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**Modeling and simulation of flows over and through fibrous porous media**  
**Modélisation et simulation d'un écoulement autour d'une paroi poreuse et**  
**fibreuse**

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# Abstract

Any natural surface is in essence non-smooth, consisting of more or less regular roughness and/or mobile structures of different scales. From a fluid mechanics point of view, these natural surfaces offer better aerodynamic performances when they cover moving bodies, in terms of drag reduction, lift enhancement or control of boundary layer separation; this has been shown for boundary layer or wake flows around thick bodies. The numerical simulation of microscopic flows around "natural" surfaces is still out of reach today. Therefore, the goal of this thesis is to study the modeling of the apparent flow slip occurring on this kind of surfaces, modeled as a porous medium, applying Whitaker's volume averaging theory. This mathematical model makes it possible to capture details of the microstructure while preserving a satisfactory description of the physical phenomena which occur.

The first chapter of this manuscript provides an overview of previous efforts to model these surfaces, detailing the most important results from the literature. The second chapter presents the mathematical derivation of the volume-averaged Navier-Stokes equations (VANS) in a porous medium. In the third chapter the flow stability at the interface between a free fluid and a porous medium, formed by a series of rigid cylinders, is studied. The presence of this porous layer is treated by including a drag term in the fluid equations. It is shown that the presence of this term reduces the rates of amplification of the Kelvin-Helmholtz instability over the whole range of wavenumbers, thus leading to an increase of the wavelength of the most amplified mode. In this same context, the difference between the isotropic model and a tensorial approach for the drag term was evaluated, to determine the most consistent approach for the study of the stability of this type of flows. This has led to the conclusion that the most relevant model is the one using the apparent permeability tensor. In the following chapter, based on this last result, the apparent permeability tensor, based on over one hundred direct numerical simulations carried out over microscopic unit cells, has been identified for a three-dimensional porous medium consisting of rigid cylinders. In these configurations the tensor varies according to four parameters: the Reynolds number, the porosity and the orientation of the average pressure gradient (the latter defined by two Euler angles). This parameterization makes it possible to capture local three-dimensional effects. This database has been set up to create, based on a kriging-type approach, a behavioral meta-model for estimating all the components of the apparent permeability tensor.

In the fifth chapter, simulations of the VANS equations are carried out on a macroscopic scale after the implementation of the meta-model, and this allows reasonable computing times. The validation of the macroscopic approach is performed on a flow in a closed cavity covered with a porous layer and a comparison with the results of a very precise DNS, homogenized a posteriori, shows a very good agreement and demonstrates the relevance of the approach. The next step has been the study of the passive control of the separation of the flow past a hump which is placed on a porous wall, by the same macroscopic VANS approach. Finally, general conclusions and possible directions of research in the field are presented in the last chapter.

# Résumé

Toute surface naturelle est par essence non lisse, elle est constituée de rugosités plus ou moins régulières et / ou de structures mobiles d'échelles différentes et variées. D'un point de vue mécanique des fluides, ces surfaces naturelles proposent des meilleures performances aérodynamiques en termes de réduction de traînée, d'augmentation de la portance ou de contrôle du décollement lorsqu'elle couvre des corps en mouvement ; et cela a été prouvé pour des écoulements de couches limites ou de sillage, autour de corps épais. La simulation numérique d'écoulements aux échelles microscopiques autour des surfaces « naturelles » demeure de nos jours encore hors de portée. En conséquence, la thèse a pour objet d'étudier la modélisation du glissement apparent de l'écoulement sur ce genre de surface, modélisée comme un milieu poreux, appliquant la théorie de la moyenne-volumique de Whitaker. Ce modèle mathématique permet globalement de présenter les détails de la micro-structure de ses surfaces en moyenne, tout en conservant une description satisfaisante des phénomènes physiques induits par l'écoulement. Le premier chapitre de ce manuscrit dresse un panorama des efforts antérieurs portant sur la modélisation de ces surfaces en précisant les résultats les plus importants issus de la littérature. Le deuxième chapitre présente la dérivation mathématique des équations de Navier-Stokes en moyenne volumique (VANS en anglais) dans un milieu poreux. Dans le troisième chapitre est étudiée la stabilité de l'écoulement à l'interface entre un fluide libre et un milieu poreux, formé par une série de cylindres rigides. La présence de cette couche poreuse est traitée par un terme de traînée dans les équations du fluide. On montre que la présence de ce terme réduit les taux d'amplification de l'instabilité de Kelvin-Helmholtz sur toute la gamme des nombres d'onde et ainsi augmente la longueur d'onde du mode le plus amplifié. Dans ce même contexte a été calculée la différence entre un modèle isotrope et une approche tensorielle pour le terme de traînée, afin de déterminer l'approche la plus consistante pour une étude de stabilité de ce type d'écoulement. Cela a mené à la conclusion que le modèle le plus pertinent est celui utilisant le tenseur de perméabilité apparent. Dans le chapitre suivant, en s'appuyant sur ce dernier résultat, le tenseur de perméabilité apparent est identifié sur la base d'une centaine de simulations numériques directes, pour un milieu poreux tridimensionnel constitué de cylindres rigides, où le problème de fermeture est abordé par la méthode VANS. Dans ces configurations ce tenseur varie en fonction de quatre paramètres : le nombre de Reynolds, la porosité et l'orientation du gradient moyen de pression (définie

par deux angles d’Euler). Cette paramétrisation permet de capturer les effets tridimensionnels locaux. Cette base de données ainsi constituée a permis de créer, sur la base d’une approche de type kriging, un méta-modèle comportemental pour estimer toutes les composantes du tenseur de perméabilité apparente.

Dans le cinquième chapitre sont menées des simulations des équations VANS à l’échelle macroscopique après implémentation du méta-modèle qui autorise des temps de calcul raisonnables. La validation de l’approche à l’échelle macroscopique est effectuée sur un écoulement dans une cavité fermé couverte d’une couche poreuse et une comparaison avec les résultats d’un DNS très précise, homogénéisés a posteriori montre un très bon accord et démontre la pertinence de la démarche. L’étape suivante a consisté en l’étude du contrôle du décollement pour un écoulement autour d’une bosse sur une paroi poreuse par cette même approche VANS macroscopique. Enfin des conclusions générales et des directions de recherche possibles dans le domaine d’étude sont présentées dans le dernier chapitre.

# Contents

<b>1 Poroelastic natural coatings</b>	<b>15</b>
1.1 Introduction to <i>biomimetics</i> . . . . .	15
1.2 Riblets and shark-skin surfaces . . . . .	18
1.2.1 Riblets . . . . .	19
1.2.2 Shark skin . . . . .	21
1.3 Permeable surfaces . . . . .	23
1.3.1 Bluff bodies . . . . .	24
1.3.2 Canopy flow . . . . .	27
1.4 Models for flows through porous surfaces . . . . .	30
1.4.1 Isotropic drag models . . . . .	33
1.4.2 Homogenization models . . . . .	33
1.5 Stability of flows over permeable surfaces . . . . .	36
1.5.1 Stability theory generalities . . . . .	38
1.5.2 Monami/Honami and Kelvin-Helmholtz rolls . . . . .	39
1.6 Conclusions . . . . .	40
<b>2 Volume Average Method</b>	<b>41</b>
2.1 Introduction . . . . .	41
2.2 Homogenization procedure . . . . .	41
2.3 Derivation of VANS equations for 3D incompressible fluids . . . . .	42
2.3.1 Navier-Stokes equations . . . . .	42
2.3.2 Definition of the averaging operators . . . . .	42
2.3.3 Choice of shape and size of averaging volume and weight function . .	45
2.3.4 Theorems involving derivatives of spatial averaged quantities . . .	47
2.3.5 Averaged continuity equations . . . . .	48
2.3.6 Averaged momentum equations . . . . .	48
2.3.7 Length scale decomposition . . . . .	50
2.3.8 Intrinsic average form . . . . .	51
2.4 Closure problems . . . . .	53
2.4.1 Microscopic force $\mathbf{F}^m$ . . . . .	53

2.4.2	Sub-filter stresses $\zeta$ . . . . .	58
2.5	Interface treatment . . . . .	59
2.6	Elastic porous media: hybrid homogenization approach . . . . .	61
2.7	Note on the average of an average field . . . . .	63
2.8	Conclusions . . . . .	64
<b>3</b>	<b>Drag-model sensitivity of Kelvin-Helmholtz waves in canopy flows</b>	<b>65</b>
3.1	Introduction . . . . .	65
3.2	Model of the canopy flow . . . . .	67
3.2.1	The mean flow . . . . .	67
3.2.2	Stability and sensitivity equations . . . . .	68
3.3	Sensitivity results for the isotropic drag model . . . . .	71
3.4	An alternative sensitivity model: accounting for the canopy anisotropicity . . . . .	74
3.4.1	The sensitivity equations . . . . .	75
3.5	Concluding remarks . . . . .	77
<b>4</b>	<b>Effect of geometrical parameters and inertia on the apparent permeability tensor in fibrous porous media</b>	<b>84</b>
4.1	Introduction . . . . .	84
4.2	The Volume-Averaged Navier-Stokes (VANS) method . . . . .	87
4.3	Validation and setup . . . . .	87
4.3.1	Computational domain . . . . .	87
4.3.2	Numerical setup . . . . .	87
4.3.3	Mesh convergence analysis . . . . .	88
4.3.4	Validation on two different configurations . . . . .	90
4.3.5	Tests with larger REV's . . . . .	91
4.4	Microscopic solutions . . . . .	92
4.5	The apparent permeability tensor . . . . .	99
4.6	A metamodel for $\mathbf{H}$ . . . . .	103
4.6.1	DACE sampling . . . . .	104
4.6.2	Kriging interpolation method . . . . .	107
4.7	Concluding remarks . . . . .	111
<b>5</b>	<b>VANS macroscopic applications</b>	<b>114</b>
5.1	Introduction . . . . .	114
5.2	Closed cavity problem . . . . .	114
5.2.1	Microscopic approach with direct numerical simulations . . . . .	116
5.2.2	Macroscopic approach though VANS . . . . .	116
5.2.3	Cavity $Re = 100$ comparison . . . . .	118
5.2.4	Cavity $Re = 1000$ comparison . . . . .	119
5.2.5	Cavity $Re = 5000$ using $\mathbf{H}$ metamodel . . . . .	120

5.3	Separated flow between hills . . . . .	120
5.3.1	Comparison between smooth and porous leeward side of the hill . .	122
5.4	Conclusions . . . . .	125

