



Special Interest Group (SIG)
on Multiphase Flows in OpenFOAM[®]

Tutorial

Particles with pyFoam – The air classification test case

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Preamble

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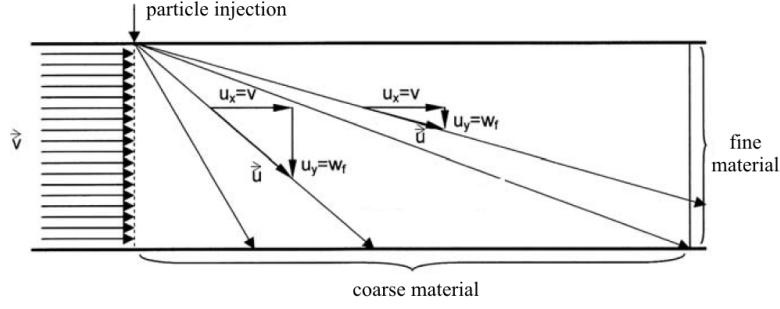


Figure 1: Stationary particle movement in horizontal fluid flow - principle of a cross-flow air classifier[1]

1 Introduction

1.1 Air Classification

Air Classifiers are commonly employed in technical industry where partly large product streams need to be separated into two or more particle sizes. The separation criterion, the sinking velocity, results from surface and body forces affecting a particle in a fluid. Forces affecting the surface of a particle as pressure and drag forces compete with body forces affecting the particle's mass as gravity, centrifugal or inertia forces.

In this case a cross-flow air classifier is simulated, where the resulting velocity of the particle \mathbf{u} is obtained by vector addition of the flow velocity of the fluid \mathbf{v} and the relative velocity between particle and fluid \mathbf{w} :

$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w} \quad (1)$$

The affecting force in horizontal direction is drag force, while the affecting force in vertical direction includes gravity, buoyancy and drag. In the special case of horizontal flow velocity, particles with lower sinking velocity due to the size of the particles or a lower difference in density between particle and fluid are taken further in fluid flow direction than particles with higher sinking velocity (see Figure 1).

From this, one obtains the particle distribution of a particle collective[2]. In general, a particle class is described by a range of a particle characteristic as, for instance, the particle diameter x . Using a histogram for the size distribution the particle distribution density $q_r(x)$ is shown on the ordinate and plotted versus particle size on the abscissa. Then area of a column $q_{r,i} \cdot \Delta x_i$ equates to the particle amount $\frac{\Delta m_i}{m_{tot}}$ (see Figure 2).

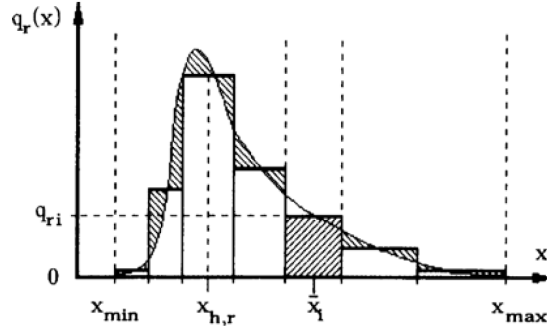


Figure 2: Particle distribution density[1]

1.2 Simulation of gas-solid particle flows using Euler-Lagrange approach

For the simulation of gas-solid particle flows the Euler-Lagrange approach is used here. The gas phase is treated with Eulerian method, so the incompressible Navier-Stokes equations are applied for the continuous phase. The momentum source term S_p on the right hand side of equation 2 includes the effect of the particles on the fluid phase.

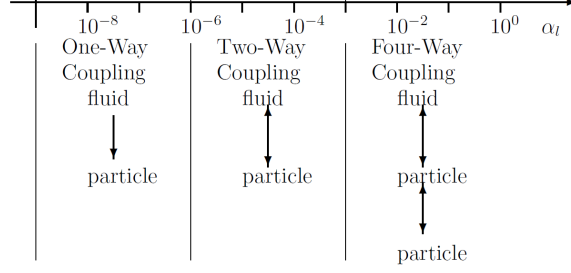
$$\frac{\partial \rho \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \rho \mathbf{U} \mathbf{U} = -\nabla p + \nabla \cdot (\mu (\nabla \mathbf{U} + \nabla \mathbf{U}^T)) + \rho g + S_p \quad (2)$$

