

LATTICE BOLTZMANN SIMULATION TO CHARACTERIZE ROUGHNESS EFFECTS OF OSCILLATORY BOUNDARY LAYER FLOW OVER A ROUGH BED

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The 3-D lattice Boltzmann method was applied to characterize roughness effects of oscillatory boundary layer flow over a rough bed. The direct numerical simulation was carried out and the flow resistance of the flat and fixed bed was investigated. The position of the theoretical bed, equivalent roughness height and the behavior of friction factor at small values of relative roughness were obtained using the log-fit method.

Keywords: lattice Boltzmann method; oscillatory boundary layer; equivalent roughness height; friction factor

INTRODUCTION

In coastal area, the seabed is composed of different roughness elements in different places, such as sand, stone, coral reef and so forth. The appearance of roughness enhances the interaction between the wave boundary layer and the seabed. It increases the impact on the sediment transport, flow resistance, energy dissipation, velocity distribution and so on. Plenty of theoretical, experimental and numerical investigations have been conducted to understand oscillatory boundary layer flow phenomena associated with different types of roughness elements and parameterize their effects (Jonsson 1966; Kajiura 1968; Sleath 1987; Jensen et al. 1989; Blondeaux et al. 2004; Dixen et al. 2008; Sana et al. 2009). However, the understanding of this problem is not sufficient because of its difficulties.

There are two commonly used parameters to characterize the resistance, one is the equivalent roughness height k_s and the other is friction factor f_w . For the flat and fixed beds, k_s is expected to be on the order of the grain diameter d . The proportional coefficient is in the range of 1 ~ 5 according to the literature (Jonsson 1966; Kamphuis 1975; Nielsen 1992; You and Yin 2006; Camenen et al. 2009). For the fixed rippled beds, it is often suggested k_s is in proportion to ripple height. Some investigation indicates it also depends on the ripple steepness with the coefficient varying from 7.4 to 27.7 (Jonsson and Carlsen 1976; Grant and Madsen 1982; Nielsen 1992; Van Rijn 1993). It can be seen that the equivalent roughness height remains quite difficult to determine and the existing results differ considerably from each other under the same conditions, even for the simple case. Take the flat and fixed beds for instance, although the coefficient 1 or 2.5 is often recommended, it still remains difficult to choose which one should be applied in practice. For f_w , it is often considered as the function of Reynolds number Re_a and the relative roughness a / k_s (Jonsson 1966), where a is the amplitude of free-stream motion. When the oscillatory boundary layer flow becomes rough turbulent which often takes place in field, it only varies with respect to the a / k_s . Some previous investigators (Jonsson 1966; Kajiura 1968; Swart 1974; Kamphuis 1975; Fredsøe and Deigaard 1992; Soulsby et al. 1993; Simons et al. 2000) had provided a few implicit and explicit relationship between f_w and a / k_s in the rough turbulent regime. The existing expressions indicate that there are mainly two different point of view in the behavior of f_w at small values of a / k_s . On the one hand, f_w approaches a constant value, for example, 0.24 suggested by Bagnold (1946), 0.25 by Kajiura (1968) and 0.30 by Jonsson (1966). On the other hand, it has such a relationship with a / k_s which means that an increase in f_w even at very small values of a / k_s with decreasing a / k_s . As the value of the f_w in this range has a close relationship with the research on the stability of stones, rock and armour blocks in coastal engineering, it should be paid more attention to. So the purpose of the present paper is to shed more light on the understanding of two problems about the oscillatory boundary layer over a rough bed by numerical simulation. One is the equivalent roughness height for the fixed beds, here the flat beds condition will be taken into consideration. The other is the variation of the f_w at small values of a / k_s . They can be considered to be complementary to the earlier work.

To the best of authors' knowledge, the numerical simulation of oscillatory boundary layer over rough beds before were mainly based on Reynolds-averaged Navier-Stokes (RANS) equations, e.g., Puleo et al. (2004), Sana et al. (2009). Only a few works were carried out with large eddy simulation (LES) (Lohmann et al. 2006) or direct numerical simulation (DNS) (Blondeaux et al. 2004). Despite the studies quoted above, the understanding of the flow resistance is not sufficient because the grid

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resolution is not fine enough to represent the roughness elements and their effects are only included empirically. Recently, Fornarelli and Vittori (2009) (referred to as FV hereinafter) performed DNS of oscillatory boundary layer close to a rough bed which was composed of a layer of semi-spheres placed in a hexagonal pattern. It extended the research with considering the shape and distribution of the roughness elements. In this paper, the 3-D fully resolved simulation was carried out by a new promising method-the lattice Boltzmann (LB) method. It has the ability of dealing with an arbitrary complex curved boundary easily and straightforwardly using a fixed Eulerian mesh. What's more, it can be extended to simulate moving boundary problems without any extra effort. Meanwhile, the intrinsic parallelism feature also makes it easier to fully utilize the high performance computers.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In section 2, a brief introduction of LB method is given. The numerical validation of the model is presented in section 3. Section 4 and 5 are devoted to the simulation setup and discussion of the computational results. It ends with conclusions in section 6.