# List of Figures

1.1	Microscope enlarged picture of the shark skin. . . . .	16
1.2	Feathers on owl's wing. Left: trailing edge. Right: leading edge. The differences in shape and mechanical properties, as rigidity, between the leading and trailing edge, is a consequence of the different flow regimes in the wing.	16
1.3	Particular of a Peacock butterfly wing, taken with a Scanning Electron Microscope. Images from wikimedia.org . . . . .	17
1.4	(a) Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) image showing the structure of lotus leaf, (b) higher order of magnification on the single protuberance forming the surface and (c) a water drop with high contact angle, attaining an almost spherical shape. Images from Stratatakis et al. [146]. . . . .	18
1.5	Schematics of the <i>protrusion height</i> concept. The mean velocity profiles for the stream-wise and crossflow velocities are shown. In presence of a ridge it is possible to extrapolate the point of zero velocity from the velocity gradient outside the riblet; finding respectively, the <i>streamwise protrusion height</i> $h_{ps}$ and the <i>cross-flow protrusion height</i> $h_{pc}$ . Image from Bechert et al. [17]. . . . .	20
1.6	Example of drag reduction relation to the ridge spacing. The maximum performance is normally around $s^+ = 15$ , the picture shows also that when the riblet are really tight one another the laminar case is retrieved. On the contrary when the riblets are far away one another their performance is comparable to rough plate case. Image from Jimenez et al. [85]. . . . .	21
1.7	Two different sizes of riblets are shown when interacting with a sublayer vortex. In gray it is represented the area where friction is important. Clearly when both sizes are comparable the surface experience a larger friction and the performance is lowered. Image from Choi et al. [41]. . . . .	22
1.8	Performance comparison between a riblet surface against a seal fur. The drag reduction has been computed as: $DR\% = \frac{\Delta\tau}{\tau_0}\%$ Image from Itoh et al. [83]. . . . .	23

1.9	Diagram showing an example of angular pressure distribution around a cylinder for viscous flow. The black line is the case of a solid body, the green one is the modified pressure in presence of a porous layer at the rear part. Image from Klausmann and Ruck [87]. . . . .	24
1.10	Square cylinder vorticity contour for $Re = 30000$ . Top: solid case. Bottom: porous case with layer extension $h = 10\%D$ . . . . .	25
1.11	Figure <b>a</b> and <b>b</b> show respectively the schematics of the mean flow over a rough wall and a canopy flow; the difference in the eddy size is clear, also the inflection point in the canopy flow velocity profile is obvious. The figure <b>c</b> and <b>d</b> instead show the turbulent spectra for the two different flows above, in case of rough wall a Kolmogorov type of spectra can be retrieved; in case of canopy flow it is possible to see a larger peak in the frequency of the mixing layer instability, a steeper slope in the energy cascade part and high frequency peaks at high frequencies. Image from De Langre [47] . . . . .	28
1.12	The effects of the Cauchy number $C_Y$ on the drag reduction are presented in the figure. The drag reduction has been represented as the ratio between the frontal area $A$ and the drag coefficient $C_D$ at static condition (subscript 0) and the dynamic condition (no subscript). Image from De Langre [47] . . . . .	29
1.13	Sketch of a fully developed flow over a poroelastic surface made of multiple filaments. . . . .	31
1.14	Schematics of a porous medium system of size $L$ , with a zoom on the microscopic structure and its scale $\ell$ . Image from Whitaker [159]. . . . .	34
1.15	Left: when the drag of the canopy is high enough it generates canopy-scale vortices by Kelvin-Helmholtz instability. These vortices may interact with the flexible vegetation and generate a waving motion called monami. Right: when this interaction is too weak, the canopy only bend. Image from Nepf [113]. . . . .	37
1.16	Classification of modal linear stability theories. Table reported from Juniper et al. [86]. . . . .	38
1.17	Left: first emergence of the Kelvin-Helmholtz instability. The growth-rate is proportional to the shear magnitude at the inflection point. Center: the instability evolves in rollers consisting of high vorticity that are spaced with a similar wave-length $\Lambda_x$ as the previous stage. Right: secondary instabilities in the rollers lead to their kinking and pairing, coherent structures appear in the transverse and streamwise dimensions. Image from Finnigan [56]. . . . .	40
2.1	Illustration of the volume average homogenization procedure. Image adapted from Davit et al. [46] . . . . .	43

2.2	A graphic representation of the averaging volumes and interfaces in case of fibrous (ordered) porous media. In this example the fibers are in staggered arrangement. The edges of the volumes that have centroid position $\mathbf{x}$ are shown in continuous lines and the ones with centroid $\mathbf{r}$ are shown in dotted lines. . . . .	44
3.1	Configuration studied with main notations . . . . .	68
3.2	Left frame: mean flow $\mathbf{U}$ , together with experimental data points Ghisalberti and Nepf [64], its first derivative, and drag coefficient distribution (case G). Center: viscous and inviscid growth rates, $\omega_i$ , as a function of the streamwise wavenumber $\alpha$ . Right: corresponding frequencies, $\omega_r$ . . . . .	69
3.3	Moduli of direct (left frame) and adjoint (right frame) eigenfunctions for the viscous (continuous lines, $Re = 3450$ ) and the inviscid (symbols) case, in correspondence to the wavenumber of largest amplification. . . . .	70
3.4	Real and imaginary parts of the sensitivities to mean flow variations (top) and to variations in the drag distribution function (bottom), for the parameters of 3.3 . . . . .	72
3.5	Infinite norms of the sensitivity functions for varying $\alpha$ . . . . .	73
3.6	Amplification factor (left) and frequency of the most unstable mode as a function of $\alpha$ , for the anisotropic drag model . . . . .	75
3.7	Left and center frames: moduli of direct and adjoint eigenfunctions; pressure and “adjoint pressure” are drawn with dashed lines. Right: real and imaginary parts of the sensitivity function $G_U$ ( $\alpha = 0.4790$ ) . . . . .	76
3.8	Case G. Left: infinite norm of $G_U$ for varying $\alpha$ . Center and right frames: real and imaginary parts of the sensitivity coefficients to variations in the permeability components . . . . .	77
3.9	Case G. Left: mean velocity profile, $U$ , versus the drag coefficient, $C_d$ . Right: first derivative, $dU/dC_d$ . The triangles denote the region $y \in [0.76, 1]$ , the filled circles denote the region $y \in [0.3, 0.76]$ . . . . .	79
4.1	REV for the fiber geometry investigated. . . . .	88
4.2	Mesh used for the computation; top view (left) and zoom in the boundary layer region (right). $\varepsilon = 0.6$ . . . . .	89
4.3	Permeability versus porosity for a square arrangement of cylinders. The scaling of the permeability is $\ell^2$ and is explicitly indicated in the vertical axis. . . . .	91
4.4	Permeability versus porosity for a staggered arrangement of cylinders. The permeability component is here scaled with $d^2$ (and not $\ell^2$ ), with $d$ the diameter of the inclusions. . . . .	92

4.5	Relative error between the microscopically computed forces along the $x_1$ direction and those arising from the Darcy-Forcheimme model; $\varepsilon = 0.8$ for the REV in the staggered arrangement of Yazdchi et al. [162]. . . . .	93
4.6	REV configurations. Left: $2 \times 2 \times 1$ arrangement; centre: $1 \times 1 \times 1$ arrangement (reference); right $1 \times 1 \times 3$ arrangement. . . . .	93
4.7	Top row: plane view of the dimensionless $x_1$ component of the local velocity field $\mathbf{v}_\beta$ for the case $\theta = 0, \phi = 0, \varepsilon = 0.6$ and for three Reynolds numbers $Re_d = 0, 10, 50$ , from left to right. Mid row: microscopic $M_{11}$ fields corresponding to the images in the top row. Bottom row: $M_{11}$ fields for the same Euler angles and Reynolds number as in the top two rows, and smaller porosity ( $\varepsilon = 0.4$ ). . . . .	95
4.8	right: Non-dimensional $M_{21}$ field for $\theta = 0, \phi = 0, Re_d = 10, \varepsilon = 0.8$ , left: Non-dimensional $M_{12}$ field for $\theta = 22.5^\circ, \phi = 45^\circ, Re_d = 50, \varepsilon = 0.4$ . . . . .	96
4.9	Non-dimensional $\mathbf{M}$ components fields for the case $\theta = 22.5^\circ, \phi = 45^\circ, Re_d = 50, \varepsilon = 0.6$ . . . . .	98
4.10	Diagonal elements of the apparent permeability $\mathbf{H}$ as function of the Reynolds number for porosity $\varepsilon = 0.8$ . The forcing direction is represented through the couple of Euler angles $(\theta, \phi)$ (cf. table 4.2 for the case index). Left column: low- $Re_d$ regime; right column: inertial regime. . . . .	100
4.11	Same as figure 4.10 with porosity $\varepsilon = 0.6$ . . . . .	101
4.12	Same as figure 4.10 with porosity $\varepsilon = 0.4$ . . . . .	102
4.13	Scatter matrix plot for the collected numerical data of the apparent permeability tensor. . . . .	105
4.14	Explanatory sketch for the relation between mean pressure gradient and mean velocity field. . . . .	106
4.15	Relative mean error computed using the $k$ -fold approach presented against the number of folds $k$ used to divide the dataset . . . . .	109
4.16	Response surfaces of $H_{11}$ with $\phi = 0^\circ$ for porosity $\varepsilon = 0.4, 0.6, 0.8$ , from left to right. . . . .	110
4.17	Response surfaces of $H_{11}$ with $\theta = 0^\circ$ for porosity $\varepsilon = 0.4, 0.6, 0.8$ , from left to right. . . . .	111
4.18	Response surfaces of $H_{11}$ with $Re = 40$ for porosity $\varepsilon = 0.4, 0.6, 0.8$ , from left to right. . . . .	112
4.19	Response surface of $H_{11}$ ; in the left frame $\phi = \theta = 0$ , in the centre frame $\phi = 90^\circ, \theta = 0$ and on the right $\phi = 45^\circ, \theta = 22.5^\circ$ . . . . .	113
5.1	Schematics of the closed cavity 2D problem. The porous medium internal structure is depicted in the zoom on the right side in which the REV geometry is showed. . . . .	115

5.2	Left: VANS approach. Right: Homogenized DNS approach. The figure show, from top to bottom, the horizontal velocity the vertical velocity and the streamlines inside the porous domain $\Omega_p$ . . . . .	119
5.3	Left: VANS approach. Right: Homogenized DNS approach. The figure show, from top to bottom, the horizontal and the vertical component of the pressure gradient inside the porous domain $\Omega_p$ . . . . .	120
5.4	Left: VANS approach. Right: Homogenized DNS approach. The figure show, from top to bottom, the horizontal velocity the vertical velocity and the streamlines inside the porous domain $\Omega_p$ . . . . .	121
5.5	Left: VANS approach. Right: Homogenized DNS approach. The figure show, from top to bottom, the horizontal and the vertical component of the pressure gradient inside the porous domain $\Omega_p$ . . . . .	122
5.6	Left: horizontal velocity component. Center: vertical velocity component. Right: Effective permeability component 11 . The three fields has been sampled at the center of the cavity geometry, $x_1 = 0.5 * L$ . The blue line represent the solution for the system (5.3) with the Kriging metamodel for the effective permeability, the red line is the solution wo the same system with the model switched off. . . . .	123
5.7	Domain of the problem and mesh used to discretize it. On the right side there is an enlargement of the zone on the hill curvature. . . . .	124
5.8	Porosity field in the leeward side of the first hill. . . . .	124
5.9	?? . . . . .	125
5.10	??? . . . . .	126
5.11	Experiment data points for the 10 realizations available. The color map represent the output realizations $\mathbf{Y}$ of the experiment $f(\mathbf{X})$ . . . . .	131
5.12	Left: Semivariogram versus the Eucledian distance computed for each data point against all the other. Right: The blue dots represent the same semivariogram on the left but averaged over a step of distance equal to 0.25. The red line correspond to the semivariogram computed using the relation (5.17) with the covariance model <i>power exponential</i> with parameters $\nu = 2$ , $\theta = 1.895$ and $\sigma = 38.44$ . . . . .	132
5.13	Kriging metamodel surface for using a constant trend function and the <i>power exponential</i> covariance model with parameters $\nu = 2$ , $\theta = 1.895$ and $\sigma = 38.44$ . . . . .	135
5.14	Kriging metamodel surface for using a quadratic trend function and the <i>Matern</i> covariance model with parameters $\nu = 1.5$ , $\theta = 10$ and $\sigma = 1$ . . . . .	136
5.15	Kriging metamodel surface for using a linear trend function and the <i>power exponential</i> covariance model with parameters $\nu = 2$ , $\theta = 0.8$ and $\sigma = 10$ . . . . .	136

