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Interaction between two spherical bubbles rising in a liquid DO-MINIQUE LEGENDRE, YANNICK HALLEZ, IMFT, INTERFACE TEAM — The main goal of the present study is to provide a complete description of the interaction between two bubbles for moderate bubble Reynolds number ( $20 \leq \text{Re} \leq 500$ , Re being based on the bubble diameter) and for positions described by the distance S (2.5  $\leq$  S  $\leq$  8, S being the ratio between the distance of centre and the bubble diameter) and  $(0^{\circ} \leq \theta \leq 90^{\circ})$  the angle formed between the line of centre and the horizontal. The value  $\theta = 0^{\circ}$  corresponds to the situation of two bubbles moving side by side (Legendre, Magnaudet and Mougin 2003 JFM, 497,133-166) and  $\theta=90^{\circ}$ to the axis-symmetric situation of two bubbles moving in line (Yuan & Prosperetti 1994 JFM, 278, 325-349). The three-dimensional flow around two spherical bubbles moving in a viscous fluid is studied numerically by solving the full Navier-Stokes equations. The bubble surface is assumed to be clean so that the outer flow obeys a zero-shear-stress condition and does not induce any rotation of the bubbles. The nature of the interaction is studied and the wake of the leading bubble is found to play a significant role in the attraction/repulsion mechanism. A general model for pair interaction is proposed.

> Dominique Legendre IMFT

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