

COL865: Special Topics in Computer Applications

# **Physics-Based Animation**

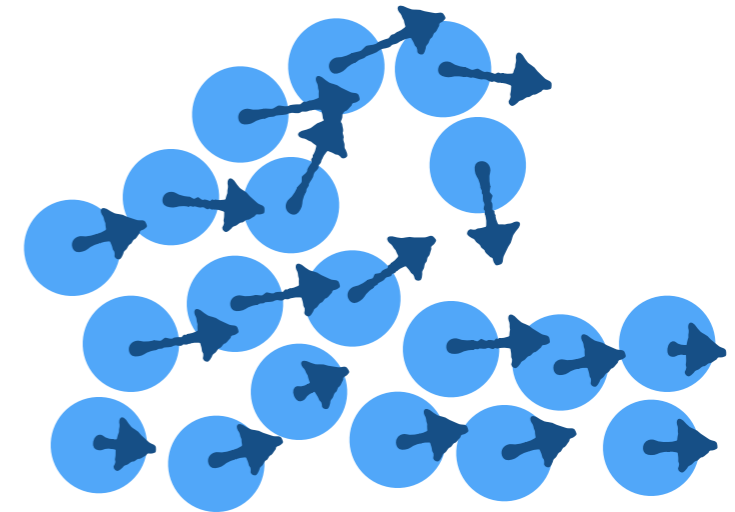
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**15 – Fluid simulation with particles**

# Particles

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Throw away the grid, do everything with only particles



Particle data: mass  $m_i$ , position  $\mathbf{x}_i$ , velocity  $\mathbf{v}_i$

How to solve Navier-Stokes equations?

$$\rho D\mathbf{v}/Dt = -\nabla p + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{f}_{\text{ext}}$$

# Particles

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$$\rho D\mathbf{v}/Dt = -\nabla p + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{f}^{\text{ext}}$$

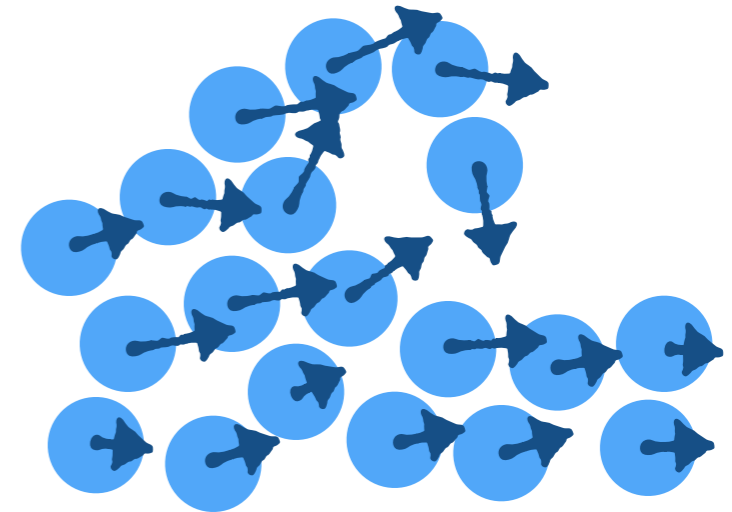
- **Advection** is trivial: Just move particles
- For now, treat fluid as compressible: **pressure** is function of density, e.g.

$$p = k((\rho - \rho_0)^7 - 1)$$

$$d\mathbf{x}_i/dt = \mathbf{v}_i$$

$$m_i d\mathbf{v}_i/dt = \mathbf{F}_i$$

$$= V_i (-\nabla p(\mathbf{x}_i) + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}_i) + \mathbf{f}_i^{\text{ext}})$$



How to compute spatial derivatives  $\nabla p$ ,  $\nabla^2 \mathbf{v}$ ?