# List of Tables

3.1	Temporal versus spatial stability, Case G. The model employed here is based on a modified Orr-Sommerfeld equation—rather than a system based on primitive variables as done in the bulk of the paper—which is why the temporal results have slightly larger growth rates $\omega_i$ than those displayed in Fig. 3.2; this is related to the need of computing numerically $d^2U/dy^2$ and $dC_d/dy$ in the Orr-Sommerfeld-like equation. In italics, the growth rates obtained from Gaster’s transformation are reported; the parameters imposed in each simulation are indicated with bold characters. The solutions for $Re = 10^9$ coincide with those found using the inviscid equations. . . . .	81
4.1	Convergence analysis. Left: average velocity within the REV, normalized with $\frac{K_{11}}{\nu_\beta} \ \mathbf{f}\ $ . Right: grid convergence metrics. The REV has $\varepsilon = 0.6$ , the motion is along $x_1$ , i.e. $\theta = \phi = 0$ and $Re_d \rightarrow 0$ . . . . .	90
4.2	Directions of the forcing tested and property of the solutions. . . . .	99
4.3	Sampling parameters. . . . .	104
4.4	Permeability components ratio for three values of the porosity. The permeability ratios here are given by the angular coefficients of the linear correlations displayed in figure 4.13. . . . .	107
5.1	Apparent permeability values from table 1 in Zampogna and Bottaro [164]. .	117

# Chapter 1

## Poroelastic natural coatings

*Nature is the source of all true knowledge. She has her own logic, her own laws, she has no effect without cause nor invention without necessity*

- , Leonardo Da Vinci

### 1.1 Introduction to *biomimetics*

Usually when we are asked to imagine some "rapid" object as an airplane, a boat or a car, the common sense leads us to think about it as smoothest as possible. However if we look around, nature seems not to agree with the previous statement. In fact most of the surfaces in Nature are not at all smooth, they almost always present more or less regular arrangement of discontinuities at various length scales. Since Nature had a very large time-span to optimize this kind of surfaces we can suppose that they are the best possible options. One should pinpoint that the non smoothness of these surfaces can be connected to some other biological functions rather than pure fluid dynamic performance, and of course it can be the case.

An example of natural surface is the shark skin, in figure 1.1 a segment of the skin is depicted, as if appears to be, under the microscope.

The enlargement shows that the surface is made up by a series of overlapped denticles, and experiment shows that they can move and interact with the flow. This interaction is supposed to reduce the shark drag when swimming.

The shark "technology" has somehow been applied by Speedo®; which ha designed their famous swimming suits with a surface that mimics sharks skin. Multiple swimmers happen to break several world records wearing this swimming suits. This controversial swimmers performance was due to the fact that they compress the body giving the swimmer a more and streamlined shape. Even thought the company has publicized their product as if it was a synthetic shark skin, Oeffner and Lauder [117] have shown that the texture of their swimming suits is somehow different from the shark dermal structure. In their work

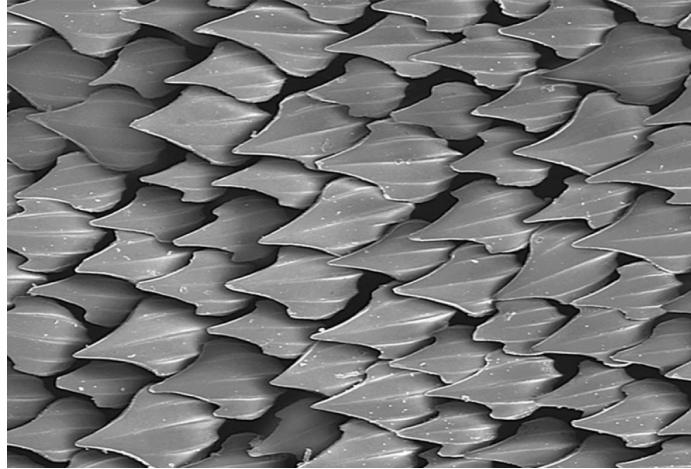


Figure 1.1: Microscope enlarged picture of the shark skin.

the authors have performed swimming experiment of a flat plate with different coatings and they did not find significant speed enhancement with a swimsuit like surface, but the measurements with real shark skin on the contrary have demonstrated an appreciable improvement of the performance.

Poroelastic surfaces find also applications in aeroacoustics, as a matter of fact owls are well known for their particularly silent flight, especially in the high frequency spectrum. This characteristic is crucial for the owl in order to be able to capture its preys. Obviously it has inspired the scientific community to study their feathers, configuration and shape.



Figure 1.2: Feathers on owl's wing. Left: trailing edge. Right: leading edge. The differences in shape and mechanical properties, as rigidity, between the leading and trailing edge, is a consequence of the different flow regimes in the wing.

Several authors show promising results in characterizing the acoustic properties of the owl's skin and their physical mechanisms. In particular Lilley [97] presented three main characteristics of the owl, which can suppress its airborne noise: the feathers leading edge is shaped like a comb; the trailing edge forms a fringe and also multiple "filaments" in the

bottom surface of wing and legs.

Another example on the same topic is represented by Jaworski and Peake [84] who studied the acoustic scattering problem of a poroelastic half-plane encountering an incident plane wave. This configuration, a simplified owl's wing, explains how the properties of this surface can suppress the noise. They concluded that the combined effects of elasticity and porosity can produce a weaker noise amplification.

Recent computational simulations performed by Chen et al. [40] confirm that the leading edge shape of the feathers truly suppress noise and enhance the lift generation.

Bioinspired aerodynamic surfaces include another peculiar example in the butterflies wings. In figure 1.3 the surface of a "Peacock butterfly" is enlarged in order to show the multiple scales involved; the wing structure present firstly a series of overlapped scales similar to the shark, but if we look closely we can observe that each scale has a complicate permeable structure.

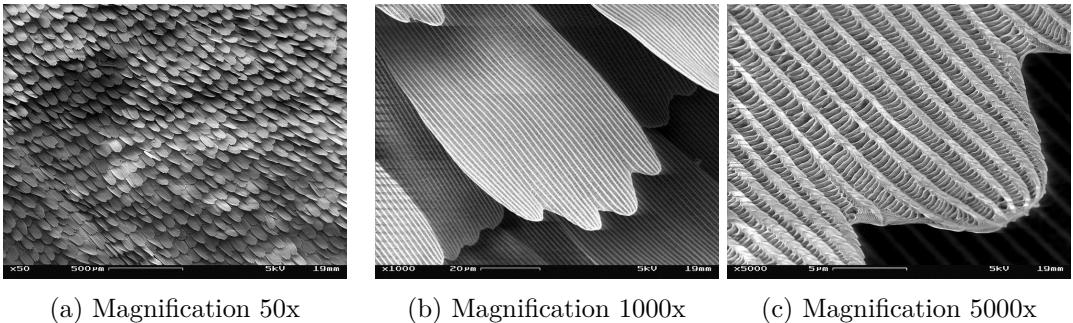


Figure 1.3: Particular of a Peacock butterfly wing, taken with a Scanning Electron Microscope. Images from [wikimedia.org](#)

Slegers et al. [143] have studied the effect of such porous structure on the performance in the flight of butterflies. Using cameras to measure the kinematics of their flight, they can measure their efficiency to "climb" (i.e. generate lift) and the stroke amplitude and frequency. The authors conclude that the porous structure of their wing gives a boost in climbing efficiency of 30%; this result clearly stresses out the importance of the poroelastic coating of the wings. Even though the butterfly flight aerodynamic is extremely complex, it is clear that the peculiar structure of the wing's surface is critical for their aerodynamic performances, as also Srygley and Thomas [145] confirms.

The last example concerns super-hydrophobic surfaces; these surfaces are water repellent, i.e. the water can slide over them with less resistance, resulting in very small values of wettability. This behavior is caused by the microscopic structure which forms the surface (see figure 1.4). In reality the rugosities are arranged in a quasi-regular way, in order to be able to capture air pockets that rest within the "valleys". These air inclusions provoke an effective slip at the air-liquid interface that causes the friction reduction; they also change

the contact angle of droplets. Bottaro et al. [23] summarizes some of the above aspect and their applications.

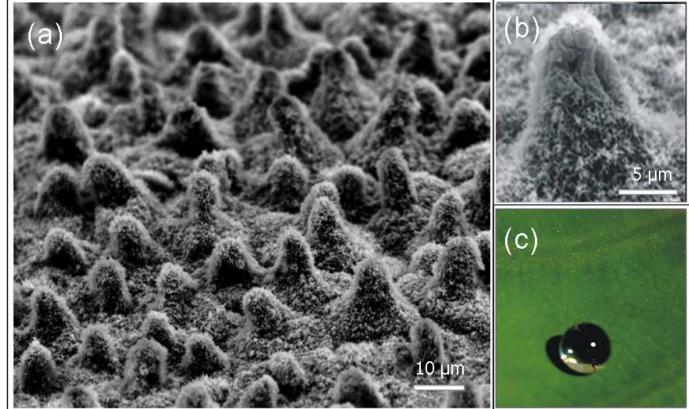


Figure 1.4: (a) Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) image showing the structure of lotus leaf, (b) higher order of magnification on the single protuberance forming the surface and (c) a water drop with high contact angle, attaining an almost spherical shape. Images from Stratakis et al. [146].

Interested readers can find more examples and broaden the above key aspect in Bhushan [20] and Tropea and Bleckmann [149].

## 1.2 Riblets and shark-skin surfaces

We have shown that natural surfaces can be an inspiration to find strategies in solving many problems concerning aerodynamics. In the following we especially focus on drag reduction.

It is known that the total drag contribution can be separated into different components and the classical decomposition is between viscous drag (sometimes referred to skin friction) and pressure drag.

$$\int_{A_\sigma} \left[ \underbrace{(p\mathbf{I}) \cdot \mathbf{n}_\sigma}_{\text{pressure drag}} + \underbrace{\boldsymbol{\tau}}_{\text{viscous drag}} \right] dA, \quad (1.1)$$

where the shear stress  $\boldsymbol{\tau}$  is defined as:

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \mu (\nabla \mathbf{v} + \nabla^T \mathbf{v}) \cdot \mathbf{n}_\sigma$$

In (1.1)  $A_\sigma$  is the solid interface of some body where a no-slip condition is applied, and  $\mathbf{n}_\sigma$  is its outward normal.

