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How can we reduce pressure drag behind a solid bluff body by a passive technique?

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#### Known techniques of passive/active flow control:

- Injection of micro-bubbles and/or polymers
- Riblets

- ...

- Compliant walls
- Viscosity modifier
- Vortex generators

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Why not use a

passive hairy coating?



sea otter









Prof. Ingo Rechenberg, TU Berlin http://www.bionik.tu-berlin.de/institut/xs2vogel.html

aerofoil with silk flaps



flow visualisation



#### Prof. Ingo Rechenberg, TU Berlin http://www.bionik.tu-berlin.de/institut/xs2vogel.html



Flexible, porous flaps delay stall ...

Prof. Ingo Rechenberg, TU Berlin http://www.bionik.tu-berlin.de/institut/xs2vogel.html GOAL: instead of a single flexible flap, let's model of a continuous *hairy/feathery* coating to affect lift and drag

## **Numerical challenges**





- Model mechanical properties of biological surfaces
- Structures with large displacements and large rotations
- Interaction between multiple structures

Coupling between a layer of oscillating densely packed structures and a unsteady separated boundary layer

## The initial configuration



Model of the layer?

Porous, anisotropic and compliant

### Modeling in 3 points

#### Modeling all feathers: too heavy ...

#### Must reduce the numbers of degrees of freedom





Dynamics of the layer

Approximation : Rigid reference element

E. De Langre, ARFM, 2008



### Fluid part...

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} + \nabla (\mathbf{U}\mathbf{U}) = -\frac{\nabla p}{\rho} + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{U} + \mathbf{F}; \ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{U} = 0$$

2D incompressible Volume forces formulation

Staggered grid Periodic boundary conditions, with buffer domain to treat I/O <u>Convective part</u>: Adams-Bashfort <u>Viscous part</u>: Crank-Nicolson Poisson and implicit parts solved using conjugate gradient

 $\rightarrow$  order 2 in space and time

### Fluid part ...

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} + \nabla (\mathbf{U}\mathbf{U}) = -\frac{\nabla p}{\rho} + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{U} + \mathbf{F} \, ; \, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{U} = 0$$

Regular cartesian mesh 200 x 400 (10L × 20L)





The dynamics of the layer is governed by the reference elements

#### The "skeleton" of the layer is governed by six terms in the angular momentum equation for each element







#### Explicit resolution: Runge-Kutta 4

 $m(l/2)^2\ddot{\theta}(k) = M_{spring}(k) + M_{rigidity}(k) + M_{dissip}(k) + M_{inertia}(k) + M_{ext}(k) , \ k = 1, \dots, N_c$ 

Equilibrium is reached after a sufficient number of sub-iterations For small masses: oscillations at long subtimes

#### **Implicit resolution: Non-linear Conjugate gradient**

 $M_{inertia}(k) + M_{spring}(k) + M_{rigidity}(k) + M_{dissip}(k) + M_{inertia}(k) + M_{ext}(k) , k = 1, \dots, N_c$ 

# How to evaluate the force imposed by the fluid onto the structures ...



Decomposition of the local relative velocity into a tangential and a normal contribution

### Homogenized part (fluid+structure) ...

- → Each cilium is a circular cylinder
- → At each point along the beam, the force is decomposed into a tangential and a normal contribution
- → Force on a random cluster of cylinders



### Homogenized part (fluid+structure) ...

#### Estimate of *F*<sub>t</sub>





For Re<180: same scaling in Reynolds as for  $F_n$ 

$$||\mathbf{F}_t^h|| = f_1(\phi, Re_t^h)$$

### Homogenized part (fluid+structure) ...

Inner constants of the layer: Density (nb/cm2), Diameter of cilia  $\mathcal{F}_n^h$  $\mu ||\mathbf{U}_n^h||$ Re<sup>h</sup> Force on a cilium, per unit length Symbols : min 10 theoretical model by mean Howells, JFM 1997 max 10<sup>2</sup>  $\mathcal{F}_t^h$  $\overline{\mu || \mathbf{U}_t^h ||}$ 10 10 10<sup>-2</sup> 10-3 10<sup>-1</sup> 10-4 10<sup>0</sup>  $F_{ext}(k) = \int_{V_{control}(k)} \left\| \boldsymbol{F}^{h} \right\| \mathrm{d}V$ 