Standard strategy: reconstruct smooth function, differentiate

# Smoothed particle hydrodynamics

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## *Readings:*

- Müller et al., “Particle-Based Fluid Simulation for Interactive Applications”, 2003
- Becker & Teschner, “Weakly Compressible SPH for Free Surface Flows”, 2007

For further reference:

- ***Theoretical background:*** Monaghan, “Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics”, 2005
- ***State-of-the-art survey in graphics:*** Ihmsen et al., “SPH Fluids in Computer Graphics”, 2014

# Interpolation via smoothing

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Given values  $A_i$  at particles  $\mathbf{x}_i$ , estimate  $A(\mathbf{x})$

Define **kernel function**  $W(\mathbf{x}, h)$

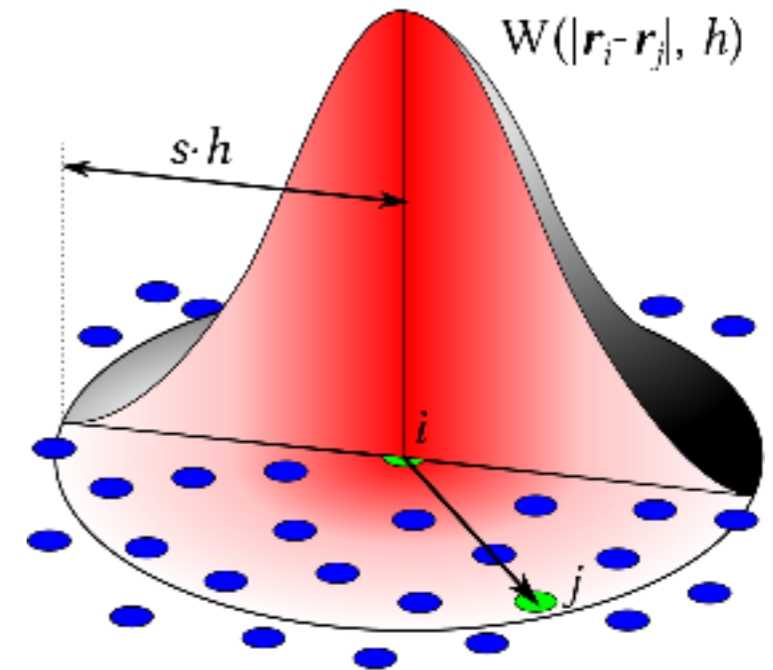
Then what?

- **Weighted sum:**  $A(\mathbf{x}) \stackrel{?}{=} \sum A_i W(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}_i, h)$

Doesn't work if particles are too close / too far

- **Weighted average:**  $A(\mathbf{x}) \stackrel{?}{=} (\sum A_i W(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}_i, h)) / (\sum W(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}_i, h))$

Works, but denominator makes differentiation complicated



# SPH interpolation

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We can use  $W$  to smooth a function:

$$A_{\text{smooth}}(\mathbf{x}) = \iiint A(\mathbf{x}') W(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}', h) dV'$$

Discretize volume integral over particles:

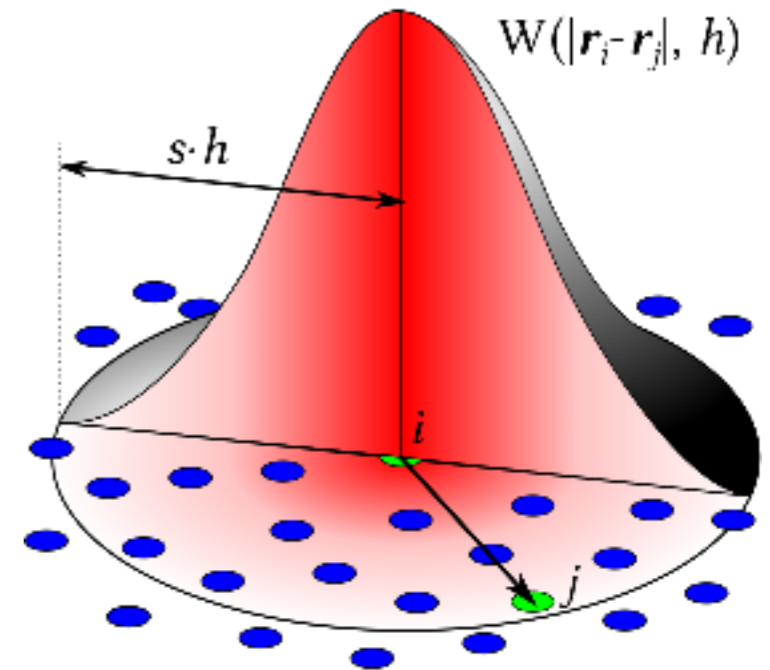
$$A_s(\mathbf{x}) = \sum A_i W(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}_i, h) V_i$$

What is volume  $V_i$  for a particle?