LATTICE BOLTZMANN METHOD

Different from conventional numerical methods, which solve the discrete macroscopic Navier-Stokes equations, LB method aims at modeling fluids in terms of the density distribution function of fictitious particles at the so-called mesoscopic level (Chen and Doolen 1998; Succi 2001). The fundamental concept is to construct simplified kinetic models incorporating mass and momentum conservation principles so that the macroscopic averaged properties obey the desired macroscopic equations. The time evolution of the density distribution function is described by the LB equation (Ladd and Verberg 2001).

$$f_i(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{e}_i \Delta t, t + \Delta t) = f_i(\mathbf{r}, t) + \Delta_i(f_i(\mathbf{r}, t)) + F_i(\mathbf{r}, t) \Delta t \quad (1)$$

where $f_i(\mathbf{r}, t)$ is the density distribution function at location \mathbf{r} at time t , Δ_i is the linearized collision operator (Ladd 1993), F_i is the external force density term, \mathbf{e}_i is the discrete velocity of the simplified kinetic model. In the simulation, the three dimensional 19-velocity lattice model D3Q19 which was shown to be both stable and efficient (Mei et al. 2000) was used. The schematic diagram of it is shown in Fig. 1.

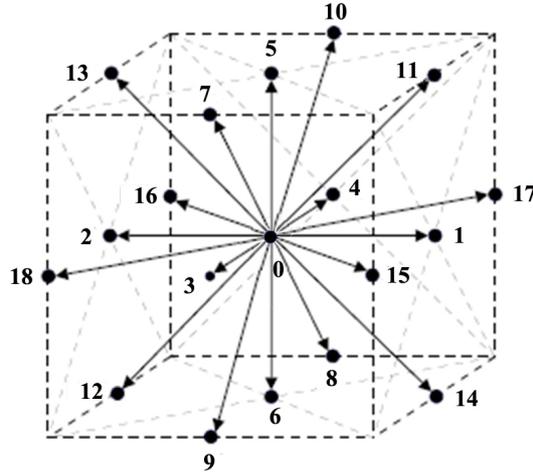


Figure 1. D3Q19 lattice model.

The discrete velocity set for the D3Q19 model is defined as

$$\mathbf{e}_i = \begin{cases} (0, 0, 0), & i = 0, \\ (\pm 1, 0, 0), (0, \pm 1, 0), (0, 0, \pm 1), & i = 1 \mathbf{K} 6, \\ (\pm 1, \pm 1, 0), (\pm 1, 0, \pm 1), (0, \pm 1, \pm 1), & i = 7 \mathbf{K} 18 \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

The hydrodynamic properties of mass density ρ , momentum density $\rho \mathbf{u}$ and momentum flux \mathbf{P} are moments of f_i .

$$r = \sum_i f_i \quad (3)$$

$$r\mathbf{u} = \sum_i f_i \mathbf{e}_i \quad (4)$$

$$\Pi = \sum_i f_i \mathbf{e}_i \mathbf{e}_i \quad (5)$$

In order to take the particles into consideration, the link-bounce-back rules (Ladd and Verberg 2001), which make the boundary locate at the middle of the links between lattice nodes, have been used to match the velocity at the solid boundary and to account for the momentum transfer along the link direction.

$$f_{i'}(\mathbf{r}, t + \Delta t) = f_i^*(\mathbf{r}, t) - 2a^{c_i} r\mathbf{u}_b \cdot \mathbf{e}_i / c_s^2 \quad (6)$$

where f_i^* is the post-collision distribution function, i' is the opposite direction of i , a^{c_i} is the weight coefficient of the velocity direction, \mathbf{u}_b is the velocity of each boundary node and $c_s^2 = 1/3$ in D3Q19 model. It can be seen from the work of Ladd (1994) as well as Feng and Michaelides (2002) that choosing the diameter of the particle to be long as 20 lattice units could represent the curved boundary of particle well and yield the reasonable results.

NUMERICAL VALIDATION

At first, the computation was performed in order to validate the reliability and accuracy of the LB model. The values of the parameters were chosen from the number 41 experiment conducted by Keiller and Sleath (1976) (referred to as KS hereinafter). The rough bed was composed of a layer of spheres placed in a hexagonal pattern (See Fig. 2). The diameter of the sphere d was fixed to $6.95d$, where d was the Stokes layer thickness.