The shear stress in the turbulent case is defined as:

$$\tau_t = (\mu + \mu_t) [\nabla \bar{v} + \nabla^T \bar{v}] \cdot \mathbf{n}_\sigma \quad (1.2)$$

where  $\mu_t$  is the turbulent viscosity and  $\bar{v}$  is the temporal average velocity. This section talks about the existing ways to reduce the viscous part of the drag working only on the surface texture.

### 1.2.1 Rilets

Most of the industrial applications involves turbulent flow, as a results there is a lot of research that aims to reduce the skin-friction in this regime. Table 6.3.1 in the book of McLean [105] includes a wide list of technique already been proposed on the problem. As the same author pinpoints, the most effective and, probably the most practicable solution are rilets. Rilets are alternating ridges aligned in the streamwise flow direction and regularly arranged, as figure 1.5 shows. These surfaces are capable to align the turbulent flow along the mean flow direction, smoothing the fluctuation of the crossflow in the viscous sublayer. The turbulent momentum transfer is reduced and as consequence of reducing these fluctuations close to the surface. In the same manner the surface experience less skin-friction.

The viscous drag reduction correlates well with the spacing between the ridges expressed in wall units  $s^+$ . The typical shape of the  $\Delta\tau/\tau_0 - s^+$  relation is depicted in figure 1.6, where the vertical axis shows the drag reduction against the  $s^+$ . This general shape of the curve, in which the skin friction decreases in certain range of spacing and then increase as the ridge spacing increases, is caused by a competition between the capacity of rilets to obstruct lateral fluid flow and, the increase of penetration of high speed vortices inside this manufactured wall irregularity.

This last physical explanation of the rilets performances is presented in the schematics 1.7, where the gray areas show high skin-friction regions caused by the downwash motion generated by the near-wall vortices. Thus it is clear that, when the rilets are too large, the vortices can penetrate inside the groove and, actually, increase the skin-friction, due to larger area exposed to the local velocity. On the contrary, when the rilets are smaller, the high speed vortex only hit the tip of the ridges, so only a small local area of the surface experiences high-shear stresses.

The slope  $m_s$  of the curve in figure 1.6 can be predicted by linear stability theory (either in laminar and turbulent cases changing the definition of base flow) or by means of empirical correlations García-Mayoral and Jiménez [63].

Computing the performance of such surfaces can be expensive, since the most reliable quantitative theory for such problems consist of direct numerical simulations (DNS) or experiments. However there is only one more theory, besides the already cited expensive ones, that uses the concept of *protrusion height*, shown in figure 1.5, to correlates the shape of these protrusions to the drag reduction (cf. Luchini et al. [98]). In this way the

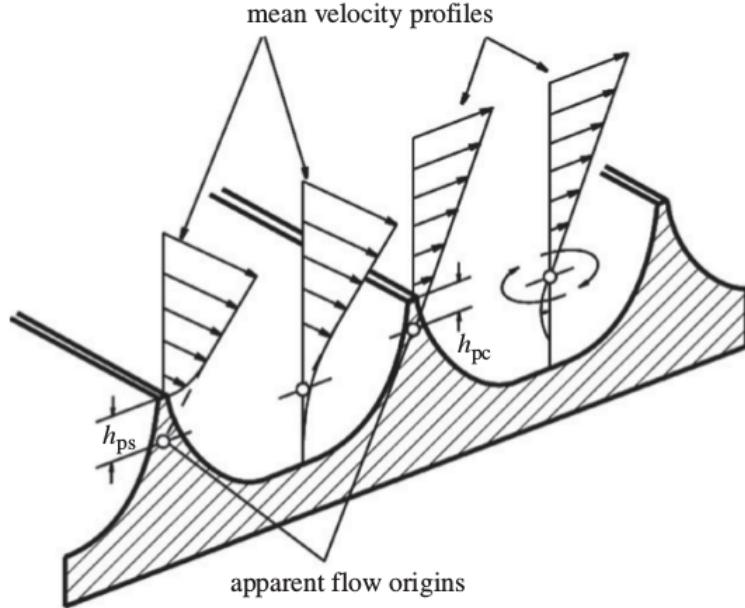


Figure 1.5: Schematics of the *protrusion height* concept. The mean velocity profiles for the stream-wise and crossflow velocities are shown. In presence of a ridge it is possible to extrapolate the point of zero velocity from the velocity gradient outside the riblet; finding respectively, the *streamwise protrusion height*  $h_{ps}$  and the *cross-flow protrusion height*  $h_{pc}$ . Image from Bechert et al. [17].

*protrusion height* is defined as the vertical distance between the riblet top ridge and the point of zero velocity, extrapolated from the constant velocity gradient outside above the protrusions. It appears that the difference of protrusion heights ( $h_{ps} - h_{pc}$ ) correlates very well with the drag reduction. The two quantities can be computed with a simple Stokes problem over the local geometry of the grooves. The last result has been analyzed by Gomez-de Segura et al. [70] that propose an empirical law for the drag reduction, relating the previous protrusion heights with the permeability expressed in wall units:

$$-\Delta\tau/\tau_0 = DR \approx 0.04 \left( \sqrt{K_s^+} - \sqrt{K_c^+} \right), \quad (1.3)$$

where  $K_s^+$  and  $K_c^+$  are the streamwise and crossflow permeability tensor components. This law establishes a relation that help to estimate the drag reduction from a given geometry of the wall. The permeability tensor can be computed within the porous media homogenization approach as chapter 2 explains.

Another important characteristic of riblets performance is that they are robust in off-design conditions, such as in presence of yaw (misalignment between flow and riblets ridges)

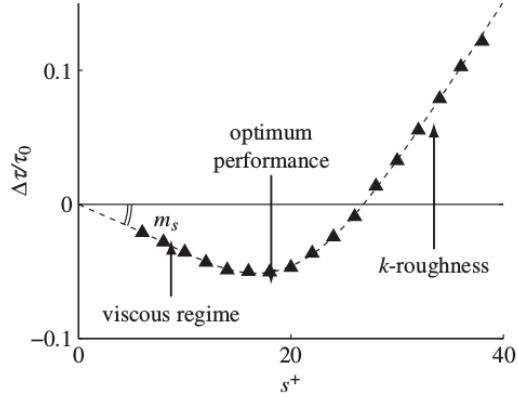


Figure 1.6: Example of drag reduction relation to the ridge spacing. The maximum performance is normally around  $s^+ = 15$ , the picture shows also that when the riblets are really tight one another the laminar case is retrieved. On the contrary when the riblets are far away one another their performance is comparable to rough plate case. Image from Jimenez et al. [85].

and tip ridges erosion (García-Mayoral and Jiménez [62]).

Besides some very specific application such as sailing competitions (the hulls of the USA challengers in the America's Cup 1987 and 2010), the massive uses of this technology is still in question. Producing such surfaces in a larger area, like the roof of a car or the wing of an airplane, can be an issue for a routine use; because riblets size need to be very little to be effective. The riblets need also to be cleaned after each use otherwise some residue (like insect or vegetation) can modify the roughness of the surface and reduce the effectiveness.

Anyhow riblets like surface has been observed in nature for many years, for example Martin and Bhushan [102] found out that skimmer birds (Rynchops) have riblets like grooves in their beak, since they fly with it under the water surface to catch fishes. However, as already introduced, the most clear example of such natural surfaces are shark skin.

### 1.2.2 Shark skin

In his review, Dean and Bhushan [48] present the status of the shape optimization that has been done on the riblets trying to mimic the typical sawtooth shape seen on shark skin, showing that improvements of such geometries over the classical ones has yet to be proven. Shape optimization on riblets geometry has been studied, the findings show that just a few % can be improved on the base line geometry Bechert et al. [17].

There are, actually, some controversial results in literature stating that surfaces, with actual shark skin replica, can indeed increase drag. Boomsma and Sotiropoulos [22] per-

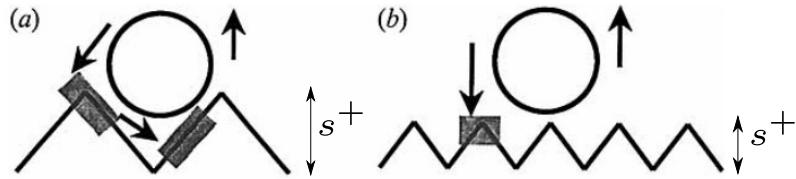


Figure 1.7: Two different sizes of riblets are shown when interacting with a sublayer vortex. In gray it is represented the area where friction is important. Clearly when both sizes are comparable the surface experience a larger friction and the performance is lowered. Image from Choi et al. [41].

formed some simulations on actual shark skin denticles using the immersed boundary method. The authors simulate various arrangement of the denticles and they find that, in some configuration, the actual drag increase up to 40%. This can be a clue that the shark skin does not work with the same mechanism as riblets do.

Experiments on such geometries are available in literature (Bechert et al. [16]). The authors built a synthetic surface, made by artificial shark denticles posed on top of springs. They measure that even with the introduction of surface elasticity, the actual drag was increased. However, they pinpointed that the actual shark flow regime was not steady in the experiments that he performed, and they speculated that the excellent swimming performance of the shark comes from the separation control that flexible denticles can increase in the periodic oscillating flow that the swimming generates.

In addition an experiment using DPIV on a NACA profile covered with actual skin samples of "Isurus oxyrinchus" mako shark, has been performed by Lang et al. [94], confirming that the flexibility of sharks denticles act as a passive flow control in order to avoid early separation. In fact, the experiment had proved that for angles of attack larger than  $15^\circ$  the flow reversal was almost completely avoided. The same author noted that different geometries of the denticles can be found in various part of the sharks body, and these differences can be important since flow conditions can change from the head to the tail. Motta et al. [111] perform a detailed collection of flexibility and scale measurement of different shark species that can be valuable for future studies.

Again, swimming experiments from Oeffner and Lauder [117], who used a flat plate covered with real shark skin, confirmed the previous flow control mechanism. They had also made some conjectures about possible thrust enhancing, controlled by the same denticles, that can move away the leading edge vortex.

Also Itoh et al. [83] showed that movable rugosities can outperform riblets, the authors measured the drag reduction of a seal fur (that present fibrous movable surface) against a riblet surface in an experimental channel. Their results are show in figure 1.8 in which is visible that seal fur can outperform rigid riblet performance by a 5% in a certain span of Reynolds number tested.

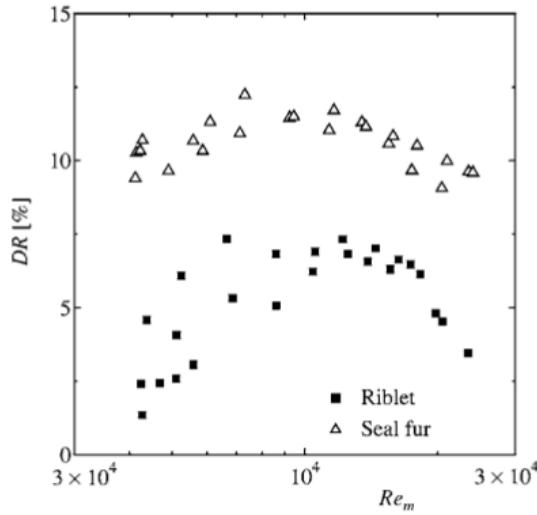


Figure 1.8: Performance comparison between a riblet surface against a seal fur. The drag reduction has been computed as:  $DR\% = \frac{\Delta\tau}{\tau_0}\%$  Image from Itoh et al. [83].

