\ell} = 1/\|\mathbf{a}_{\ell}\| \cdot \tanh^{-1}\left(\mathbf{a}_{\ell} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{\ell}/\|\mathbf{a}_{\ell}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{v}_{\ell}\|\right),\tag{28}$$

$$\Theta_{\ell} = \left[\sinh\left(\|\mathbf{a}_{\ell}\|\left(\Delta t + \hat{\rho}_{\ell}\right)\right) - \sinh\left(\hat{\rho}_{\ell}\right)\|\mathbf{a}_{\ell}\|\right] / \left[\|\mathbf{a}_{\ell}\|\cosh\left(\hat{\rho}_{\ell}\|\mathbf{a}_{\ell}\|\right)\right],\tag{29}$$

$$\|\mathbf{v}_{\ell+1}\| = \|\mathbf{v}_{\ell}\| \cosh\left[\|\mathbf{a}_{\ell}\|\left(\Delta t + \hat{\rho}_{\ell}\right)\right] / \cosh\left(\hat{\rho}_{\ell}\|\mathbf{a}_{\ell}\|\right),\tag{30}$$

where Δt is the time step.

On the other hand, we applied an implicit scheme based on the Lie-group (ISGL) for the integration of the nonlinear dynamical system in Eq. (24); the simplest one considers $\overline{t} = t_0 + \vartheta \Delta t$, where $0 \le \vartheta \le \infty$, and thus

$$\overline{\mathbf{a}} = \mathbf{F}(\overline{t}, \overline{\mathbf{v}}_0) / \|\overline{\mathbf{v}}_0\|, \tag{31}$$

where $\overline{\mathbf{v}}_0 = (1 - \vartheta) \mathbf{v}_0 + \vartheta \mathbf{v}_1$. The ISGL requires an iteration to determine the value of \mathbf{v}_1 at the next step. Thus, we have the following scheme:

$$\overline{\mathbf{v}}_{\ell+1} = \overline{\mathbf{v}}_{\ell} + \Theta \mathbf{F}_{\ell}. \tag{32}$$

With $\overline{\mathbf{v}}_k$ generated from Eq. (32) as an initial guess, we iteratively solve the new $\overline{\mathbf{v}}_{\ell+1}$ by $\overline{\mathbf{v}}_\ell = (1 - \vartheta) \, \mathbf{v}_\ell + \vartheta \, \mathbf{v}_{\ell+1},$ (33)

$$\overline{\mathbf{a}}_{\ell} = \mathbf{F} \left(t_{\ell} + \vartheta \,\Delta t, \overline{\mathbf{v}}_{\ell} \right) / \left\| \overline{\mathbf{v}}_{\ell} \right\|,\tag{34}$$

$$\overline{\Theta}_{\ell} = 1/\|\overline{\mathbf{a}}_{\ell}\| [\sinh(\|\overline{\mathbf{a}}_{\ell}\| \Delta t) + [\cosh(\|\overline{\mathbf{a}}_{\ell}\| \Delta t) - 1] (\overline{\mathbf{a}}_{\ell} \cdot \overline{\mathbf{v}}_{\ell}) / (\|\overline{\mathbf{a}}_{\ell}\| \|\overline{\mathbf{v}}_{\ell}\|)],$$
(35)

$$\mathbf{y}_{\ell+1} = \overline{\mathbf{v}}_{\ell} + \overline{\Theta}_{\ell} \| \overline{\mathbf{v}}_{\ell} \| \, \overline{\mathbf{a}}_{\ell}. \tag{36}$$

If y_{k+1} converges according to a given stopping criterion, such that

$$\|\mathbf{y}_{\ell+1} - \overline{\mathbf{v}}_{\ell+1}\| < \varepsilon \tag{37}$$

Then, for $\ell = 0, 1, ...$, we repeat the following computations to a specified terminal time at $t = t_f$. Applying Eq. (26) to integrate Eq. (24) yields for the next time step; otherwise, we assume $\overline{v}_{\ell+1} = y_{\ell+1}$ and use Eq. (37). Chen et al. [11] used the modified Trefftz method (MTM) associated with the Lagrangian description to deal with the sloshing problem; it was found that volume errors up to 10e-9 and the discrepancy of initial values are the main causes of numerical errors and instability. Chen et al. [23] also use multiple-scale Trefftz method (MSTM) to obtain the nonlinear kinematic effects of the free surface at each time step. The resulting nonlinear term error is up to 10e-11. Hence, the numerical results show that the MSTM algorithm with dissipation factors is highly simple and stable, without requiring the use of special techniques.

5 Numerical Examples

In this section, three benchmark numerical examples are examined to verify the numerical algorithm.