In contrast, the particles are simulated in a Lagrangian way. Therefore, they are tracked on a grid using the differential equations for particle motion that are based on Newton's 2nd law. The net force acting on each individual particle is calculated considering all the relevant forces. Forces acting on each particle as gravity or drag force are summed up as \mathbf{F}_p , forces due to particle-particle interaction are summarized as \mathbf{F}_c [2]. (Eq. 3 and 4)

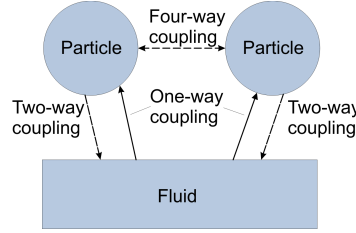
$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{X}_p}{\partial t} = \mathbf{U}_p \quad (3)$$

$$m_p \frac{\partial \mathbf{U}_p}{\partial t} = \sum \mathbf{F}_p + \sum \mathbf{F}_c \quad (4)$$

In general, if more than one phase is simulated, the interaction of the phases is considered by coupling. These effects strongly depend on the particle phase fraction. One-way coupling is given when the fluid affects the discrete phase through forces as drag force (Eq. 4). If there is an additional reverse effect, the flow is two-way coupled. This is gained by the implementation of a momentum source term in the continuous phase equation (Eq. 2).



(a) Dependency of coupling on particle phase fraction[3]



(b) Coupling between gas and solid phase

Figure 3: Phase coupling of gas-solid flows

Three- and four-way coupling respectively is included if particle-particle interaction are taken into account. One way of modelling inter-particle forces are collision models, where an impact is described as a combination of mechanical forces acting on the colliding particles (Eq. 4). (see Fig. 3)

The explicit coupled solution algorithm for both phases in the Eulerian-Lagrangian framework is shown in fig. 4. At the beginning of the simulation data for the grid as well as boundary and initial conditions for the gas phase are imported and the particles are initialized. At the beginning of the time step Δt the continuous flow properties are calculated due to Finite Volume Method (FVM). Secondly, the individual motion calculation for the particles is executed in regard to the previously determined conditions of the continuous flow calculation. For this step sub-time stepping is available and mostly necessary if collision calculation is performed. After the particle motion the momentum source term for the gas phase is calculated and updated for the continuous phase calculation in the next time step - as long as the end time of the simulation is not reached.

1.3 Implementation of the particle class in rhoPisoAbscheidParcelFoam15

The rhoPisoAbscheidParcelFoam15 solver is a two-way coupled gas-solid flow solver. The particle class in OpenFOAM is implemented as an particle-cloud system, where the particle properties as position, diameter, mass or velocity are stored as data elements of a

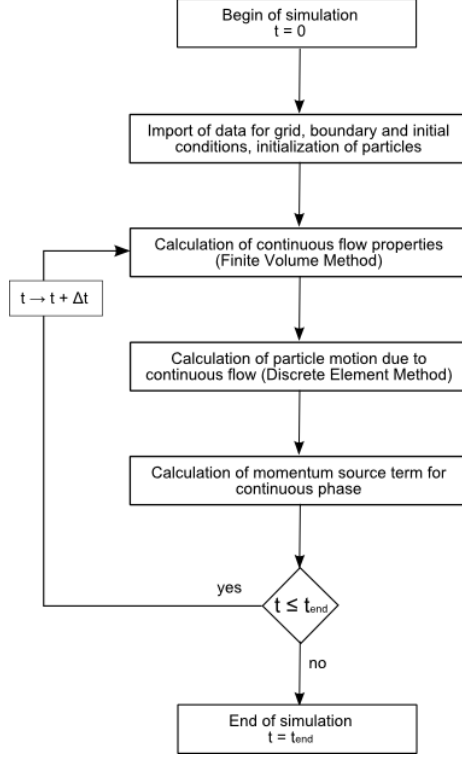


Figure 4: Explicit coupled solution algorithm

particle. The appropriate *cloud* integrates the attributes of the particles in a computational cell, e. g. the momentum source term introduced from all particles in a cell or the fluid flow properties of the gas phase in a certain cell.