Compliant surfaces can, in reality, move accordingly to the surface pressure gradients along the boundary layer and so respond to the pressure fluctuation over the surface itself. This mechanism is already known to be beneficial in delaying the transition to turbulence and many authors have presented theoretical and experimental evidence on the effectiveness of this solution (Carpenter [37], Bushnell et al. [32]).

In conclusion, we have seen that, in order to reduce turbulent skin-friction drag, riblets and natural surfaces use various mechanisms such as: sublayer vortices interaction, compliance and separation control. Such solutions have proven to be effective in various cases mostly related to the viscous component of the drag. In the next section we introduce another class of solutions that try to act mostly on the pressure component.

### 1.3 Permeable surfaces

As permeable surfaces we indicate permeable coatings that usually have an important thickness; in contrast to riblets, in which the vertical extension outside the wall is limited. In this case the flow can penetrate deep into the porous surface and generate complex interaction mechanism. The next sections presents an overview of the most notable applications of such permeable surfaces.

### 1.3.1 Bluff bodies

There is some experimental evidence that, in laminar regime, generation of some *slip velocity* at the interface between the permeable surface and a fluid, can decrease the skin friction (Beavers and Joseph [15]). However, in the turbulent case it seems that the instabilities developing at the interface can cause an increase in drag up to 40% (Jimenez et al. [85] and Breugem et al. [26]); these instabilities mechanism is further explained in the section 1.5. It is important to precise that the permeable surfaces cited in the above references are all rigid.

The pressure contribution to the drag is usually the most significant one in bluff bodies applications, and even in highly streamlined body it is around 10% of the total drag. Researchers tried to find a way to modify the pressure distribution around a bluff body to reduce the associated resistance, and also damp the force oscillation on the body (drag and/or lift).

The pressure drag on a bluff body depends mostly on the difference between the low pressure on the rear part of the body, where there is usually a separated flow region, and the high pressure in the forward part. This idea is sketched in figure 1.9 where two different pressure distributions are shown; the black one represents the classical solid body, and the green one is the one with a porous layer at the back of the body.

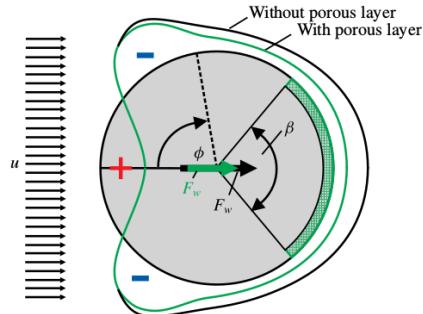


Figure 1.9: Diagram showing an example of angular pressure distribution around a cylinder for viscous flow. The black line is the case of a solid body, the green one is the modified pressure in presence of a porous layer at the rear part. Image from Klausmann and Ruck [87].

The favorable increase of the pressure in the rear point is due to the low speed laminar flow in the porous media that is ejected in the back region where separation takes place. Even in very high speed turbulent flow, the fluid inside permeable surface exhibits a very high energy loss due to the strong dissipation that the medium provides, resulting in a low speed flow ejected downstream of the body.

The permeable interface, producing a slip velocity, can modify the boundary layer

that develops above it producing less shear and vorticity, modifying also the stability characteristics of the flow. The instability around a cylinder is due to the shear layer that forms in the top part of the body, when the flow starts to decelerate. This shear layer exhibits a Kelvin–Helmholtz type instability that develops in the classical Von-Karman wake.

This two hypothetical mechanisms has been tested using numerical simulation by multiple authors: Bruneau and Mortazavi [29], Bruneau and Mortazavi [30], Bhattacharyya and Singh [19], Naito and Fukagata [112] and Mimeau et al. [109]. These works studied the flow around some classical two dimensional bluff bodies (cylinder, square cylinder, Ahmed body section, 3D hemisphere) with the add of a porous layer.

These works show some very promising results, like: decrease of enstrophy, lower oscillations in lift signal, drag reduction, regularization of the wake and lower pressure gradients, even if the porous medium was rigid in their case. An example of turbulent flow field downstream to a square cylinder is shown in figure 1.10; the picture display how the porous layer strongly regularize the wake.

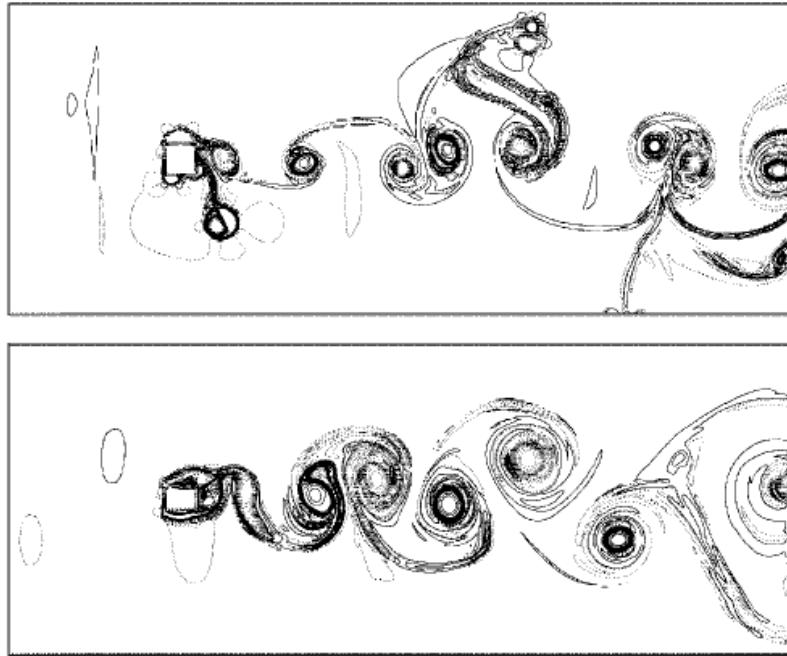


Figure 1.10: Square cylinder vorticity contour for  $Re = 30000$ . Top: solid case. Bottom: porous case with layer extension  $h = 10\%D$ .

The simulations performed by the authors above indicate that porous medium parameters, like the medium porosity or its vertical extension above the solid wall, have important effects on the results. The variety of results seems to agree (at least qualitatively) that

increasing the porous medium extension over a certain limit is not beneficial, and they also show that the porosity of the medium should not be excessive in order to be effective (high/medium porosities are the best).

However the above results should be taken with some care; only few cases are three-dimensional, they all use a modeling approach for the porous medium based on a simplified version of the VANS (Volume Average Navier-Stokes equations, see section 1.4.2), without performing any validation of the method. Sometimes they also use the equations outside their field of validity (there is some discussion in the scientific community in using the previous version of VANS equations for highly turbulent flows).

The lack of validation reflects the fact that reliable experiments of such porous coatings are almost non existent in literature. There is also some confusion in the community on how to compute forces on such bodies surrounded by a porous coating. These differences led some authors (as Naito and Fukagata [112]) to over-estimate the forces and their predictions are not inline with the literature. Moreover Caltagirone [33], with some theoretical bases, establishes that the approach used by Bruneau and Mortazavi [29] is the correct one for that specific version of the VANS used by all the previous authors.

The approach of Favier et al. [54] differentiates itself from the previous approach that use the VANS equations. In fact the authors use a numerical method that includes the dynamic of a moving porous medium made of fibers at the back of a cylinder. Their results in a laminar flow case agree with the prediction of a stabilization of the wake and show some more realistic values of drag reduction, about 15%. However the difficulties in this approach lies in the medium dynamic; it introduce many mechanical parameters that are not easily identifiable for natural surfaces.

A similar model has been used by Venkataraman and Bottaro [151], in which they applied a movable porous coating in the upper part of NACA airfoil. In this case the synchronization between the oscillations of the structures and the natural frequency of the fluid is responsible for the pressure distribution modification. They have shown the robustness of this solution in a wide range of angle of attack, and in the best case they have found some lift enhancement and a drag reduction around 10%.

Later on Rosti et al. [135] worked on a similar configuration with only one movable flap on the low pressure side of the airfoil; the both numerical and experimental results qualitatively agree (on the flow mechanism) with the results in the complete porous case.

**SHOW SOME RESULTS ON THE 3D SPHERE USING HOMOGENIZATION WHEN IT WILL BE PUBLISHED giuseppe ... [69]**

The very few experiments in literature on this porous coatings show less promising results associated to drag reduction.

For example, Heenan and Morrison [77] perform an experiment in which they take a backward facing step with a porous insert in the re-circulation region. Their measurement shows a 13% decrease of the peak of pressure at the wall and a relocation of the detachment point further downstream. A maximum of 9% of drag reduction was measured. The effect of adding a porous surface in this case was to limit the pressure fluctuations that cause the

re-circulation bubble unsteadiness.

Later on Klausmann and Ruck [87] studied a 3D cylinder with a porous insert in the back (as in figure 1.9); the authors use a wind tunnel testing with pressure measurements around the body and particle image velocimetry (PIV) flow capture. Their results confirmed that the porous layer on the leeward side increases the pressure in that zone, causing a reduction of drag around 10% over various Reynolds number (in turbulence range). This last measurement was sensitive to the geometrical parameters of the medium as the position and its size. At our knowledge this is the first example of actual measurements of flow quantities using PIV, that can later be used to perform some validation on different numerical models. The above results are partially confirmed by a similar experimental analysis by Grizzetti et al. [74].

Some other experimental data can be found in the case of flow over aquatic canopies (Zhang and Nepf [169], Segalini et al. [138] and Hamed et al. [76]) even though the published data are limited and the experiments show the presence of a free surface that increase the difficulty of the problem and limit the possible use as a simple validation.

From this section the main physical mechanism related to permeable surfaces has been introduced. Even thought the different approaches in literature seems to be discordant in the predicted values of some fundamental items such as the forces, a general trend on all data shows that porous coatings can be effectively used in many situations. It is clear that the scientific community needs much more experimental data in order to develop new and improved numerical and theoretical models for such permeable coatings.

### 1.3.2 Canopy flow

Another important class of flows over poroelastic carpets are the *canopy flows* as named in literature. These type of problems involve flows over flexible slender structure such as trees and aquatic vegetation. The behavior of wind over plants is very important in a large variety of fields, like: the transport of substances as  $CO_2$  and nutrients or preventing agricultural damage (wind-throw of crop fields); also some similarities with urban canopies can be found Ghisalberti [65].

The boundary layer profile over such canopies differs substantially from the rough wall one, as figure 1.11 shows. The vegetation resistance causes the creation of an inflection point in the mean velocity profile that leads to a mixing layer type of instability (Kelvin-Helmholtz instability) near the vegetation top. As a consequence of such instabilities Finnigan [56] indicated that the vegetation can heavily modify the turbulence spectra as a result of the interface instabilities and the coherent structures above it. The two pictures at the bottom of figure 1.11 outline the above statements; the spectrum in case of canopy flow presents a larger peak in the frequency of the mixing layer instability, a steeper slope in the energy cascade part due to the larger dissipation inside the permeable layer and possible high frequency peaks associated to the swinging of the plants that can emit or absorb small scales vortices.

