Direct Numerical Simulation of Wind-Wave Generation Processes

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Direct Numerical Simulation of Wind-Wave Generation Processes

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- 1. Why study wind-wave generation processes?
- 2. How to develop an air-water coupled model?
- 3. What we observe?
- 4. Wave growth types
- 5. Compare with previous studies

Overview

The system of atmosphere and ocean is not independent

Wind Waves :

Wind-generated waves are the most visible signature of air-sea interaction and play a major influence on the momentum and energy transfer across the interface.







The mechanisms that generate these surface waves are still open issue due to

- (1) Difficulties in obtaining a dataset from laboratory and field measurements that records the time evolution of motions in both atmosphere and ocean domains
- (2) Mathematical difficulties in dealing with highly turbulent flows over complex moving surfaces

(3) Lack of a suitable coupled model to simulate turbulent flows in both atmosphere and ocean simultaneously

The Purpose of this Research

- Develop an air-water coupled model
- Study the wind-wave generation processes (laboratory waves)





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Direct Numerical Simulation

DNS numerically solves the Navier-Stokes equation subject to boundary conditions and hence such simulated flow fields contain no uncertainties other than numerical errors.



Domain size : $24 \times 24 \times 8 \text{ cm}^3$



Grid points: 2 × (64,64,65)

Differencing Schemes

Spatial Differencing :

horizontal: pseudo-spectral method vertical: second order finite differencing Time Differencing : second order Runge-Kutta scheme Grid System : stretching grid system z_k

high resolution near interface



Boundaries & Boundary Conditions

For

4 side walls :



periodic boundary conditions lower boundary : free-slip boundary conditions upper boundary : a constant velocity is imposed

interfacial boundary : (at air-water interface)



The conditions for interfacial boundary are

1. Velocity is continuous

2. Stress is continuous

Problem Formulation of Two-Phase Coupled Flow

Governing Equations :

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{u}_{\ell} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \vec{u}_{\ell}}{\partial t} + (\vec{u}_{\ell} \cdot \nabla) \vec{u}_{\ell} = -\nabla p_{\ell} + \frac{1}{\operatorname{Re}_{\ell}} \nabla^{2} \vec{u}_{\ell}$$

$$\vec{u}_{\ell} = (u_{\ell})$$

$$\vec{u}_{\ell} = \left(u_{\ell}, v_{\ell}, w_{\ell}\right)$$

Interfacial Boundary Conditions : (linearized)

continuity of velocity $u_a = u_W$, $v_a = v_W$, $w_a = w_W$

continuity of normal stress

$$P_{w} - \frac{\rho_{a}}{\rho_{w}} P_{a} = f_{a} (u_{a}, v_{a}, w_{a}, \eta) - f_{w} (u_{w}, v_{w}, w_{w}, \eta)$$

continuity of shear stress

$$\left(\frac{\partial u_a}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial w_a}{\partial x}\right) = \frac{\mu_w}{\mu_a} \left(\frac{\partial u_w}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial w_w}{\partial x}\right)$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial v_a}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial w_a}{\partial y}\right) = \frac{\mu_w}{\mu_a} \left(\frac{\partial v_w}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial w_w}{\partial y}\right)$$

Kinematic free surface B. C.

$$\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} = w - \frac{\partial u \eta}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial v \eta}{\partial y}$$



- Interfacial boundary conditions are linearized
- Limitation of the air-water coupled model
 - -----> only for small amplitude waves







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Mean wind stress at the interface

• $t < 50 \, \mathrm{s}$: $\tau_{s} \sim \mathrm{constant}$

• t > 50 s : τ_s increases with time



Wind-Wave Generation Processes (*t*=0~70 s)



When wave amplitude changes, what will be the behavior of the flow fields above and below the interface?