Herein, we use `basicAbscheidCloud` as *cloud* and `basicAbscheidParcel` as *particle* class. In order to use them in top-level coding, we include the `basicAbscheideCloud.H` file in the header of our top-level code file `rhoPisoAbscheidParcelFoam.C` in line 37. At the beginning of the main part the initialization of the cloud is called using `#include "createClouds.H"` in line 49. During the initialization in the `createClouds.H` file, the object `kinematicCloud1` of the `basicAbscheideCloud` class is created. During the time loop the particles are moved calling `kinematicCloud1.evolve()` in line 71 and some information are passed back using `kinematicCloud1.info()` in line 72. Afterwards the continuous flow field is calculated solving the momentum equation, which is defined in `UEqn.H`, in line 80.

```

pointMesh pMesh(mesh);
volPointInterpolation vpi(mesh, pMesh);

Info<< "Constructing abscheideCloud1" << endl;
basicAbscheideCloud kinematicCloud1
(
    "kinematicCloud1",

```


vpi,	8
rho,	9
U,	10
thermo->mu(),	11
g	12
);	13

Source Code 1: createClouds.H

/*-----*/	1
=====	2
\\ / F i e l d O p e n F O A M : T h e O p e n S o u r c e C F D T o o l b o x	3
\\ / O p e r a t i o n	4
\\ / A n d C o p y r i g h t (C) 1 9 9 1 - 2 0 0 9 O p e n C F D L t d .	5
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Application	25
rhoPisoTwinParcelFoam	26
	27
Description	28
Transient solver for compressible, turbulent flow with two thermo-clouds.	29
	30
/*-----*/	31
	32
#include "fvCFD.H"	33
#include "basicThermo.H"	34
#include "compressible/RASModel/RASModel.H"	35
	36
#include "basicAbscheideCloud.H"	37
	38
// * * * * *	39
	40
int main(int argc, char *argv[])	41
{	42
#include "setRootCase.H"	43
	44

```

#include "createTime.H" 45
#include "createMesh.H" 46
#include "readEnvironmentalProperties.H" 47
#include "createFields.H" 48
#include "createClouds.H" 49
#include "readPISOControls.H" 50
#include "initContinuityErrs.H" 51
#include "readTimeControls.H" 52
#include "compressibleCourantNo.H" 53
#include "setInitialDeltaT.H" 54
55
// * * * * * 56

Info<< "\nStarting time loop\n" << endl; 57
58
while (runTime.run()) 59
{ 60
    #include "readTimeControls.H" 61
    #include "readPISOControls.H" 62
    #include "compressibleCourantNo.H" 63
    #include "setDeltaT.H" 64
    65
    runTime++; 66
    67
    Info<< "Time = " << runTime.timeName() << nl << endl; 68
    69
    kinematicCloud1.evolve(); 70
    kinematicCloud1.info(); 71
    72
    #include "rhoEqn.H" 73
    74
    // — PIMPLE loop 75
    for (int ocorr=1; ocorr<=nOuterCorr; ocorr++) 76
    { 77
        #include "UEqn.H" 78
        79
        // — PISO loop 80
        for (int corr=1; corr<=nCorr; corr++) 81
        { 82
            #include "hEqn.H" 83
            #include "pEqn.H" 84
        } 85
    } 86
    87
    turbulence->correct(); 88
    89
    rho = thermo->rho(); 90
    91
    runTime.write(); 92
    93
    Info<< "ExecutionTime = " << runTime.elapsedCpuTime() << " s" 94
        << " ClockTime = " << runTime.elapsedClockTime() << " s" 95
        << nl << endl; 96
    97
} 98
99
100

```

```

    Info<< "End\n" << endl;
    return 0;
}

// *****

```

Source Code 2: rhoPisoAbscheidParcelFoam.C

Having a closer look at the momentum equation in `UEqn.H`, one will find the momentum source term `kinematicCloud1.SU1()` due to particle-fluid interaction in line 7.

```

fvVectorMatrix UEqn
(
    fvm::ddt(rho, U)
    + fvm::div(phi, U)
    + turbulence->divDevRhoReff(U)
    ==
    kinematicCloud1.SU1()
    + rho.dimensionedInternalField()*g
);

UEqn.relax();

if (momentumPredictor)
{
    solve(UEqn == -fvc::grad(p));
}

```

Source Code 3: UEqn.H

As the `basicAbscheideCloud` and the `basicAbscheideParcel` are inherited from the `KinematicCloud` and `KinematicParcel` classes, they possess the same properties as the parent classes. They use all subModels as dispersion, drag or injection models of the `Kinematic` class. Each submodels is included into the derived class as can be seen in `makeBasicAbscheideParcelDispersionModels.C` for the dispersion models.

