# Turbulence- and particle-resolving numerical modeling of sediment transport

#### Mark Schmeeckle

#### Arizona State University School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning

Time: 0.000



particle radius 0.0003 0.0004 0.0004 0.0004 0.0005 0.0003 0.0005

#### OpenFOAM

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot c \left( \vec{u} - \vec{w}_{settle} \right) = \nabla \cdot v_t \nabla c$$

solve (
fvm::ddt(conc)+ fvm::div(phi, conc)+ fvm::div(phis, conc) fvm::laplacian(nuSgs, conc)
);



OpenFOAM for Morphodynamics OF has dynamic meshing capabilitiese.g.Crater infilling by dunes on Mars



OpenFOAM easily couples different processes- e.g. turbulence and groundwater flow of ripple



## OpenFOAM grids rapidly from DEM (e.g.NCALM White Sands Data)





### Large Eddy Simulation (LES)

#### N-S equations are spatially-filtered, NOT timeaveraged.

 $u = \overline{u}$  (spatially filtered) + u' (fluctuation)



Eddies, larger than grid scale, are directly calculated by spatiallyfiltered N-S equations.

Eddies, smaller than grid scale (subgrid scale: SGS), are parameterized.

### LES Model of Turbulence

LES model directly calculates turbulence scales larger than the grid

Here we use the dynamic subgrid-scale model proposed by Germano et al (1991) and modified by Lilly(1991)

Flow solver based on OpenFOAM finite volume CFD open source tools

Advective terms are discretized with central differences- higher order schemes are difficult on unstructured finite volume grids

#### DEM- discrete element model

-sediment is modeled as spheres

-forces between the spheres are modeled using elastic contact theory

-interaction between particles (force chains and shear bands) are directly modeled



### **Discrete Element Model**

We use the LIGGGHTS (C Kloss core developer) open source code based on LAMMPS (Sandia National Lab)

Simulations herein use a Hertzian non-linear formulation for the interaction between overlapping grains

parameters were adjusted to achieve an angle of repose in the range of natural sand

### Coupled LES-DEM

Coupled solvers based from the CFDEM open source project (C. Goniva core developer)

The solver has four way coupling- mass and momentum is exchanged between the fluid and particles

Herein we employ the Di Felice(1994) drag model modified for natural grains based on the experiments of Schmeeckle et al(2007) and pressure gradient force

Both codes utilize domain decomposition for parallelization.

The two code bases are coupled by MPI

## Fluid conservation of mass and momentum

$$\frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\alpha u) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \alpha u}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\alpha u u) = \frac{-\alpha}{\rho} \nabla p + \nabla \cdot \tau - K_{sf} \left| u - u_{sed} \right|$$

 $K_{sf}$  is calculated at each grid cell by summing the forces of the solids on the fluid at each grid cell:

$$\rho K_{sf} = \frac{\sum f_{solid-fluid}}{(cellvolume)u - u_{sed}}$$

## Bedload LES-DEM over a flat bed







#### Velocity profiles over flat bed





Friction coefficient

#### Bedload flux dominated by slower grainssaltation paradigm needs a shift





#### Furbish and Schmeeckle WRR 2013





## Momentum and sediment diffusivity- modified by stratification AND particle interactions





#### Bedload transport under waves



#### TIME (SEC)



#### TIME (SEC)





#### Flow over a ripple





#### Vertical velocity at the bed



#### Flow through vegetation



 Flow in wake of cylinder greatly increases turbulence intensity and entrainment

Positive vertical flow in separation bubble aids sediment suspension
At the same depth-averaged velocity, vegetation dramatically increases sediment flux



## Summary

- OpenFOAM provides a comprehensive modeling library for earth surface simulations – unstructured grids and any vector pde's can be rapidly coded, gridded, and solved in parallel
- LES-DEM, properly validated, provides sediment simulation data that is very hard (impossible?) to obtain by lab and field measurements

#### **LES-DEM** simulations show

- -strong signature of turbulence on transport at all stages
- penetration of high velocity fluid into the bed responsible for entrainment
- Saltation paradigm emphasizes a relatively small part of flux