$\eta \leftrightarrow u, v, w, p$

(surface wave elevation)

Waves & Streamwise Velocity at the Interface

 $\eta(x,y)$

 $u_w(x, y, z=0)$



 $t = 2.6 \, \mathrm{s}$



W' in the Water

• At shear-dominated stage (t=16 s) :

the distribution of updrafts and downdrafts is irregular

• At wave-dominated stage (t=68 s) :

the vertical velocity field aligns with waves



Waves,

Surface Pressure of the Air & Shear Stress Fluctuations







 $t = 68 \, {\rm s}$

At early stage

$t = 16 \sim 16.5 \,\mathrm{s}$



For one wave component : $(k_x, k_y) = (1., 0.)$ cm⁻¹

At early stage :

alr

 $t = 16 \sim 16.5 \,\mathrm{s}$





Both domains are strongly influenced by waves

For one wave component :
$$(k_x, k_y) = (1., 0.) \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

At late stage :

 $t = 50.5 \sim 51 \,\mathrm{s}$





Spectra of Wave Energy

Wavelength ~ 8-12 cm

Wave frequency $\sim 37 \text{ s}^{-1}$

Satisfy the dispersion relationship

	Wave number (cm ⁻¹) $\kappa = (k_x, k_y)$	$\Phi(\eta)/\overline{\eta}^{2}$
<i>t</i> ~ 16 s	(0.26, 1.05) (1.05, 1.05) (1.05, 0.) (0.52, 0.52) (0.52, 0.)	7.1 % 5.6 % 5.3 % 4.5 % 4.1 %
t ~ 66 s	(0.78, 0.) (0.78, 0.26) (0.52, 0.) (0.52,0.26) (1., 0.26)	28 % 24.7 % 24.5 % 7.2% 3.3%

Dominated waves are different



t = 3 s

$t = 16 \, {\rm s}$

$t = 64 \, \mathrm{s}$

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Some theoretical studies suggest that wave growth process can be separated into

Linear (waves grow slowly)
 Exponential (waves grow quickly)

Time Evolution of Wave Amplitude

 $\begin{cases} t < 40 \, \text{s} & \text{waves grow slowly} \\ t > 40 \, \text{s} & \text{waves grow quickly} \end{cases}$



Time Evolution of Some Parameters at the Interface







Some theoretical studies suggest form stress plays an important role in exponential wave growth stage

$$D_{p} = \frac{1}{L_{x}L_{y}} \int_{0}^{L_{y}} \int_{0}^{L_{x}} p_{a}'(\kappa,t) \frac{\partial \eta(\kappa,t)}{\partial x} dx dy$$



t < 16 s

 $t > 40 \, {\rm s}$

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Phillips (1957) :

the turbulence-induced pressure fluctuations in the air are responsible for the birth and early growth of waves

$$\overline{\xi^2} \sim \frac{{p'_a}^2}{2\sqrt{2}\rho_w^2 g U_c} u$$

when
$$U_c \sim 18u_a^*$$



Exponential Growth Stage

Belcher & Hunt (1993) : (Non-separated sheltering mechanism)

• the form stress dominates the contribution of energy input from air to waves at the exponential wave growth stage

Wave growth rate

$$\beta = \frac{2}{\sigma a} \frac{da}{dt} = \frac{1}{\sigma E} \frac{dE}{dt}$$

$$\implies \beta = \frac{1}{\sigma E} \frac{dE}{dt} = \frac{2}{\rho_w} \frac{D_p}{(ak)^2} \left(\frac{1}{c}\right)^2$$
where
$$D_p = \frac{1}{L_x L_y} \int_0^{L_y} \int_0^{L_x} p'_a \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} dx dy \quad ; \quad E = 0.5 \rho_w a^2 c^2 k$$



What influences wave growth?

- **1. Turbulence in the water**
- 2. Surface tension
- 3. Domain size

Sensitivity Tests



Sensitivity Tests



Summary

- A new air- water coupled model is developed
- The initial wind-wave generation processes is simulated
- The characteristics of flow fields are different at early and late stages
- Wave growth types : linear & exponential
- The wavelengths found here (8-12 cm) are close to those found in laboratory at low wind speed.
- Some of the simulated wave growth rates are close to previous studies' results, but some of them are about 1~3 times larger than their prediction or measurements.

Thank you