For the air classifier test case we should detect where the particles are deposited, e.g. which patch a particle touches. Therefore in the `basicAbscheideParcel.C` file an info output is produced, when accessing the `hitPatch` function in line 26.

```

/*-----*
\\      /  F ield      | OpenFOAM: The Open Source CFD Toolbox
\\      /  O peration   |

```

```

\\ /      A nd      | Copyright (C) 1991–2009 OpenCFD Ltd.      5
\\ /      M anipulation |                                         6
-----
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This file is part of OpenFOAM.                                     9

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Free Software Foundation; either version 2 of the License, or (at your 12
option) any later version.                                          13
                                                                    14
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You should have received a copy of the GNU General Public License     19
along with OpenFOAM; if not, write to the Free Software Foundation,   20
Inc., 51 Franklin St, Fifth Floor, Boston, MA 02110–1301 USA         21
                                                                    22
                                                                    23
                                                                    24
\\*-----*/
void Foam::basicAbscheideParcel::hitPatch
(
    const polyPatch& p,
    trackData& td
)
{
    Pout << "Abgeschieden at " << p.name() << " with m: " << mass() <<
        " N: " << nParticle() << " = total: " << mass()*nParticle() <<
endl;
                                                                    34
    KinematicParcel<basicAbscheideParcel>::hitPatch(p,td);          35

```

Source Code 4: basicAbscheideParcel.C

For further information on the underlying particle class, you will find the source code in the OpenFoam folder `src/lagrangian/intermediate`. Preferibly analyze the source code in Eclipse or an alternative Integrated Development Environment (IDE), use the native `rhoPisoTwinParcelFoam` solver and `simplifiedSiwek` case that can be found in `tutorials/lagrangian/rhoPisoTwinParcelFoam`.

1.4 Test case

The air classifier test case consists of a horizontal channel with two cavities for the classification of the particles. The particles are injected conoidally on the left side of the geometry.

In the `kinematicCloud1Properties` dictionary all properties concerning the particles are declared. For instance the particle models as the injection model, drag model or dispersion model are chosen. The coupled switch is set to `true`, so the momentum source term for