Suppose(!) we know density  $\rho_i = \rho(\mathbf{x}_i)$ . Then  $V_i = m_i/\rho_i$

Plug it in:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(\mathbf{x}) &= \sum \rho_i W(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}_i, h) m_i/\rho_i \\ &= \sum m_i W(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}_i, h) \end{aligned}$$



# SPH interpolation

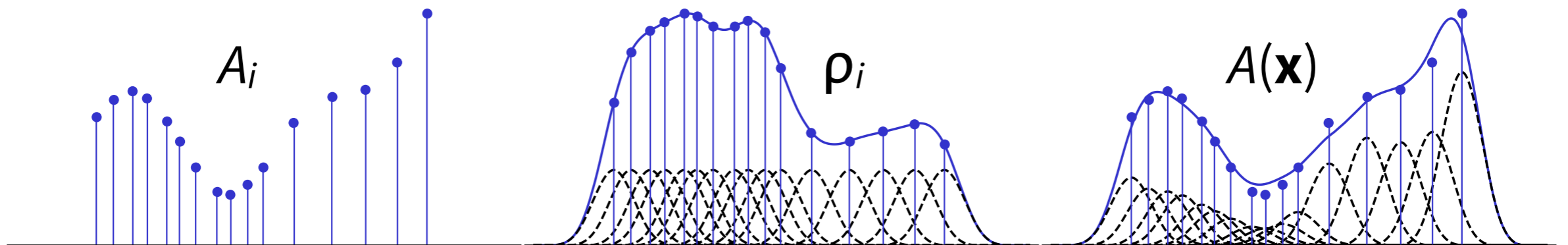
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1. Compute density at each particle

$$\rho_i = \sum m_j W(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j, h)$$

2. Interpolate other quantities

$$A(\mathbf{x}) = \sum (m_i/\rho_i) A_i W(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i, h)$$



Smoothing effect:  $A(\mathbf{x}_i) \neq A_i$

# Choice of kernel

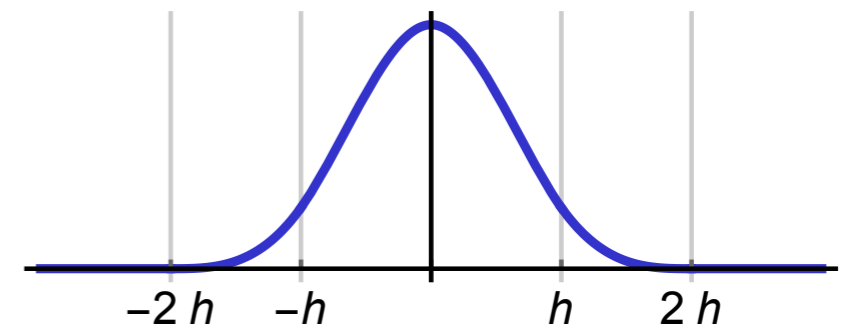
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Desirable properties of  $W(\mathbf{x}, h)$ :

- Decreasing with  $\|\mathbf{x}\|$
- $\iiint W(\mathbf{x}, h) dV = 1$
- Finite support:  $W(\mathbf{x}, h) = 0$  when  $\|\mathbf{x}\|/h$  is large
  - Sum only over nearby nearby particles,  
use uniform grid to accelerate neighbour search