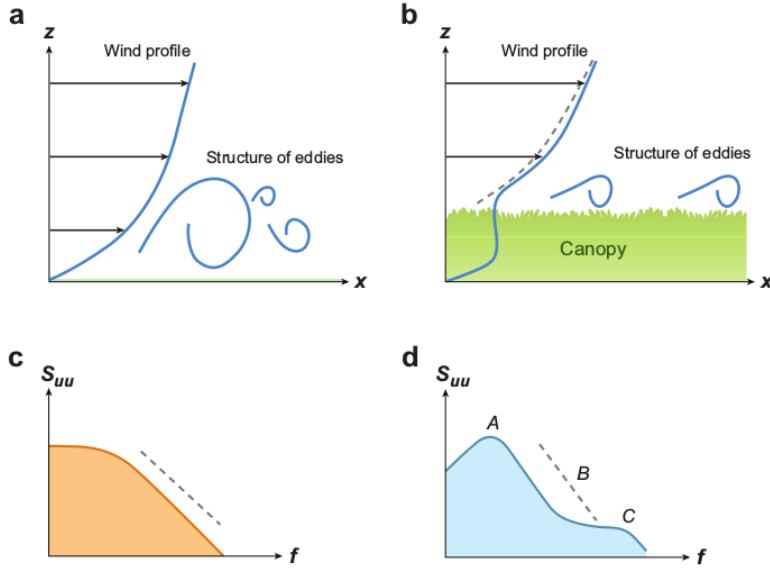


Figure 1.11: Figure **a** and **b** show respectively the schematics of the mean flow over a rough wall and a canopy flow; the difference in the eddy size is clear, also the inflection point in the canopy flow velocity profile is obvious. The figure **c** and **d** instead show the turbulent spectra for the two different flows above, in case of rough wall a Kolmogorov type of spectra can be retrieved; in case of canopy flow it is possible to see a larger peak in the frequency of the mixing layer instability, a steeper slope in the energy cascade part and high frequency peaks at high frequencies. Image from De Langre [47]

Is it clear from literature that the dynamic of the permeable substrate made by vegetation is extremely important and should always be taken into account to fully generalize the physics in such problems involving moving canopies; Nepf [113] shows how the interface between aquatic plants and the free flow can be largely modified due to the movement of the fibers (most of the plants arm and branch can be viewed as fibers).

In order to discriminate the different behavior of the fibrous structure it is convenient to introduce some important non-dimensional parameters used in fluid structure interaction problems:

$$m^* = \rho_\beta / \rho_\sigma, \quad C_Y = \rho_\beta U_\infty^2 s^3 / E, \quad s = H/d,$$

where  $\rho_\beta$  is the fluid phase density,  $\rho_\sigma$  is the solid phase density,  $U_\infty$  is a free-stream reference velocity,  $E$  is the Young modulus of the solid material,  $H$  is a reference length for the extension of the solid structure and  $d$  is a reference length for the thickness of the material. The first parameter is the *mass ratio* ( $m^*$ ), the second is called *Cauchy number* ( $C_Y$ ) and the last one is the *slenderness* ( $s$ ) of the structure. The mass ratio is a measure of the added mass effects caused by the solid inertia, however these effects are

usually negligible in case of fibrous permeable media. The Cauchy number defines the static deformation of a fiber caused by the fluid flow; when Cauchy number is greater than unity, important deformations are expected. This last parameter is extremely important since it controls a phenomenon called *reconfiguration* that leads to drag reduction (Gosselin and De Langre [72] and Alvarado et al. [5]). The reconfiguration can be defined as the capability of the structure to adopt a new shape when forced by a flow, usually it becomes more streamlined to reduce its exposed frontal area with the aim to reduce the total drag. When dealing with this phenomenon one should take into account of the frontal area  $A$  and the drag coefficient  $C_D$  as an ensemble, in order to avoid misinterpretation of the drag reduction; in figure 1.12 the ratio of the parameter  $AC_D$  has been represented for different natural structures against the Cauchy number and it's evident that for a  $C_Y > 1$  a drastic drag reduction can be observed.

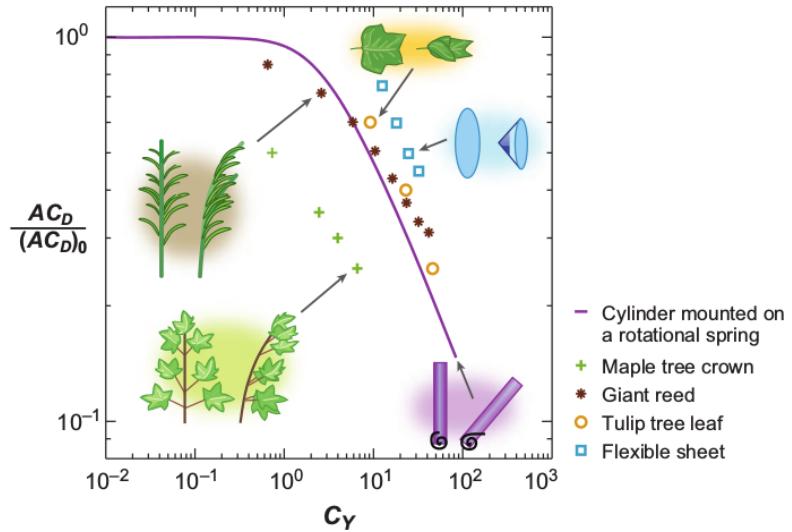


Figure 1.12: The effects of the Cauchy number  $C_Y$  on the drag reduction are presented in the figure. The drag reduction has been represented as the ratio between the frontal area  $A$  and the drag coefficient  $C_D$  at static condition (subscript 0) and the dynamic condition (no subscript). Image from De Langre [47]

The overall reconfiguration of the permeable medium can lead to pressure recovery and a wake regularization when applied to a bluff body, as the experiments by Gosselin and De Langre [72] show.

Another important non-dimensional number is the *reduced velocity* ( $U_R$ ), that can be derived from the previous ones:

$$U_R = \sqrt{C_Y s/m^*}$$

This number is used dealing with vortex induced vibration of slender structures; when it

is near to one, dynamical coupling between the fluid and the structure is expected, such as resonance or lock-in phenomena (self-excited vortex-induced vibrations accompanied by the synchronization of the frequency of vortex formation with the frequency of structure vibration).

Canopies can also help to prevent separation in presence of adverse pressure gradients. Belcher et al. [18] show an analysis of the flow over an hill covered with canopies using either numerical and experimental data; the authors show how the permeable layer can present a re-circulation region inside the canopy in the decreasing slope side of the hill. This zone move the separation away from the flow over the hill to the internal structure of the canopy.

It is important to pinpoint that the above results are restricted to fibrous or slender structures and they cannot be extrapolated in general for different porous structure and shapes, even though similar mechanisms are expected.

The research on canopy flow embraces a wide range of configurations and this makes very difficult the comparison of the results since most of the authors use very different models in a lot of various regimes of velocities, using flexible structures with very different shapes. Even if experiments are easier to find, like Segalini et al. [138], Segalini et al. [139], Maza et al. [103], Barsu et al. [11] and Alvarado et al. [5], there is no quantitatively mathematical model established for the fluid and structure equations and almost all models available rely on empirical correlations that fit the data in each different application.

## 1.4 Models for flows through porous surfaces

In this section we want to show some insight of the key characteristic that a model of flows through poroelastic layers should have. In order to be as clear as possible we have taken as example a very simple geometry to sketch the problem; the flow over a wall that include flexible multiple filaments (in the hypothesis of highly packed fibers their whole totality can be treated like a porous medium). This simple geometrical configuration still has all the characteristic and difficulties of more interesting applications, such as a bluff body with a poroelastic layer.

The figure 1.13 shows a graphical schema of such flow; the main fluid direction is aligned with the  $x_1$  axis and the projection of velocity stream-wise component is shown in the plane  $x_1 - x_3$ . Such flow can bend the filaments that can show a more or less coherent response. The surface that envelops all the filaments lid ( $\Gamma$ ), defines the limit between the flow without obstacle ( $\Omega_f$ ) and the one inside the poroelastic medium ( $\Omega_p$ ). Its projection is shown in the  $x_1 - x_3$  plane.

In order to computationally solve this problem there are some key points to address:

- Length scales: the flow presents interaction at multiple scales. The flow can develop Kelvin–Helmholtz type instabilities on the interface (of size  $h$ ) and they can even penetrate inside the medium and brake up to very small scales eddies. In order

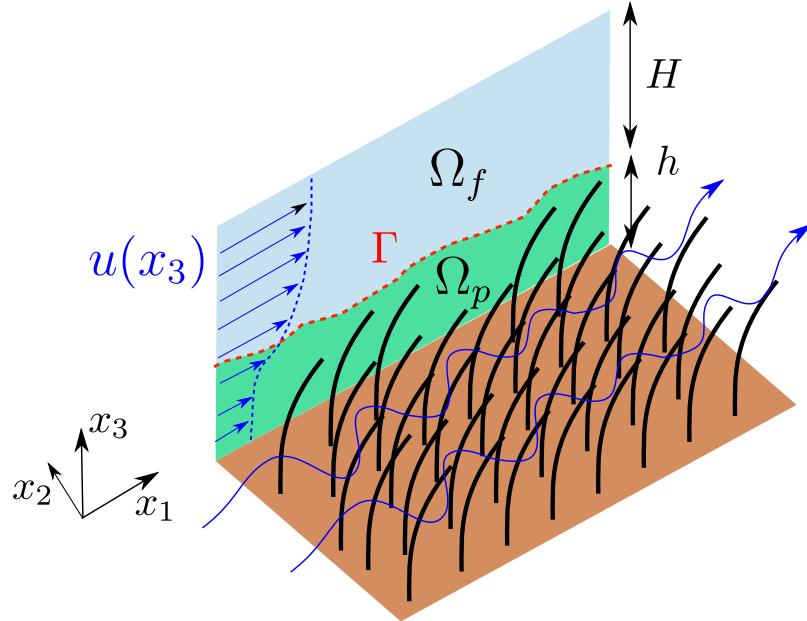


Figure 1.13: Sketch of a fully developed flow over a poroelastic surface made of multiple filaments.

to resolve this complex dynamic one should use a very fine numerical mesh (highly computational expensive) or come up with a model (like in the context of turbulence modeling). Turbulence dynamic can be also problematic; the hypothesis that pore size eddies can exist deep inside the porous medium is still at debate in the community. How to deal with such small scale dynamic and/or find a model is not an easy task.

- Compliance (fluid structure interaction): if the filaments are flexible, they can bend and swing due to the fluid load. We have to take into account a structural model for the filaments (for example Bernoulli beam), including also the computation of energy that the swing motion re-inject inside the fluid. This two-way coupling could also be really computational expensive in presence of a large number of filaments. If the flexibility is important, one should in principle take into account also the contact and repulsion (elastic coupling) between the fibers. If the porous medium has more complicated shapes (like the scales in the butterfly wing) to come out with a simplified model for the solid dynamic is even harder and the use of a general finite elements discretization is probably a necessity (increasing also the computational cost of the problem). Another approach consists of derive a "rheology" model for the medium, in which the average mechanical properties can be derived. Such models are applicable only to porous media where the solid inclusions are connected to each other. Such average methods are convenient computational speaking but their mathematical

description can be difficult.