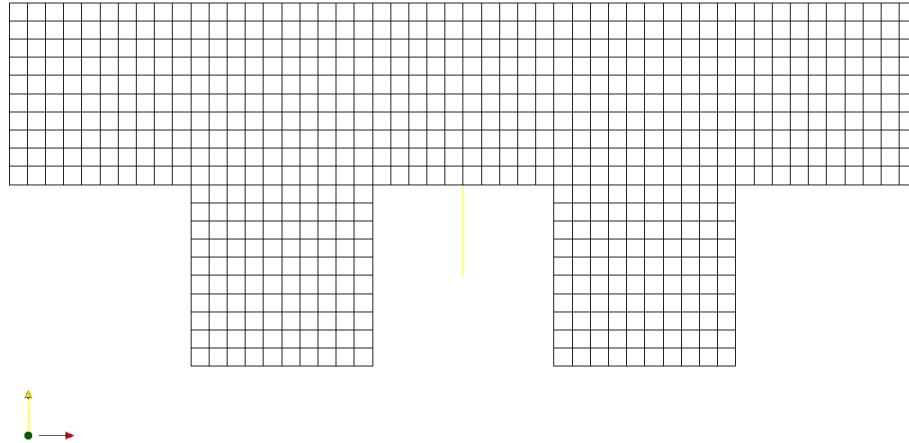


Figure 5: Mesh: air classifier

the particles will be evaluated. Additionally mass, density and particle size distribution of the particles are defined. The interpolation schemes for the continuous fluid phase for the calculation of particle motion are set.

```

/*-----* C++ -*-----*/ 1
|=====| 2
| \ \ / F i e l d | OpenFOAM: The Open Source CFD Toolbox | 3
| \ \ / O p e r a t i o n | Version: 1.6 | 4
| \ \ / A n d | Web: www.OpenFOAM.org | 5
| \ \ / M a n i p u l a t i o n | | 6
/*-----*/ 7
FoamFile 8
{ 9
    version 2.0; 10
    format ascii; 11
    class dictionary; 12
    location "constant"; 13
    object kinematicCloud1Properties; 14
} 15
// * * * * * 16
InjectionModel ConeInjection; 17
18
19
DragModel SphereDrag; 20
21
DispersionModel StochasticDispersionRAS; 22
23
WallInteractionModel StandardWallInteraction; 24
25
PostProcessingModel none; 26
27
coupled true; 28
29
cellValueSourceCorrection on; 30
31

```

parcelTypeId	2;	32
		33
rhoMin	rhoMin [1 -3 0 0 0] 1e-15;	34
minParticleMass	minParticleMass [1 0 0 0 0] 1e-15;	35
rho0	rho0 [1 -3 0 0 0] 5000;	36
		37
interpolationSchemes		38
{		39
rho	cell;	40
U	cellPoint;	41
mu	cell;	42
}		43
		44
integrationSchemes		45
{		46
U	Euler;	47
}		48
		49
particleForces		50
{		51
gravity	on;	52
virtualMass	off;	53
pressureGradient	off;	54
}		55
		56
NoInjectionCoeffs		57
{		58
SOI	0.001;	59
}		60
		61
ConeInjectionCoeffs		62
{		63
SOI	1;	64
duration	0.5;	65
parcelsPerSecond	1000;	66
position	(0.01 0.05 0);	67
direction	(1 1 0);	68
volumeFlowRate	Constant;	69
volumeFlowRateCoeffs		70
{		71
value	1;	72
}		73
Umag	Constant;	74
UmagCoeffs		75
{		76
value	1;	77
}		78
thetaInner	Constant;	79
thetaInnerCoeffs		80
{		81
value	0.0;	82
}		83
thetaOuter	Constant;	84
thetaOuterCoeffs		85
{		86
value	30.0;	87

}	88
	89
parcelPDF	90
{	91
pdfType uniform;	92
RosinRammelerPDF	93
{	94
minValue 5e-05;	95
maxValue 0.0001;	96
d (7.5e-05);	97
n (0.5);	98
}	99
uniformPDF	100
{	101
minValue 5e-05;	102
maxValue 0.0001;	103
}	104
}	105
	106
	107
StandardWallInteractionCoeffs	108
{	109
e e [0 0 0 0 0] 1;	110
mu mu [0 0 0 0 0] 0;	111
}	112
	113
parcelBasisType mass;	114
massTotal m [1 0 0 0 0 0 0] 0.01;	115
	116
PatchInjectionCoeffs	117
{	118
SOI 1;	119
duration 0.5;	120
parcelsPerSecond 1000;	121
U0 (1 0 0);	122
volumeFlowRate constant 1;	123
parcelPDF	124
{	125
pdfType uniform;	126
RosinRammelerPDF	127
{	128
minValue 5e-05;	129
maxValue 0.0001;	130
d (7.5e-05);	131
n (0.5);	132
}	133
uniformPDF	134
{	135
minValue 5e-05;	136
maxValue 0.0001;	137
}	138
}	139
patchName inlet;	140
}	141
	142
// ***** //	143

2 Postprocessing and parameter variation for apparatus optimization with PyFoam

2.1 Scripting with Python

In this chapter we would like to present the opportunities in using the Python binding for scripting in OpenFOAM: PyFoam[4]. This Python[5] library can be used to

- analyze the log files produced by OpenFOAM
- execute the parameter files and the initial conditions of a simulation
- plot residuals of OpenFOAM solvers

For further information on PyFoam, have a look at the presentation "Happy Foaming with Python" from the 4th OpenFOAM workshop [6] or the presentation from the 5th OpenFOAM workshop on "Automatization with pyFoam"[7].