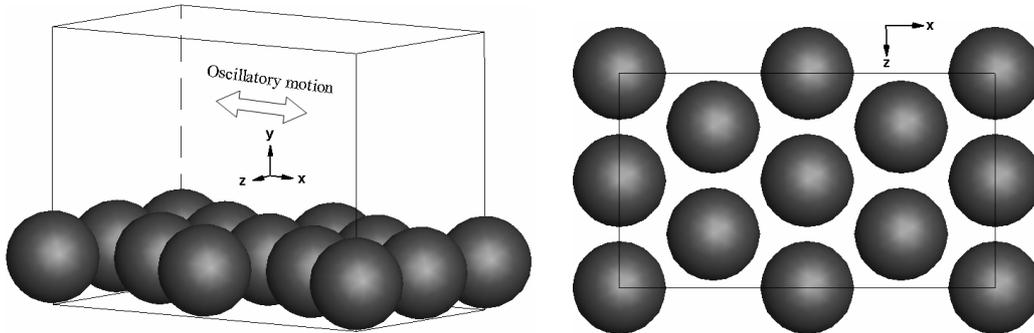


Figure 2. Left: Sketch of the computational domain Right: Hexagonal packing (top view).

It should be noted that the maximum free-stream velocity U_0 and d were taken as the characteristic velocity and length separately. The other parameters were made dimensionless with them and they were represented by a superscript asterisk. There was a conversion between the physical units and LB units in terms of similarity law. They were all shown in Table 1, where L_x , L_y , and L_z were the length, height and width of the computational domain separately, T was the oscillatory period, $Re_a = U_0 a / \nu$.

Parameters	KS	LB
U_0	1	0.044
d	1	30
$L_x^* \times L_y^* \times L_z^*$	$4 \times 5 \times 2.3$	$120 \times 150 \times 69$
T	43.17	29280
Re_a	4560	4560

The boundary layer flow is often generated by an oscillatory pressure gradient in the streamwise direction

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial x} = -rU_0 w \sin(\omega t) \quad (7)$$

where P was the pressure, $\omega = 2\pi / T$ was the angular frequency. The pressure gradient was converted to an external harmonic mass force in LB. The boundary conditions in streamwise and spanwise directions were periodic that was equivalent to considering an infinite rough bed with the roughness elements placed in a hexagonal pattern. The free-slip condition was imposed at the upper boundary. The non-slip boundary condition was implemented on the bottom boundary as well as the particles.

The ensemble averaging procedure was introduced to compute the mean quantities. Take the streamwise velocity u for instance, it was defined as follows

$$\langle u \rangle(x, y, z, \omega t) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N u[x, y, z, \omega(t + (j-1)T)] \quad (8)$$

where N was the number of averaged period. It was worth noting that in the present simulation the rough bed was kept fixed and the fluid moved to and fro, while in the KS experiment the bed oscillated with respect to the fluid otherwise at rest. When comparing the experimental and numerical results, the quantity $U_0 \cos(\omega t)$ was added to the LB results in order to partially account for the difference.

The time development of the dimensionless magnitude of the projection of the velocity vector on a vertical plane parallel to the oscillatory direction $\langle V^* \rangle$ at different distances from a sphere crest was shown in Fig. 3. Phase was taken to be zero as the moment when the rough bed velocity was maximum in the experiment. It indicated that there were two maxima of $\langle V^* \rangle$ near the rough bed during each half period. One was in phase with that of maximum free-stream velocity and the other took place close to flow reversal. It was in accordance with the observation of KS. What's more, it showed the maximum of the secondary peak was equal to $0.49U_0$, which was attained at a distance $0.12d$ ($0.82d$) from the sphere crest and at a phase of 93 degrees. While the KS results showed a corresponding maximum equal to $0.49U_0$, at a distance $0.70d$ from the crest and characterized by a phase of 88 degrees. Comparing the LB and the measured values of the maximum of $\langle V^* \rangle$ and of the phase of the secondary peak, a good agreement was obtained. The variation of maxima of $\langle V^* \rangle$ and their phases with distance from a sphere crest was illustrated by Fig. 4. The LB results were in overall agreement with the KS experimental data. It could also be seen from Fig. 4 that the corresponding phases showed a marked change in the vicinity of $0.084d$ ($0.6d$). Below this point, the phase value of the maximum $\langle V^* \rangle$ was relative small. Above it, the maximum $\langle V^* \rangle$ happened at around the phase of 90 degrees. The phase of this peak remained almost constant with increasing distance which was different from that close to the bed. KS also observed the similar phenomenon. The FV results were presented in Fig. 4 as well. It should be mentioned that the overall geometry of the bed in FV simulation was similar to the experiment but the details were different. The magnitude of the maximum $\langle V^* \rangle$ was affected more by the difference.

