

A COMPREHENSIVE PARAMETRIC STUDY OF LBM-DEM FOR IMMERSSED GRANULAR FLOWS

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ABSTRACT. Simulating the flow of particles fully immersed in a fluid is a difficult computational problem and, despite all the progress that has been achieved in the field, there is still a concern about the accuracy of predictive models for immersed granular flows, especially when complex fluid-particle interactions play a non-negligible role in the dynamics of the flow. In this work, we present a detailed parametric study of a fluid-particle computational model that couples the Lattice Boltzmann Method (LBM) with the Discrete Element Method (DEM) using an immersed moving boundary technique [1, 2, 3]. Benchmark cases with increasing complexity are simulated to understand the numerical accuracy, stability and efficiency of the algorithm. A guideline for a high-quality LBM-DEM model is proposed and applied to a test case of granular collapse in water. The simulation result shows excellent agreement with experiments, which demonstrates the capability of LBM-DEM to describe the dynamics of densely packed and friction dominant immersed granular flows, highlighting its potential to study geophysical mass movements [4].

Keywords: Immersed moving boundary, Granular collapse, discrete element method, Verlet, Lattice-Boltzmann

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