2.2 PyFoam Installation

The installation will follow the OpenFOAM wiki [4]. Download the latest version of PyFoam - we use PyFoam-0.5.3 and follow the installation instruction for the installation as root as described in chapter 3 of the wiki entry. Copy the .tar-file to user-1.5/applications/utilities/ and extract the file using `tar -xzf PyFoam-0.5.3.tar.gz`. Go into the PyFoam folder and login as root typing `su`. Install PyFoam: `python setup.py install`. Don't forget to logout as root. Test the installation as described on the OpenFOAM wiki.

2.3 Running the test case with PyFoam

Compile the solver `rhoPisoAbscheidParcelFoam15` and create the mesh of the `dreiAbscheidCavities15` case using `blockMesh`. Then go into the `Scripts` folder and execute `runAndAnalyzeSolver.py` using `python runAndAnalyzeSolver.py`

../dreiAbscheidCavities15. This Python scripts runs your test case automatically and summarizes your particle data.

```

#!/usr/bin/python 1
2
import re,sys 3
4
from PyFoam.LogAnalysis.LogLineAnalyzer import LogLineAnalyzer 5
from PyFoam.LogAnalysis.BoundingLogAnalyzer import BoundingLogAnalyzer 6
from PyFoam.Execution.AnalyzedRunner import AnalyzedRunner 7
8
class AbscheideAnalyzer(LogLineAnalyzer): 9
    def __init__(self): 10
        LogLineAnalyzer.__init__(self) 11
12
        self.massLeft=0 13
        self.removed={} 14
15
        self.removedExpr=re.compile("Abgeschieden at (.+) with m: (.+) N: (.+) 16
                                   = total: (.+)" 17
        self.massExpr=re.compile("Current mass in system = (.+)" 18
19
    def analyzeLine(self,line): 20
        m=self.removedExpr.match(line) 21
        if m!=None: 22
            name=m.groups()[0] 23
            mass=float(m.groups()[1]) 24
            nr=float(m.groups()[2]) 25
            total=float(m.groups()[3]) 26
27
            try: 28
                self.removed[name]+=total 29
            except KeyError: 30
                self.removed[name] =total 31
32
        m=self.massExpr.match(line) 33
        if m!=None: 34
            self.massLeft=float(m.groups()[0]) 35
36
    def doReport(self): 37
        summe=self.massLeft 38
        print "Mass left in system:",self.massLeft 39
        for k,v in self.removed.iteritems(): 40
            print "Removed by",k,":",v 41
            summe+=v 42
        print "Total mass accounted for:",summe 43
44
    def addTimeListener(self,other): 45
        pass 46
47
case=sys.argv[1] 48
49
abscheid=AbscheideAnalyzer() 50
51
run=AnalyzedRunner(abscheid, 52

```

<pre> argv=["rhoPisoAbscheidParcelFoam", "-case", case], silent=True) run.start() abscheid.doReport() </pre>	53 54 55 56 57
--	----------------------------

Source Code 6: runSolverAndAnalyze.py

In the first lines of `runSolverAndAnalyze.py` the system libraries `re` and `sys` as well as the `PyFoam` libraries for the analyzation of the generated log file are imported. In ll. 9 a new class `AbscheideAnalyzer` is defined by inheritance of the `LogLineAnalyzer` class. This class observes the output produced from the `hitPatch` function in `basicAbscheidParcel` class (see `basicAbscheidParcel.C`, ll. 26) and registers every time a particle leaves through a patch and performs mass evaluation. The `analyzeLine` method (ll. 20) checks whether one of the expressions generated from `hitPatch` was matched and updates data of left particles at the respective patch and mass in current system. In ll. 50 an `AbscheidAnalyzer` object is created and simulation run and report are accomplished. [7]

For a first impression of the post processing, have a look at your case in `paraview`. The `OpenFOAM` parser `paraFoam` cannot view Lagrangian particles, so the Lagrangian data needs to be converted to the VTK format using `foamToVTK`. Then start `paraview` using the `paraview` command. Now, in `paraview` open the `.vtk`-file of your test case, by clicking on `Open File`, open the VTK folder of your test case and the `dreiaAbscheidCavities15_.vtk` file in the VTK folder. This reads in your Eulerian data. Click the `apply` button and reduce the opacity in the `display` tab to have a look at your mesh and Eulerian data. Now open the Lagrangian data opening the `kinematicCloud1_.vtk` file in `VTK/lagrangian/kinematicCloud1` and confirm with the `apply` button.