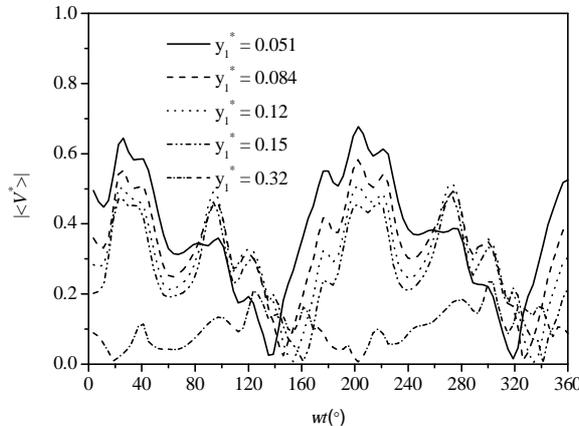


Figure 3. $\langle V^* \rangle$ at different phases and distances from a sphere crest on the vertical plane.

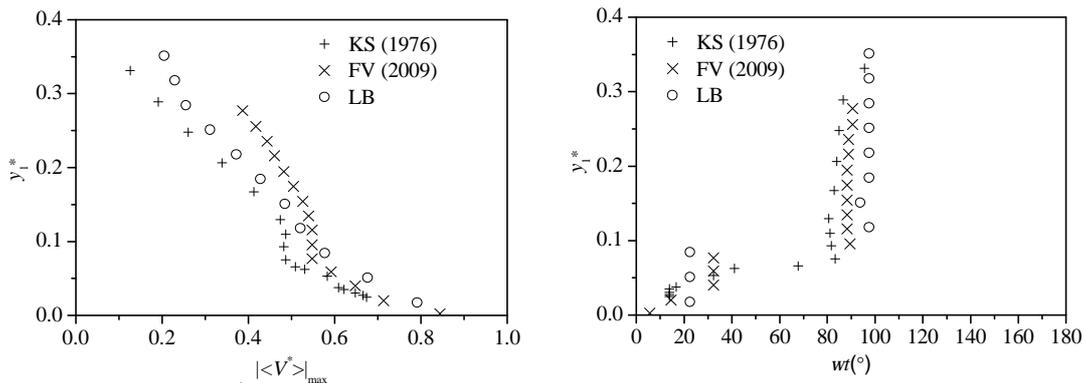


Figure 4. Maxima of $|\langle V \rangle|_{\max}$ (left) and their phases (right) at different distances from a sphere crest on the vertical plane.

SIMULATION SETUP

Once the reliability of the LB model had been tested, the numerical simulation of the oscillatory boundary layer over a rough bed would be further carried out. The rough bed was still composed of a layer of spherical particles placed regularly in two patterns. One was the hexagonal packing which was shown in Fig. 2. The other was the cubic packing which could be seen in Fig. 5. The choice of such regular roughness elements resulted from a compromise between computational efficiency and reproduction of a realistic geometry.

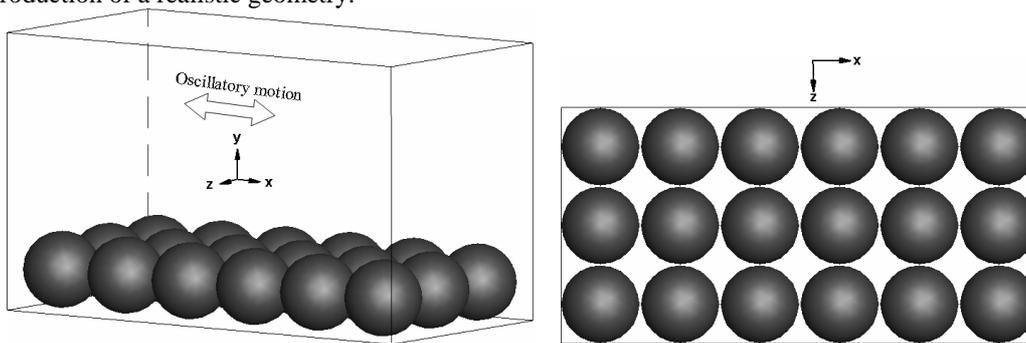


Figure 5. Left: Sketch of the computational domain Right: Cubic packing (top view).