Typical choice: cubic spline [Ihmsen et al. 2014], though others also used

Choice of  $h$ : usually close to particle spacing





# Derivatives

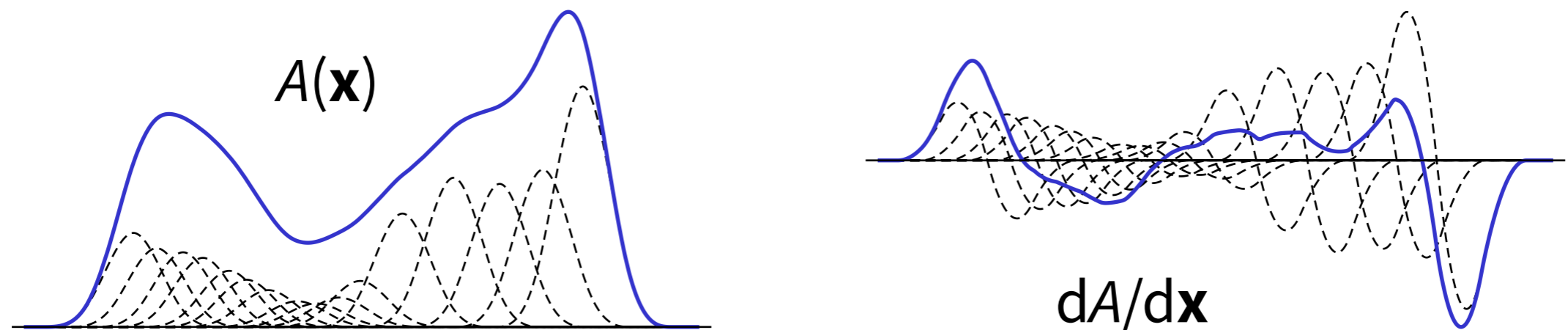
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Derivatives just require differentiating the kernel:

$$A(\mathbf{x}) = \sum (m_i/\rho_i) A_i W(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}_i, h)$$

$$\nabla A(\mathbf{x}) = \sum (m_i/\rho_i) A_i \nabla W(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}_i, h)$$

$$\nabla^2 A(\mathbf{x}) = \sum (m_i/\rho_i) A_i \nabla^2 W(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}_i, h)$$



# SPH forces

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Now that we have  $\rho_i$ , we can set particle volume  $V_i = m_i/\rho_i$ , and particle pressure  $p_i = p(\rho_i)$

$$m_i d\mathbf{v}_i/dt = V_i (-\nabla p(\mathbf{x}_i) + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}_i) + \mathbf{f}_i^{\text{ext}})$$

Forces on particle  $i$ :

- **Pressure:**  $\mathbf{F}_i^p = -m_i/\rho_i \nabla p(\mathbf{x}_i)$
- **Viscosity:**  $\mathbf{F}_i^v = m_i \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}_i)$
- **Body force:**  $\mathbf{F}_i^{\text{ext}}$

Just apply SPH derivatives?

# SPH forces

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$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{F}_i^p &= -m_i/\rho_i \nabla p(\mathbf{x}_i) \\ &= -m_i/\rho_i \sum (m_j/\rho_j) p_j \nabla_i W_{ij}\end{aligned}$$

**Problem:** force on  $i$  due to  $j \neq$   $-$ force on  $j$  due to  $i$

Various solutions:

- Just replace  $p_j$  with  $(p_i + p_j)/2$  [Müller et al. 2003]
- Compute  $\nabla p/\rho$  as  $\nabla(p/\rho) + p/\rho^2 \nabla \rho$  [Monaghan 2005]:

$$\left(\frac{\nabla p}{\rho}\right)_i = \sum_j m_j \left(\frac{p_i}{\rho_i^2} + \frac{p_j}{\rho_j^2}\right) \nabla_i W_{ij}$$

# SPH forces

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$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{F}_i^v &= m_i v \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}_i) \\ &= m_i v \sum_j (m_j / \rho_j) \mathbf{v}_j \nabla_i^2 W_{ij}\end{aligned}$$

## Problems:

- Force is nonzero for rigid motion, or even if all  $\mathbf{v}_i$  are equal!
- Second derivative causes numerical difficulties

Physically consistent formula [Monaghan 2005]:

$$(\nabla^2 \mathbf{v})_i = 2(d + 2) \sum_j \frac{m_j}{\rho_j} \frac{\mathbf{v}_{ij} \cdot \mathbf{x}_{ij}}{\|\mathbf{x}_{ij}\|^2 + 0.01 h^2} \nabla_i W_{ij}$$