All numerical experiments are tested on Intel (R) Xeon(R) E31230 CPU clocked at 3.2 GHz with 32 GB of RAM. The external excitation is a horizontal displacement given by A(t) = $d\omega^2 \sin(\omega t)$, where d and ω are the amplitude and the frequency of the oscillation, respectively (Fig. 1a). Here, the excitation amplitude d = 0.002 m and the dissipation factor $\alpha = 9.5$. The initial characteristic length is calculated separately, and it is confirmed that the characteristic length is smooth and stable, with no obvious vibration. The collocation method is used to arrange discrete points on the boundary. A total of 161 discrete points are arranged: 80 discrete points on the free surface and 81 discrete points on the remaining surfaces or baffles. To clearly describe the change in the free surface, there are more discrete points on the free surface than on the remaining walls or baffles, and the following example is analysed with a T-complete function of m = 80. In the simulation of nonlinear sloshing problems, we set the constant parameters as follows: The convergence values of the time integral are $\varepsilon_{\rm f} = 1.0e - 12$ and $\varepsilon_{\rm g} = 1.0e - 12$, and their corresponding parameters are $\vartheta_f = 1.0e - 16$ and $\vartheta_g = 0.5$. When t = 0, the weighting factor $\Theta_{\rm f} = \Theta_{\rm g} = 1$, the time step is $\Delta t = 0.001$ s, and an unstable phenomenon often occurs. The nature modes of a rectangular tank can be obtained from the linearized natural sloshing standing wave problem, and the natural frequency ω_n is calculated by the expression

$$\omega_n = \sqrt{g \frac{n\pi}{W} \tanh\left(\frac{n\pi}{W}D\right)}, \quad n = 1, \dots, \infty.$$
(38)

Thus, the first natural frequency of this tank is $\omega_1 = 5.7637$ rad/s.

Before testing the effects of baffles and screens on sloshing damping, we consider twodimensional rectangular tank sloshing without any obstacles. The length of the 2-D rectangular tank in the X direction is W = 0.9 m. Initially, the static water in the tank has a depth of D = 0.6 m. To verify the accuracy, we compare with the results of the literature [32,33]. The depth of the water in the literature of the sloshing amplitude was 0.6. For ease of comparison in this paper, unified the water surface height as 0 at the static water, and the difference between the two water levels is shown in Fig. 2, which presents the vertical displacement of the free-surface point in contact with the left wall for two different excitation frequencies. The analytical solution proposed by Chen et al. [32] is also represented in the same figures. The agreement between the numerical and the analytical results is satisfactory. When the excitation frequency is close to the resonance frequency, a beating phenomenon appears. The frequency of the beating of the amplitude-modulated wave is $\Delta \omega = |\omega_1 - \omega|$, and its period is $t_b = 2\pi/\Delta \omega$. Considering the same excitation frequency of $\omega = 6.338$ rad/s with Saoudi et al. [33], the beating period is $t_b = 10.941$ s (see Fig. 2a). In addition, considering an excitation frequency of $\omega = 5.7$ rad/s, the resonance simulation of rectangular sloshing tank without baffle, the number of IVP and BVP are shown in Fig. 3. As results showed that the present method can iterate in one step and converge quickly for the IVP. The simulation for 10 s and the calculation time of the CPU is 1067.148282 s. And we also test the stability of long-term calculations t = 200 s, the amplitudes of the sloshing waves at the free surface become large, and the period of the beating becomes $t_{\rm b} = 98.637$ s, as shown in Fig. 4. Because considering the small excitation amplitude and the excitation frequency is very close to natural frequency, this beating period approaches t_b from the linear theory.



Figure 2: Comparison of two numerical simulations and the analytical solution of the free surface elevation at the left wall: (a) $\omega = 6.338 \text{ rad/s}$, (b) $\omega = 5.7 \text{ rad/s}$

The traditional Trefftz method usually increases the dissipation factor to improve instability by adding a smoothing term or a dissipation term, but the dissipation coefficient should not be too large, otherwise numerical instability will occur. In the simulation of large-amplitude sloshing problems, the instability can be overcome by reducing the time step and simultaneously reducing the dissipation factor. In most of the numerical models used in the past, the selection of the dissipation factor and the time step often need to be conservative to avoid calculation instability.

In the long-term simulation of the nonlinear sloshing problem, the traditional method is timeconsuming. The proposed method can adjust the parameters and save computation time, and the result is stable under long-term calculation. This model simulates the sloshing problem under different conditions by changing the time step and the dissipation factor. Here, we consider the time steps of 5 series to be 1.0e-2, 1.0e-3, 5.0e-4, 1.0e-4, and 1.0e-5, respectively, as shown in Fig. 5. The dissipative factor of the method has a linear relationship with the time step, and the method is verified to have a relational expression of $\alpha = 2074\Delta t + 3.793$. This result shows that this method can help the user adjust the parameters according to different processing problems and obtain a stable solution quickly. Therefore, we can choose $\Delta t = 1.0e-2$ (total CPU time $t_t =$ 22.6 s) with a corresponding dissipation factor more than 700 times faster than that of $\Delta t =$ 1.0e-5 (total CPU time $t_t = 16654.4$ s) to obtain the same result, as shown in Fig. 6.