The computational parameters were listed in Table 2. It should be mentioned that dimensional quantities are nondimensionalized and reported using lattice units. In terms of Jonsson’s work (1966), the flows were all in the rough turbulent regime. The same boundary conditions mentioned above were imposed and DNS was carried out in the computation.

Table 2. Computational parameters.						
No.	Packing pattern	U_0^*	T^*	a/d	Re_a	$L_x^* \times L_y^* \times L_z^*$
c1	Cubic packing	0.036	58560	11.29	12300	183×182×91
c2		0.043	58560	13.35	17200	183×182×91
c3		0.058	58560	17.97	31200	183×182×91
c4		0.065	18100	3.14	12300	307×329×183
c5		0.059	22500	1.56	12300	685×741×410
c6	Hexagonal packing	0.036	58560	11.29	12300	120×149×69
c7		0.043	58560	13.35	17200	120×149×69
c8		0.058	58560	17.97	31200	120×149×69
c9		0.060	21696	6.87	12300	120×149×69
c10		0.065	18100	3.14	12300	240×298×138

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The equivalent roughness height and the friction factor could be obtained from the log-fit method, which was based on Eq. 9.

$$\langle \bar{u} \rangle = \frac{u_*}{k} \ln\left(\frac{30y_t}{k_s}\right) \quad (9)$$

The term on the left-hand side was the ensemble- and space-averaged horizontal velocity. u_* was the friction velocity, $\kappa = 0.4$, y_t was the distance from the theoretical bed. The least squares method was used to determine the unknown parameters in the expression.

Equivalent Roughness Height

Fig. 6 showed the ensemble- and space-averaged velocity profiles of case c1 at different phases in semi-logarithmic graph. Phase was taken to be zero when the flow reversed. In order to ascertain the boundary layer developed quite substantially, the results with the phase between 50 and 100 degrees in the first half of period, and from 230 to 280 in the second half were chosen. The velocity profiles for other cases would not be given for the page limit.

Table 3 showed the time-averaged results of dimensionless distance y^* from the theoretical bed to the bottom boundary and the equivalent roughness height k_s^* , where Sd_{y^*} and $Sd_{k_s^*}$ were the standard deviations of y^* and k_s^* separately. For both patterns, it can tell that the y^* as well as the k_s^* varied little around its average value in the oscillatory period according to the standard deviation, especially for the former one. The values of y^* in all cases were less than 1.0. It meant that the theoretical bed located at 0.19 ~ 0.25 times diameter below the crests of spherical particles. It was in good agreement with the experimental data reported by Dixen et al. (2008). The equivalent roughness heights were in the range of 2.51 ~ 3.41 times diameter but in most cases they were nearly 2.8 times diameter. They were close to the recommended value of 2.5 times diameter.