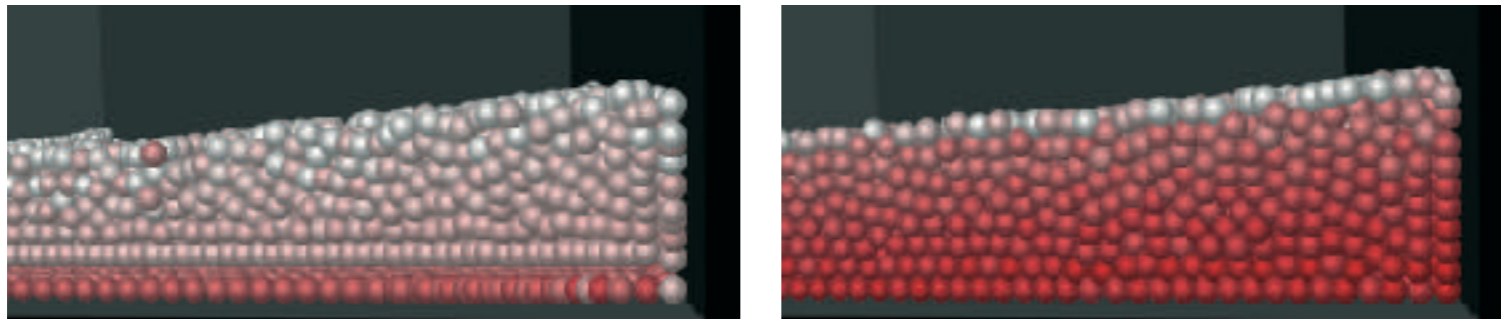


Cheap hack: Just update  $\mathbf{v}_i += \varepsilon \sum_j (m_j / \rho_j) (\mathbf{v}_j - \mathbf{v}_i) W_{ij}$

# Boundary issues

SPH interpolation doesn't know about boundaries

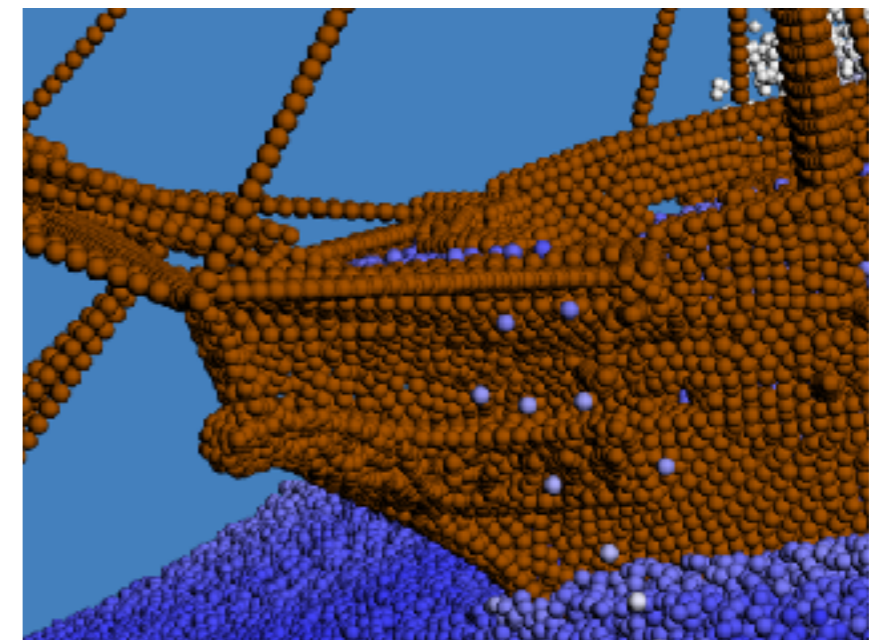
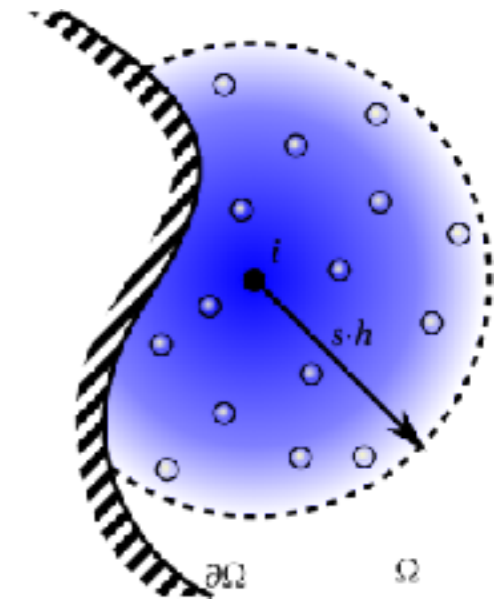
**Particle deficiency** → density underestimated  
→ clumping, sticking



[Ihmsen et al. 2010]

**Solution:** sample solids with particles too, include in  $\rho$ ,  $p$  computation

See Ihmsen et al. survey, Ch 4



[Akinci et al. 2012]