- Anisotropy: the model used should be capable of treat permeable surfaces that have different responses when stressed in different directions. For instance the geometrical disposition and/or the mechanical properties of the medium can be non-homogeneous, so it appear more permeable in one direction and show a preferential flow path. The different reaction for a specific direction can be modeled with a tensorial parameter as for the case of the permeability tensor that is basically a generalized drag coefficient.

Dupont et al. [49] performed a LES simulation introducing a two way coupling for the fluid-structure interaction problem over a carpet of fibers. They validate their simulation with video recording of a similar experiment and the frequency measurements of the Kelvin–Helmholtz instabilities at the interface agrees very well. They have not specified the computational configuration used, but they have mentioned an important high performance computing center in the acknowledgment which made us suppose that the computational power involved was substantial. Recently also in Marjoribanks et al. [100] a similar approach has been used.

Some other examples that solve the full coupled problem directly are in Pinelli et al. [123], Favier et al. [55] and Revell et al. [133], but in this case the number of filaments is small and so they can be though more as isolated filaments rather than a poroelastic medium.

Due to the computationally expensiveness of solving the problem directly, the scientific community has came out with other approaches that treat the porous domain with a generalized model that does not resolve the fine scale inside the filaments, but instead expressed them as a function of the larger length scales present in the fluid domain  $\Omega_f$ .

These are called homogenization approaches and the key point in such methods are:

- The division of the overall domain in two different parts: the fluid domain  $\Omega_f$  and the porous domain  $\Omega_p$
- Two different fluid models are used in the two domains. In  $\Omega_f$  the Naver-Stokes equations for incompressible Newtonian fluids are solved. In the porous part there are a number of different models that adds source terms in the former equations to take into account the presence of the porous medium.
- The two domains should be coupled together with a boundary condition at the interface or a transitional region around the interface is added with its specific treatment.
- A model for the structural mechanics. It can be an averaged model or it can solve the mechanic equations directly.

The key points show above are extensively expanded, in chapter 2, for the homogenization method chosen in this thesis. However, in the next sections the two main branches in literature, that take into account the presence of a porous medium layer, are summarized in order to give a panoramic on the main possible choices.

### 1.4.1 Isotropic drag models

In the case of flow through vegetation (canopy flows) it is common to use an isotropic drag model<sup>1</sup> for parameterize the drag of the canopy. The drag can be a function of the wall normal direction, but in most of the application is taken as a constant. The isotropic hypothesis can be correct in case of dense vegetation; even if the normal component of the resistance should be smaller. However the resistance in the vertical direction can be approximated in this manner in channel flows where the mean flow is mostly streamwise. On the contrary, in applications where the transpiration of the interface is important (wake control of bluff body) the isotropic drag model is, certainly, not the most adequate.

The drag resistance is included in the Navier-Stokes equations as a source term:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_\beta}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v}_\beta \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v}_\beta = -\frac{1}{\rho_\beta} \nabla p_\beta + \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}_\beta - \frac{1}{2} C_D a |\mathbf{v}_\beta| \mathbf{v}_\beta, \quad (1.4)$$

Where the subscript  $\beta$  indicate variables defined in the fluid phase, and  $C_D$  the drag coefficient of the isolated fiber. The parameter  $a$  is the frontal area per unit volume of the vegetation, and it is function of the porosity of the medium. The drag term is quadratic in the velocity, but there is some evidence in literature that the reconfiguration phenomena can change this relationship (Gosselin and De Langre [72] and Alvarado et al. [5]).

From our point of view this approach lack of strong mathematical formalism. As a matter of fact the definition of the additional terms of the equations heavily relies on empirical relations. Another issue is that the isotropic hypothesis rules out the possibility to model the anisotropic nature of most surfaces in which we are interested<sup>2</sup>.

In the field of flows through vegetation some authors have successfully used this approach, for example Maza et al. [103] and Maza et al. [104] used it to study wave attenuation and Ghisalberti and Nepf [64], Battiato and Rubol [12] developed simple models for the 2D mean flow over a canopy.

### 1.4.2 Homogenization models

In this section we want to introduce the most used approach to derive the equations valid in the porous domain. The fundamental idea is to build a micro-scale model, either for the fluid and for the solid, and then derive the macro-scale equations using some averaging operator over the micro-scale.

The two most used homogenization methods are the *Volume Averaging* method (Whitaker [159]) and the *Multiple Scales* method Mei and Vernescu [107] they can be more broadly classified as perturbations methods. The key differences and the main results retrieved using these approaches are presented in the following.

---

<sup>1</sup>the drag is equal in the three principal directions of the medium

<sup>2</sup>as equation (1.3) suggest the difference in the permeability along each direction can be important for drag reduction

## Volume averaging

The method of Volume Averaging has been developed to treat transport equations in porous media applications; in this case the presence of two different length scales is obvious, as it can be evinced by figure 1.14.

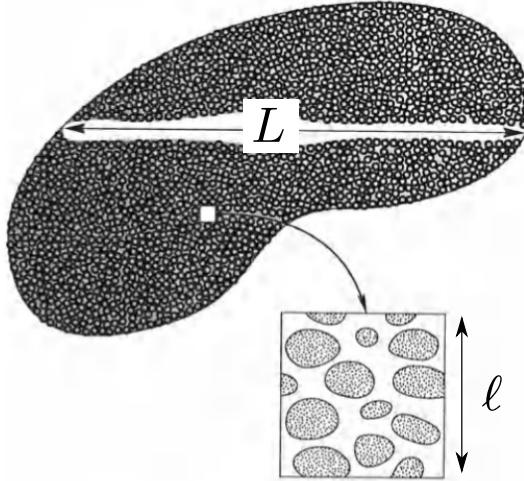


Figure 1.14: Schematics of a porous medium system of size  $L$ , with a zoom on the microscopic structure and its scale  $\ell$ . Image from Whitaker [159].

The core idea of the methods is to firstly define an average operator as

$$\langle \psi \rangle^\beta = \frac{1}{V_\beta} \int_V \psi dV$$

in this case the variable  $\psi$  represents any vector or scalar variable in the system of equations that we want to homogenize, for Navier-Stokes they are the velocity and the pressure.

The average operator has the purpose to homogenize the equation, in fact the second crucial step of the method is to decompose the variables as proposed by Gray [73]:

$$\psi = \underbrace{\langle \psi \rangle^\beta}_{O(L)} + \underbrace{\tilde{\psi}}_{O(\ell)} \quad (1.5)$$

The equation (1.5) shows how each variable can be decomposed in an averaged part which contains only spatial variations at the macro-scale  $L$  and a *fluctuation* part that contains only the micro-scale  $\ell$  spatial variations.

Also the decomposition can be substituted in the transport equations that we want to average, and after some mathematical manipulations it is possible to retrieve the new

averaged equations that include only variables of order  $L$ . Since this is the method chosen to develop our work, all the technical details are explained in chapter 2.

To introduce briefly some other aspects about this method, we show as example, how to derive the homogenized version of the Stokes equation. The described problem is a steady flow inside a rigid porous medium, like the one in figure 1.14. The Stokes equation valid for the fluid phase, indicated with the  $\beta$  subscript, reads:

$$0 = -\nabla p_\beta + \mu_\beta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}_\beta, \quad (1.6)$$

It is important to specify that equation (1.6) is valid only in the fluid phase and in order to solve it we have to consider a no-slip boundary condition at the interface with the solid phase, with the difficulties that come to define the complex structure of the solid inclusion. Applying the Averaging Method, we can derive a homogeneous version of (1.6) that is valid in all the porous domain that include the two different phases, the solid and the liquid one. The homogenized version of (1.6) is the well known Darcy equation:

$$\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta = -\frac{\mathbf{K}}{\varepsilon \mu_\beta} \nabla \langle p_\beta \rangle^\beta$$

developed with this approach by Whitaker [156].

The Darcy equation allows to recognize two additional quantities that arise from the averaging procedure, the first one is a scalar called porosity  $\varepsilon$  that represents the ratio between the volume of the fluid inside a reference volume, over the total volume itself. The second one is the tensor  $\mathbf{K}$  called permeability tensor and it expresses the resistance of the porous medium that affects the flow in its motion. The term  $\mathbf{K}$  plays the same role as  $C_{Da}$  in the isotropic drag model; the main difference is that the permeability tensor can be computed directly from the geometry of the medium (see chapter 2) so it does not rely on empirical relations. In addition the tensorial nature of this terms allows us to model porous inclusions that are anisotropic.

Applications of the theory include flow where inertial terms are not negligible (Whitaker [158]), porous media with small deformations (Whitaker [157]) and with high deformations (Hussong et al. [79]), turbulent problems (Soulaine and Quintard [144], Breugem et al. [26]), interface between a permeable medium and a free flow (Beavers and Joseph [15]), multi-phase systems (Whitaker [154]), heat transfer (Carbonell and Whitaker [35]) and sound propagation (Firdauss et al. [57], Lafarge et al. [93]).

It is impossible to go into detail of the derivation of the equations for each specific problem, but the key point was to show the differences between this method and the isotropic drag model of the previous section.

## Multiple Scales

The multiple scales method presents analogies to the previous one; and it has also been applied to similar problems in the context of porous media applications.

In this method we start with the assumption of scale separation between  $\ell$ , the micro-scale, and  $L$ , the macro-scale. The scale separation factor can be defined as  $\epsilon = \ell/L \ll 1$ . Using the same examples as the previous section, we show how to compute the homogenized version of the Stokes equation for fluid flow through porous media. We introduce the micro-scale and the macro-scale coordinates defined respectively as:

$$X_i = \frac{\tilde{x}_i}{L}, \quad x_i = \frac{\tilde{x}_i}{\ell},$$

where  $x_i$  are the original eulerian coordinate of the problem. Using the above separation factor it is possible to expand the pressure and velocity as:

$$\psi(X_i, x_i) = \psi^{(0)}(X_i, x_i) + \epsilon\psi^{(1)}(X_i, x_i) + \epsilon^2\psi^{(2)}(X_i, x_i) + O(\epsilon^3),$$

Substituting this decomposition inside the equation (1.6) it is possible to derive a set of hierarchical equations, one for each order of the expansion. It can be shown that analyzing each equation in the set the homogenized equation yields:

$$v_i^{(0)} = -K_{ij} \frac{\partial p^{(0)}}{\partial X_j}, \quad (1.7)$$

In which either the pressure or the velocity fields appears only at the order zero, and the equation depends only on the macro-scale length.

The same permeability tensor  $\mathbf{K}$  as before is found, with the same definition and interpretation. It is clear that for this toy problem we end up with the same set of homogenized equation; the point that has changed is the starting hypotheses of the method and the mathematical development to compute them.

A full analysis of the dualism of the two approaches can be found in the work by Davit et al. [46].

The multiple scales method has also been used to study many other problems: inertial effects (Mei and Auriault [106], Skjetne and Auriault [142]), coupling between a free fluid and a porous media (Mikelic and Jäger [108]), porous media with small deformations (Auriault and Sanchez-Palencia [8]), heat conduction in composites (Auriault [9]), rigid and moving permeable layers (Zampogna and Bottaro [164], Lācis et al. [92] and Zampogna and Bottaro [166]).