Create glyphs to visualize your particles. Set the glyph type to sphere and the scale mode to scalar and make sure, that the scale factor is set to something like 20. Your visualized data should look like Fig. 6.

One of `PyFoam`'s strengths is running test cases automatically. For the air classifier test case the inlet velocity is varied in line 20 of the `inletVelocityVariation.py` script. Run the script using `python inletVelocityVariation.py ../dreiaAbscheidCavities15 inletVariation`. Additionally, an `inletVariation.csv` file holding the particle data will be created. Continue evaluating this `inletVariaton.csv` file.

The `inletVariation.py` script is based on `runAndAnalyze.py` supplemented by the function `addCSVLine` (see ll. 15) that adds data to a `CSVCollector` (a convenience-class for generating a consistent `csv`-file) and a `for` loop the the inlet velocity variation (see ll. 20). In the `for` loop the inlet velocity is set to defined values by changing the respective `OpenFOAM` file, this is done using the `pyFoam` library `ParsedParameterFile` that is

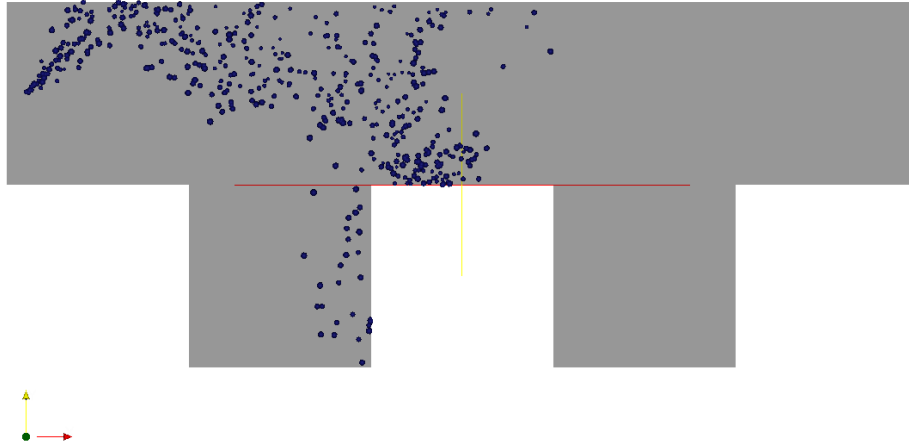


Figure 6: Visualization of particles in air classifier

capable editing entries for boundary and initial conditions. Therefore this library is included at the beginning of the script besides the ClearCase and CSVCollection libraries. [7]

```

#! /usr/bin/python
1
2
import re,sys
3
from os import path
4
5
from PyFoam.LogAnalysis.LogLineAnalyzer import LogLineAnalyzer
6
from PyFoam.LogAnalysis.BoundingLogAnalyzer import BoundingLogAnalyzer
7
from PyFoam.Execution.AnalyzedRunner import AnalyzedRunner
8
from PyFoam.Applications.ClearCase import ClearCase
9
from PyFoam.RunDictionary.ParsedParameterFile import ParsedParameterFile
10
from PyFoam.Basics.CSVCollection import CSVCollection
11
12
class AbscheideAnalyzer(LogLineAnalyzer):
13
14
    def addCSVLine(self, csv):
15
        csv["mass left in system"] = self.massLeft
16
        for k, v in self.removed.iteritems():
17
            csv[k] = v
18
19
for v in [0.1, 0.5, 1, 1.5, 2, 3]:
20
    print "Velocity set to", v
21
    ClearCase(args=["."])
22
    uInit = ParsedParameterFile(path.join(case, "0", "U"))
23
    uInit["boundaryField"]["inlet"]["value"].setUniform([v, 0, 0])
24
    uInit.writeFile()
25

```

Source Code 7: inletVelocityVariation.py

3 Homework – Scripting with Python

Optimization of the inlet velocity

Based on `inletVelocityVariation.py` write your own Python script that automatically finds the optimal inlet velocity, so that as much as possible particles hit the second cavity.

Variation of another variable

Write a new Python script that varies another variable, for instance the direction of injection.

References

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