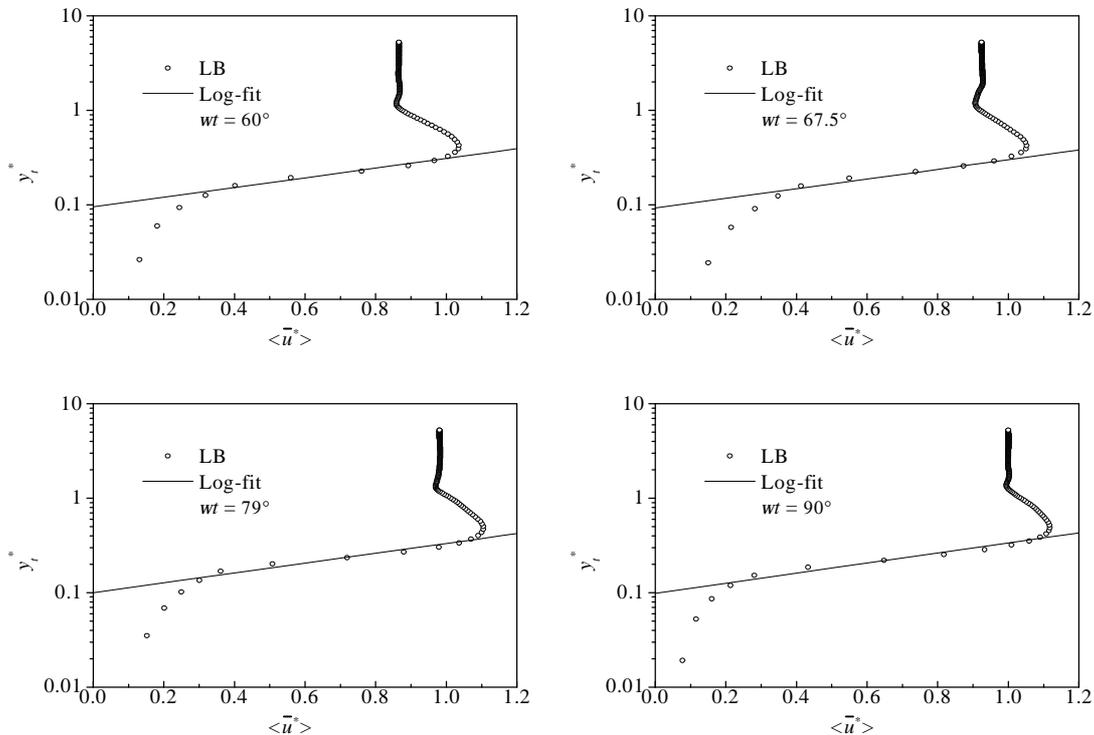


Figure 6. Ensemble- and space-averaged velocity profiles (c1).

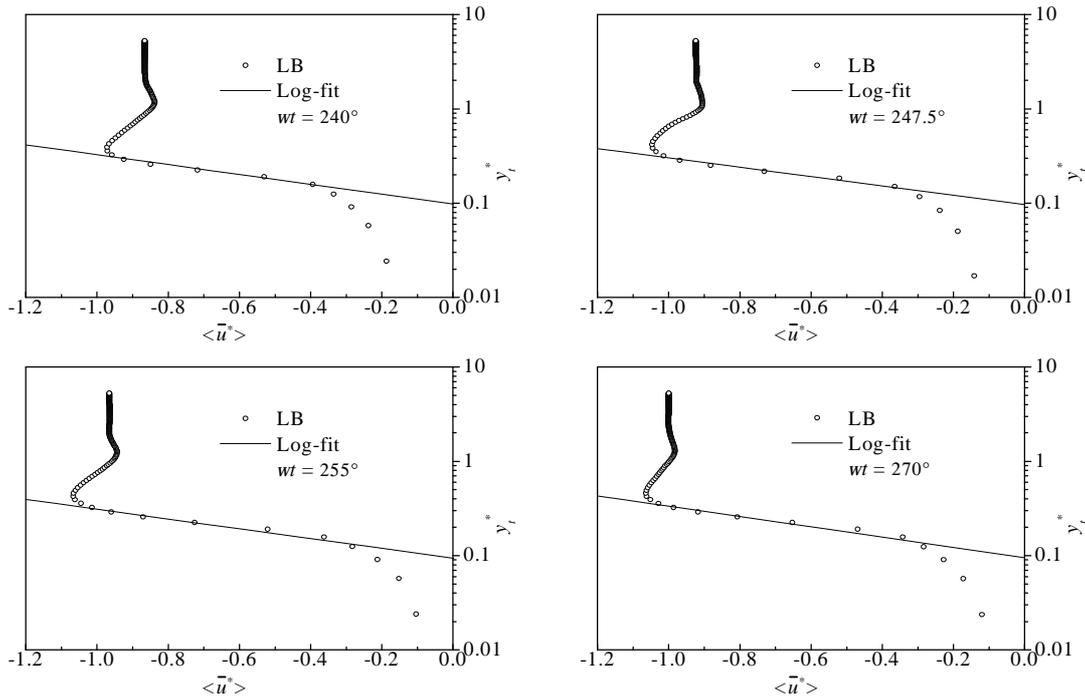


Figure 6 (continued). Ensemble- and space-averaged velocity profiles (c1).

Table 3. Time-averaged distance from the theoretical bed to the bottom boundary and equivalent roughness height.					
No.	Packing pattern	y^*	Sd_{y^*}	k_s^*	$Sd_{k_s^*}$
c1	Cubic packing	0.81	0.0053	2.89	0.067
c2		0.81	0.0063	2.86	0.069
c3		0.81	0.0030	2.86	0.065
c4		0.78	0.0057	3.17	0.150
c5		0.77	0.0066	3.32	0.120
c6	Hexagonal packing	0.75	0.0075	2.81	0.096
c7		0.75	0.0082	2.74	0.099
c8		0.75	0.0073	2.73	0.086
c9		0.75	0.0053	2.51	0.140
c10		0.78	0.0030	3.41	0.066

Friction Factor

The relationship between friction factor and friction velocity could be expressed by Eq. 10 (Lundgren and Jonsson 1961).

$$f_w = 2\left(\frac{u_{*m}}{U_0}\right)^2 \tag{10}$$

u_{*m} was the maximum friction velocity. Therefore the values of u_{*m} in the oscillatory period should be obtained first. Time variation of friction velocity of case c1 and c6 obtained from log-fit method were shown in Fig. 7. They appeared a sinusoidal-like behavior with respect to time. Similar results were obtained for other cases.