### **Global overview**



### Algorithm Partitioned staggered in time



All routines in f90 Parallelized (auto and openmp), portable and runs on clusters In the structural model, the rigidity/elastic term, which models the structural flexibility of the hairy layer, is the most significant. It defines a natural time scale of the layer, through which a coupling with the fluid is allowed



$$\mathsf{T}_{\mathsf{structure}} \approx \pi \ l \ \sqrt{(m/K_r)}$$
  
 $\mathsf{T}_{\mathsf{fluid}} \approx St^{-1} \ D/U_{\infty}$ 

## Case 1: bare cylinder



## Case 2: rigid wall-normal hair



## Case 3: rigid longitudinal hair





## Case 4: moving hair











## Aerodynamic performances

	Cd	Cd'	Cl'	St
Case 1	1.3689 (1.39;1.356)	0.0274	0.4381	0.199 (0.199;0.198)
Case 2	3.1464	0.1943	1.1376	0.1946
Case 3	1.3035	0.0207	0.3839	0.1916
Case 4	1.2109	0.012	0.3008	0.1661

(Bergmann et al. Phys. Fluids 2005; He et al J. Fluid Mech. 2000)

## Aerodynamic perf.(ctd.)

	Cd	Cd'	Cl'	St
Case 1	ref	ref	ref	ref
Case 2	+130%	+608%	+160%	-2.21%
Case 3	-4.78%	-24.54%	-12.37%	-3.71%
Case 4	-11.54%	-56.09%	-31.34%	-16.53%

## **Physical mechanism**



## **Physical mechanism**



Contours of vertical velocity

Movements of reference cilia



Contours of vertical velocity

Force field

The hairy layer counteracts flow separation



# **Optimal** self-adaptive hairy layer



15% drag reduction

## 40% reduction in lift fluctuations

### Reducing pressure drag:

- ✓ Simulations show a reduction of pressure drag on a cylinder for a unsteady laminar flow (Re = 200).
- The motion of the hairy structures can improve aerodynamic performances
- The structural parameters of the actuators have been optimised
- Immediate perspectives concern flexible rods and turbulent configurations; possible applications to small underwater vehicles and to UAV/MAV (in the aeronautical field)

## and now, what about lift?



Consider a hairfoil: the control elements (the *feathers*) must be placed in the position of largest *sensitivity* to achieve an effect



# Preliminary runs with control elements going from 0.12 chord to 0.95 chord

 $\alpha = 15^{\circ}$   $< C_D > = 0.284$   $< C_L > = 0.579$ 

$T_{fluid} = 0.5 T_{structure}$	+ 1.35%	- 13%
$T_{fluid} = T_{structure}$	+ 2 %	- 10%
$T_{fluid} = 2 T_{structure}$	+ 3%	- 9%
$T_{fluid} = 4 T_{structure}$	- 0.2 %	+ 2.5%
$T_{fluid} = 8T_{structure}$	-7 %	- 11%

Results are similar when  $\alpha = 18^{\circ}$ , except that now  $<C_{L}>$  increases the most for  $T_{fluid} = 2 T_{structure}$ 



The amplitude of the oscillations decreases (the system's stability improves) as  $T_{structure}$  /

(i.e. 
$$m \uparrow l \uparrow K_r \setminus$$
)

A parametric resonance must be triggered to optimise the response of the system

#### Control elements within 0.06 chord and 0.45 chord

 $T_{structure} \approx T_{fluid} = 1.53$ 



$$\rho_{\text{feathers}} = 890 \text{ Kg/m}^3 \text{ (keratin)}$$





#### 40 chords x 20 chords

grid: 1200 x 600

Drag reduction by about 15% Lift reduction by about 40% About 60% reduction in the amplitude of the oscillations



### Mean pressure field



no control

with control

#### Issues left:

- extend the parametric search
- link the properties of the optimised structures to those of a suitable material
- wind tunnel/water channel tests (Ch. Brücker, U. Freiberg)



#### Engineering perspectives

MAV/UAV Car, trucks and trains – underwater vehicles Wind turbines Hydraulic machines (cavitation) Sound mitigation



#### Paleontological perspective

Dinosaur ancestry of birds: could the "feathery" dinousars discovered in the Liaoning province fly?

Fluid mechanics could say something on the role of those protofeathers ...



Ajit Ninan, 2009

