

Abstract Submitted
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High-resolution DNS of Breaking Waves¹ WOUTER MOSTERT,
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— We present bubble and droplet size distributions resulting from breaking ocean
waves in deep water, using high-resolution three-dimensional direct numerical simu-
lation. We use the open-source Basilisk code to simulate the viscous Navier-Stokes
equations in two phases with surface tension at effective resolutions of up to 4096^3 .
The interface is represented and advected with a momentum-conservative volume-
of-fluid scheme. The high effective resolutions are made possible with an octree
adaptive mesh refinement scheme which is robustly implemented in Basilisk. The
wave is initialized in one wavelength with an unstable third-order Stokes formula-
tion, which produces local conditions leading to a plunging breaker which entrains
air and ejects spray, which are directly resolved by the mesh. Varying the Bond and
Reynolds numbers, which control surface tension and viscosity relative to the grav-
itational and inertial effects respectively, we discuss issues such as bubble breakup
in turbulent flow; dimensionality in the transition to turbulence; droplet production
and breakup; and numerical grid convergence.

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