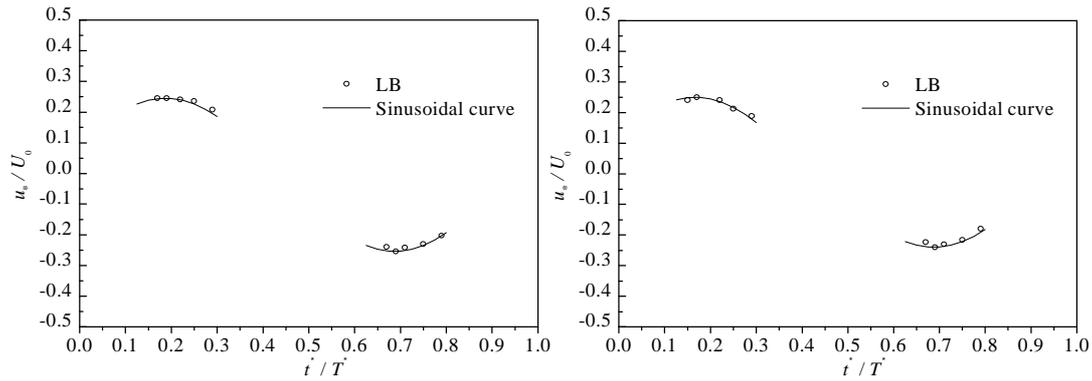


Figure 7. Time variation of friction velocity. Left: c1 Right: c6.

The two maxima of dimensionless friction velocity u_{*mc}^*/U_0 and u_{*mt}^*/U_0 in both first and second half of period were given separately with the corresponding phase f_c and f_t in Table 4. The magnitude of the two maxima was close to each other and the larger one would be used to calculate the friction factor for each case. It was also shown that there existed a phase difference between the maximum friction velocity u_{*m}^* and U_0 as the free-stream velocity reached its maximum U_0 at a phase of 90 or 270 degrees. The maximum friction velocity u_{*m}^* led over U_0 , similar to those reported in earlier studies.

Table 4. Maxima of dimensionless friction velocity and their phases.						
No.	Packing pattern	a/k_s	u_{*mc}^*/U_0	f_c (°)	u_{*mt}^*/U_0	f_t (°)
c1	Cubic packing	3.91	0.245	67.5	0.254	247.5
c2		4.67	0.241	67.5	0.238	247.5
c3		6.28	0.220	67.5	0.225	247.5
c4		0.99	0.400	72.0	0.400	252.0
c5		0.47	0.492	75.8	0.500	255.8
c6	Hexagonal packing	4.02	0.250	60.0	0.240	247.5
c7		4.88	0.228	60.0	0.220	247.5
c8		6.58	0.220	63.8	0.210	255.0
c9		2.74	0.260	60.0	0.240	247.5
c10		0.92	0.460	72.0	0.460	252.0

Fig. 8 illustrated the phase lead Δf of u_{*m}^* over U_0 . Although there was a considerable scatter in the data, it seemed that the Δf did not change markedly with a/k_s . The LB results as well as experimental data were in the range of 10 ~ 30 degrees. When the a/k_s decreased, especially when it was less than 1.0, the phase lead appeared a decline trend from its maximum 30 degrees to 20 degrees.

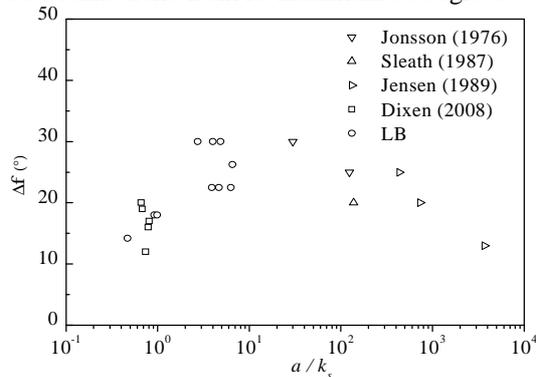


Figure 8. Phase lead of u_{*m}^* over U_0 .

The friction factor f_w obtained from Eq. 10 was shown in Table 5. It could be seen that the f_w mainly depended on the a / k_s which was in good agreement with Jonsson's results (1966) in the rough turbulent regime. It was also not sensitive to the packing pattern. It should be paid more attention to the results that the f_w did not seem to approach a constant value as suggested by Jonsson et al. but showed an increase when the a / k_s reached small values, such as the case c4, c5, c10.