Figure 3: When $\omega = 5.7$ rad/s, the resonance simulation of rectangular sloshing tank without baffle, (a) the number of iterations of BVP by CGM, (b) the number of iterations of IVP by GPS, which the CPU calculation time is 1067.148282 s



Figure 4: The wave history on the tank's walls under forced vibration; the period of the beating is 101.2 s

When approaching the resonant frequency, in Fig. 7a and the parameters are as follows: tank width W = 1.0 (m), static water depth D = 0.5 (m), dissipation factor $\alpha = 9.5$, amplitude d = 0.002, $\Delta t = 0.01$ s and the angular frequency is $\omega = 5.29$ (rad/s). The boundary point configurations are shown in Fig. 7a lower-left corner. We compare the elevations at the right-end of the free surfaces of the MSTM and Saoudi et al. [33] for $t_f = 9$ s, as shown in Fig. 7a. We find that the wave height diverges with increasing calculation time but still satisfies the linear theory. The wave height of MSTM + ISGL is shown in Chen et al. [28]. The wave height tends to diverge as the calculation time increases and satisfies the linear theory, which is consistent with the results of the study described by Kita et al. [10]. This verified that numerical dissipation and instability can be overcome by observing the dynamic behaviour of discrete points on the free surface on the right end of the tank. In Fig. 7b, to prove that this model was still feasible under large-amplitude the parameters were as same as above, we changed amplitude d = 0.2 and $\Delta t = 0.001$ s. The boundary point configurations were shown in Fig. 7b upper-left corner.



Figure 5: A linear relationship between the dissipation factor and the time step under $\omega = 5.5$ rad/s for the total calculation time of 10 s



Figure 6: Comparison considering different dissipation factors and time steps under $\omega = 5.5$ rad/s in the total calculation time of 10 s

Because the free surface is not easily disturbed by the transient external force, we consider the harmonic force and transient force simultaneously. Fig. 8 was shown the 3 transient pulse waves (at 2.5, 5, and 7.5 s) with the sloshing simulation in 10 s. In this case the large harmonic excitation amplitude d = 0.01 m, and the transient pulse wave amplitude d = 0.1 m. Comparison with transient wave excitation and without transient wave excitation, the simulation results are shown in Figs. 9a and 9b. The result proves that this method is not affected by the external transient

wave excitation and still maintains stability. It can be seen from Figs. 7-9 that the method can obtain stable and correct solutions regardless of the simulation results of large amplitude, small amplitude, or burst waves, which proves that the method is indeed effective in a variety of external force excitation modes.



Figure 7: (a) Comparison of the free surface elevation at the left wall determined by the present numerical solution and the work of Saoudi et al. [33]. (b) Large amplitudes of the free surface elevation at the left wall



Figure 8: Input 3 large amplitude transient pulse waves within 10 seconds (at 2.5, 5 and 7.5 s)

5.1 Simulation of Rectangular Tanks with a Baffle

For simulating the sloshing problem under an external force, the tank model was shown in Fig. 1a sketch of the baffled tanks was shown in Fig. 10. The parameters were shown as follows: D = 0.5 m, W = 1.0 m, T = 0.01 m, d = 0.002 m and $\omega = 5.7 \text{ rad/s}$. Fig. 10a shows the sizes of the vertical baffled tank with $B_1 = 0.5 \text{ m}$ and H = 0.75D m, and Fig. 10b shows the sizes of the horizontal baffle tank with $B_1 = 0.1 \text{ m}$ and H = 0.4 m. As shown in Fig. 11,

the initial characteristic length was smooth, and the boundary point configurations were shown in Figs. 11a and 11b lower right corner. The test cases result in aspect ratios (H/T) of 37.5 and 40, as shown in Figs. 11a and 11b, which were much higher than the upper limit of the traditional FEM. Under the periodic excitation input of the external force, the free surface receives an external force within 10 s. The result of the vertical baffled tank under forced excitation by MSTM is shown in Fig. 12. The maximum amplitude stops increasing and remains at 0.01 m after 2 s. Therefore, the baffle can effectively suppress the sloshing reaction and is consistent with the numerical results reported by Saoudi et al. [33]. To verify that the vertical baffle effectively suppresses the rectangular tank sloshing and that the suppression effect is remarkable, Fig. 2b is compared to Fig. 12a; the maximum amplitude of 0.05 m without the baffle can be decreased to 0.01 m. In order to verify the influence of the baffle in different positions in Fig. 12b, the parameters are as follows: D = 0.5 m, W = 1.0 m, T = 0.01 m, d = 0.002 m, and $\omega = 5.7$ rad/s. The sizes of the vertical baffled tank with $B_1 = 0.25$ m and H = 0.75D m, the results showed that moving the baffle to the left, the maximum amplitude of 0.01 m with middle baffle can be decreased to 0.001 m.