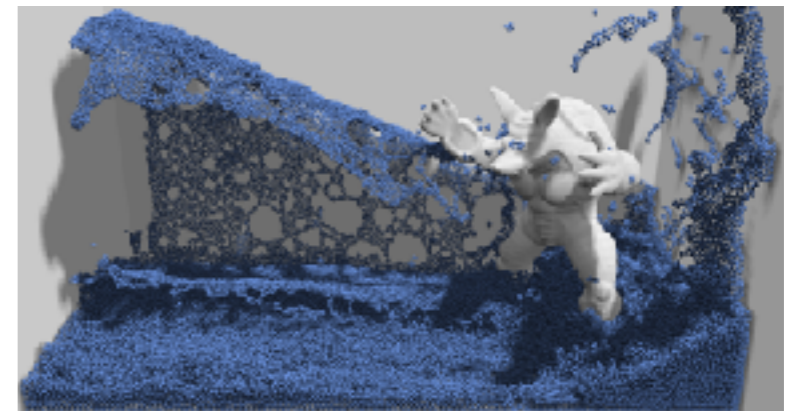
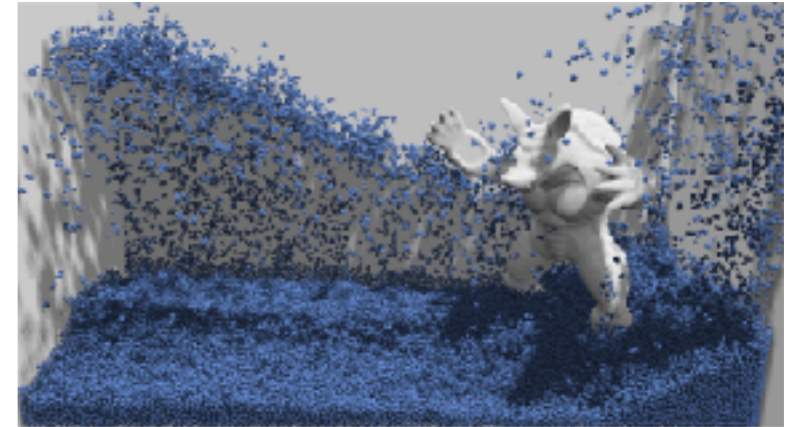
# Boundary issues

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Same problem at free surfaces:  
***tensile instability***

- Create ghost particles [Schechter & Bridson 2012]
- Or add a repulsion term to prevent clumping [Macklin & Müller 2012, Akinci et al. 2013]

Surface tension can be added in various ways, see Ihmsen et al. survey Ch 6.3



[Macklin & Müller 2012]



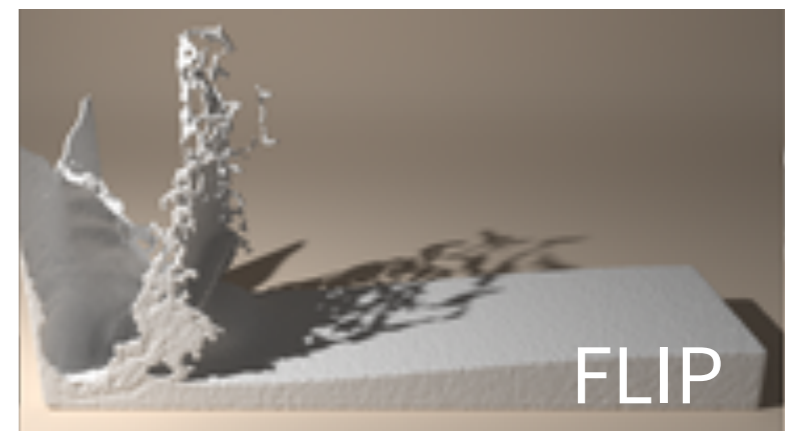
[Akinci et al. 2013]

# Summary

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Core idea of SPH is simple, but consistent handling of forces, boundaries is more complicated

- Stability: small time steps, artificial viscosity
- Incompressible fluids with SPH:  
PCISPH [Solenthaler & Pajarola 2009],  
IISPH [Ihmsen et al. 2013],  
DFSPH [Bender & Koschier 2015]
- Parameter tuning usually needed
- Better splashes than grid fluids for same resolution (but more compute)



[Um et al. 2017]