Table 5. Friction factor.					
No.	Packing pattern	a / k_s	Re_a	u_m / U_0	f_w
c1	Cubic packing	3.91	12300	0.254	0.129
c2		4.67	17200	0.241	0.116
c3		6.28	31200	0.225	0.101
c4		0.99	12300	0.400	0.320
c5		0.47	12300	0.500	0.500
c6	Hexagonal packing	4.02	12300	0.250	0.125
c7		4.88	17200	0.230	0.106
c8		6.58	31200	0.220	0.097
c9		2.74	12300	0.260	0.135
c10		0.92	12300	0.460	0.423

There existed some expressions to represent such a behavior of f_w for small values of a / k_s . For example, Eq. 11 by Kamphuis (1975), Eq. 12 by Simons et al. (2000), Eq. 13 by Dixen et al. (2008). Eq. 14 was the one we got on the basis of LB results. It had a similar form with other expressions.

$$f_w = 0.4 \left(\frac{a}{k_s} \right)^{-0.75} \quad \frac{a}{k_s} \leq 100 \quad (11)$$

$$f_w = 0.33 \left(\frac{a}{k_s} \right)^{-0.84} \quad \frac{a}{k_s} < 30 \quad (12)$$

$$f_w = 0.32 \left(\frac{a}{k_s} \right)^{-0.8} \quad 0.2 < \frac{a}{k_s} < 10 \quad (13)$$

$$f_w = 0.35 \left(\frac{a}{k_s} \right)^{-0.75} \quad 0.2 < \frac{a}{k_s} < 10 \quad (14)$$

The LB results as well as experimental data were plotted in Fig. 9. The LB results were generally consistent with the existing data. Bagnold's data for small values of a / k_s called for special attention. They deviated from the data of others and tended to a constant value. That may be the reason why Jonsson (1966) and Kajiura (1968) made such a suggestion about the tendency of the f_w which was based on Bagnold's data. Eq. 11 to Eq. 14 were also shown in Fig. 9. It could be seen that Eq. 11 overpredicted the f_w for the range indicated in the figure. Eq. 12 and Eq. 13 were close to each other. The Eq. 14 we got agreed well with Eq. 12 and Eq. 13 when the a / k_s was less than 1.0 as well as most of the experimental data, especially for the one reported in Simons et al. (2000).

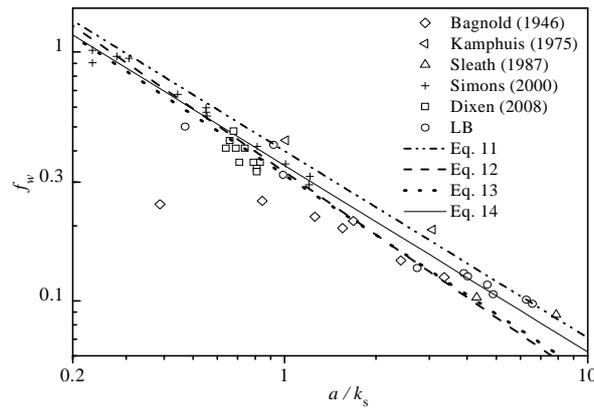


Figure 9. f_w for small values of a / k_s .

CONCLUSIONS

The 3-D lattice Boltzmann method was employed to characterize roughness effects of oscillatory boundary layer flow over a sphere-covered bed. The flow resistance including the equivalent roughness height and friction factor was investigated in the paper. The main conclusions were summarized as follows.

1. The benchmark problem of oscillatory boundary layer over a rough bed at low Reynolds number was solved. It indicated the LB model was feasible to this kind of problem from the mesoscale view.
2. Direct numerical simulation of rough turbulent oscillatory boundary layer over a rough bed was carried out. The log-fit method based on the least squares was employed to analyze the position of the theoretical bed, equivalent roughness height and friction velocity. It could give reasonable results.
3. The rough bed in computational domain was composed of a layer of spherical particles placed regularly in two patterns. One was cubic packing and the other was hexagonal packing. For both of them, it showed that the theoretical bed located at 0.19 ~ 0.25 times diameter below the crests of spherical particles. The dimensionless equivalent roughness height was nearly 2.8 in most cases, which was in good agreement with the recommended value of 2.5.
4. The log-fit results indicated that the dimensionless friction velocity for the fixed bed appeared a sinusoidal-like behavior in the oscillatory period. The maximum friction velocity led over the maximum free-stream velocity. The phase lead was found to be in the range 10 ~ 30 degrees for the computational values of relative roughness $a / k_s = 0.47 \sim 6.58$. The friction factor for small values of a / k_s did not seem to tend to a constant value suggested by some previous investigators, but constantly increased with decreasing a / k_s .

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