Figure 9: Comparison with large amplitude of (a) with 3 transient pulse wave (at 2.5, 5 and 7.5 s) (b) without transient pulse wave in 10 s at the right wall

The numerical results of the free surface displacement on the right end of the tank are compared with the numerical results described by Liu et al. [34]. The results are shown to be in good agreement. To test the accuracy and stability of the algorithm, it was found that the results analysed by this algorithm, as shown in Fig. 13a, are very consistent with the results of other methods before $t_t = 10$ s. When considering two horizontal baffles is the same as the direction of the external force as shown in Fig. 13b, the amplitude cannot be decreased. The effect of free surface of liquids satisfies the fundamentals of ship stability. Hence, the results show that good agreement has been achieved, and the numerical results are almost identical. Most numerical methods often cause discrete errors when dealing with thin-plate problems. To address such problems, special treatment methods are often required. Therefore, the equal-norm

multiple-scale characteristic length that this algorithm obtains is sufficient and satisfies the linear equation, successfully overcoming the degenerate boundary problem.



Figure 10: Sketch of baffled tanks: (a) vertical and (b) horizontal



Figure 11: The initial contours of the characteristic lengths and collocation points in rectangular baffled tanks: (a) vertical and (b) horizontal



Figure 12: Comparison of the calculation results of a single vertical baffled tank from the proposed method and the literature (a) middle location (b) left location



Figure 13: The numerical results of a rectangular tank with horizontal baffles: (a) one and (b) two



Figure 14: Sketch of baffled tanks: (a) empty (b) vertical baffle

5.2 Simulation of a Trapezoidal Tank

According to the results described by Mitra et al. [35], the basic sloshing frequency is calculated to be 2.39 rad/s when the static water depth in the trapezoidal tank is H = 4 m. To show that the method has high precision and stability under large-amplitude sloshing, the trapezoidal tanks considered here are shown in Fig. 14: the static water depth is D = 4 m, and the tank surface width is $W_1 = 6.0$ m. The vertical baffle with a thickness of T = 0.01 m is located in the middle of the trapezoidal tank, the bottom width of the tank is $W_2 = 2.0$ m, and $\beta = 63.435$. The initial characteristic length is smooth, as shown in Fig. 15. The basic sloshing frequency is set to 2.39 rad/s, and its horizontal acceleration $A(t) = \sin(2.78t)$ is excited by harmonics. The parameter settings are the same for the dissipation factor, the amplitude (d = 10 Gal), and the angular frequency, and the other related parameters are the same as those for the small-amplitude case of the rectangular tank. As the results show in Fig. 16a, we find that the wave height diverges with increasing calculation time and satisfies the linear theory when approaching the resonant frequency. For the aspect ratio (H/T) of 400, the results are shown in Fig. 16b. As shown in the figure, the use of a trapezoidal tank with a vertical baffle can efficiently reduce the amplitude of the free surface and the maximum amplitude of 0.8 m without the baffle can be decreased to 0.06 m. Therefore, this method does not need to perform node encryption due to the high aspect ratio of the baffle and only needs to consider an even distribution to achieve stable results.



Figure 15: The initial contours of the characteristic lengths and collocation points in trapezoidal baffled tanks: (a) vertical and (b) horizontal



Figure 16: The elevation of the free surface of the trapezoidal tank with resonance frequency (a) without baffles (b) with a single vertical baffled

6 Conclusions

In this study, the MSTM is used to solve the nonlinear sloshing problem of the baffled tank and combines the explicit/implicit Lie-group scheme to integrate into the time domain to accurately perform the simulation analysis. When the time integration scheme based on the generalized linear group is used for time integration, the nonlinear term of the free surface boundary condition can be easily handled. This algorithm successfully improves the computational efficiency and stability of the solutions for the IVP and BVP when considering a baffle with a large aspect ratio. In this paper, five cases are used to verify the numerical stability of this simulation model, including two standard sloshing tests and three single-baffle sloshing tests. The numerical results are compared with the previous literature, and numerical results of different parameters are carried out in these cases. The numerical results show that overcoming the problem of small geometric scales and finding a linear relationship between the dissipation factor and the time step can make it easier for users to solve problems. Hence, the MSTM combined with the explicit/implicit Liegroup scheme not only easily and effectively solves this problem but also successfully simulates the nonlinear baffled tank sloshing problem under various conditions.

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