## 1.5 Stability of flows over permeable surfaces

Flows through submerged aquatic plants exhibit large scale vortices at the top of the vegetation, advected along the flow direction and causing a periodic waving of the plants, referred to as monami (if the fluid is air) and honami (in case of water) Inoue [81], Ackerman and Okubo [1]. The effect of the onset of the monami is depicted in figure 1.17.

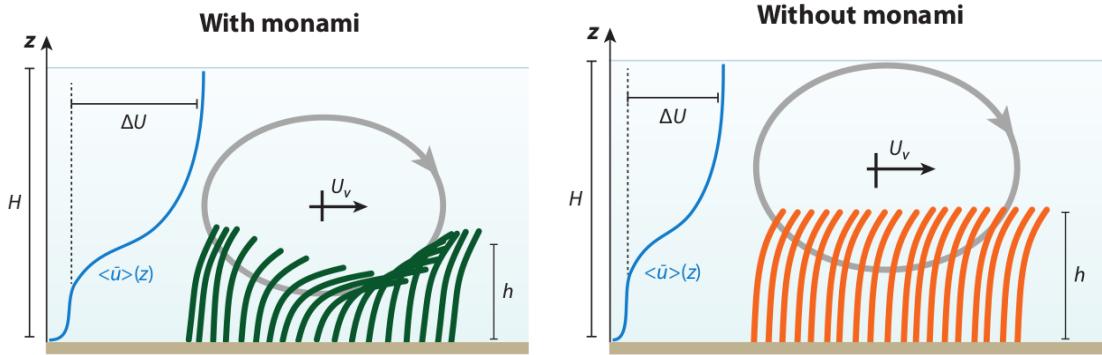


Figure 1.15: Left: when the drag of the canopy is high enough it generates canopy-scale vortices by Kelvin-Helmholtz instability. These vortices may interact with the flexible vegetation and generate a waving motion called monami. Right: when this interaction is too weak, the canopy only bend. Image from Nepf [113].

Vortices arise from the nonlinear amplification of a Kelvin-Helmholtz instability mode, related to the presence of an inflection point in the base flow profile (Asaeda et al. [7]); the profile itself is inflectional because the fluid is slowed down by the drag exerted by the canopy, whose modeling has recently been addressed (Py et al. [124], Singh et al. [141], Zampogna et al. [168] and Tilton and Cortelezzi [148]). The correct prediction of the onset and characteristics of the Kelvin-Helmholtz instability are important to assessing the effects of turbulence (Finnigan [56], Jimenez et al. [85]) in particular to:

- understand how the vertical exchange of momentum occurs (Ikeda and Kanazawa [80]).
- clarify how the transport of CO<sub>2</sub> and dissolved nutrients or sediments take place. This exchange occur between the obstructed vegetation flow and the free overflow motion (Gambi et al. [60], Eckman [50], Grizzle et al. [75]).
- to assess the changes in the morphology of the vegetation in inland or coastal wetlands in response to continuous periodic forcing Asaeda et al. [7], Patil and Singh [120].

One of the possible approaches to study how and when these instabilities start is the linear stability analysis. In the following section we briefly introduce the key assumption and simplifications of the method, and in the next section some results in the context of permeable surfaces are presented.

### 1.5.1 Stability theory generalities

Stability theory covers the modeling of transition of fluid systems towards unsteady states such as turbulence. The theory gives us a fast and robust method to compute the frequency and growth rate of the unstable modes, if there is any, in the base flow.

The linear stability relies on the decomposition of the flow variables  $\mathbf{q}$  into a steady-state part  $\bar{\mathbf{q}}$ , called base flow, and an unsteady part  $\tilde{\mathbf{q}}$ :

$$\mathbf{q}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \bar{\mathbf{q}}(\mathbf{x}) + \tilde{\mathbf{q}}(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

Where the unsteady part is small compared to the steady one. We also simplify  $\tilde{\mathbf{q}}$  with the hypothesis to have a general wave form:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{q}} = \hat{\mathbf{q}}(\mathbf{x})e^{i\Theta(\mathbf{x}, t)}$$

where  $\hat{\mathbf{q}}$  is the amplitude function and  $\Theta$  is the phase of the perturbation. The choice made to determine the time and space dependence of either the phase function and the amplitude determine a certain hierarchy inside the stability theories. This hierarchy depends on how many directions we consider to be periodic in the amplitude function<sup>3</sup>. Figure 1.16 below present each possible choice in literature and the theory that derives from it:

	Denomination	Basic state assumption	Amplitude function	Phase function $\Theta$
Global	TriGlobal PSE-3D	$\bar{\mathbf{q}} \ll \partial_2 \bar{\mathbf{q}}, \partial_3 \bar{\mathbf{q}}$	$\bar{\mathbf{q}}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ $\bar{\mathbf{q}}(x_1^*, x_2, x_3)$	$\hat{\mathbf{q}}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ $\hat{\mathbf{q}}(x_1^*, x_2, x_3)$
	BiGlobal	$\partial_1 \bar{\mathbf{q}} = 0$	$\bar{\mathbf{q}}(x_2, x_3)$	$\hat{\mathbf{q}}(x_2, x_3)$
Nonlocal	PSE	$\partial_1 \bar{\mathbf{q}} \ll \partial_2 \bar{\mathbf{q}}, \partial_3 \bar{\mathbf{q}} = 0$	$\bar{\mathbf{q}}(x_1^*, x_2)$	$\hat{\mathbf{q}}(x_1^*, x_2)$
Local	OSE	$\partial_1 \bar{\mathbf{q}} = \partial_2 \bar{\mathbf{q}} = 0$	$\bar{\mathbf{q}}(x_2)$	$\hat{\mathbf{q}}(x_2)$

Figure 1.16: Classification of modal linear stability theories. Table reported from Juniper et al. [86].

In our case we have limited our study to a local approach build on mode decomposition, *local stability theory* (LST, also known as *ordinary stability equations* OSE in the denomination of figure 1.16). In the LST we make the hypothesis that the amplitude and the base flow depend only on the wall normal spatial coordinate (parallel flow) and the phase function take into account the periodicity in time and in the streamwise and cross-flow directions. The last hypothesis should not only be seen as a simplification since there are some class of problems (such as canopy flows) in which two of the three directions are really homogeneous. The complete formulation is in the following equation:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{q}}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \hat{\mathbf{q}}(x_2)e^{i(\alpha x_1 + \beta x_3 - \omega t)}$$

<sup>3</sup>The hierarchy goes from local approach with 2 directions periodic out of 3, to tri-global with all the 3 directions considered space dependent

where  $x_2$  is the wall normal direction,  $\alpha$  is the streamwise ( $x_1$ ) wavenumber,  $\beta$  is the crossflow ( $x_3$ ) wavenumber and  $\omega$  is the temporal frequency.

Casting this form for the pressure and velocity inside the Navier-Stokes equation, the equations that we get describe the evolution of the perturbations, taking the base flow as an input of the problem. In order to study the stability of the perturbations in their time evolution, problem known as *temporal stability*, we fix the space perturbation form imposing  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  as real numbers (inputs of the problem) and solving for  $\omega$  as a complex number. With such choices the problem became a generalized eigenvalue for  $\omega$ :

$$A\hat{\mathbf{q}} = \omega B\hat{\mathbf{q}}$$

The solution gives the frequency (real part of the eigenvalues) and the growth-rate (imaginary part) of the perturbation modes (eigenvectors) of the flow.

The above introduction of the method is quite condensed, however there is a lot of literature on the subject, (Juniper et al. [86], Criminale et al. [43], Schmid and Henningson [137]). The problem has also been extensively studied in his computational aspect by Canuto et al. [34].

### 1.5.2 Monami/Honami and Kelvin-Helmholtz rolls

We have already highlight that the above framework concerning the stability problem has been applied in some porous media flow (canopy) configurations, also including the vegetation movement. Because of the flexibility of the vegetation, some theoretical studies have focused on the modeling of the stems of the aquatic plants and their displacement in response to the forcing by the water flow (Py et al. [124], Patil and Singh [120], Gosselin and De Langre [71] and Py et al. [125]).

It has been studied in Finnigan [56] that these large coherent structures control turbulence dynamics over the canopy. Movements of the latter generate sweeps (and ejections) of fluids that generates the counter-rotating stream-wise eddy evolving as Kelvin-Helmholtz rolls. The complex evolution of vortices is shown in figure 1.17.

However, Kelvin-Helmholtz vortices occur whether the plants bend or not, and to ascertain causes and effects to first order it is acceptable to focus on rigid porous structures. The flow over and through a submerged array of rigid, cylindrical pillars has been the basis of the approach of Ghisalberti and Nepf [67], Ghisalberti and Nepf [64] and Ghisalberti and Nepf [66], who have conducted a series of careful experiments. Their results have often been used by fluid dynamicists to put forth and test theoretical hypotheses to predict the frequency and wavelength of the large scale vortical motion, for a variety of conditions. The configuration studied consists of a regular grid of rigid pillars, orthogonal to the surface, of identical height  $h$ . In some of the theoretical models proposed to analyze the stability of this system, the Rayleigh equation is used throughout the water channel, with or without a drag term in correspondence of the canopy Raupach et al. [132], Py et al. [124], Singh et al. [141], Zampogna et al. [168] and Luminari et al. [99] have recently demonstrated that the addition

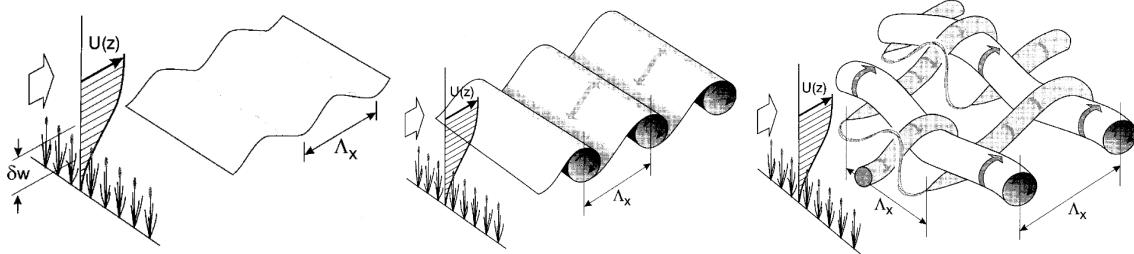


Figure 1.17: Left: first emergence of the Kelvin-Helmholtz instability. The growth-rate is proportional to the shear magnitude at the inflection point. Center: the instability evolves in rollers consisting of high vorticity that are spaced with a similar wave-length  $\Lambda_x$  as the previous stage. Right: secondary instabilities in the rollers lead to their kinking and pairing, coherent structures appear in the transverse and streamwise dimensions. Image from Finnigan [56].

of a drag term through the vegetation reduces the amplification factor of the Kelvin-Helmholtz instability throughout the whole range of wave-numbers and increases mildly the wavelength of the fastest growing mode. In chapter 3 we study how the perturbation of the base flow affects the predicted amplification factor and wavelength. We also test the difference between the isotropic drag model and the tensorial approach, in order to show which is the most robust approach for stability computations.

## 1.6 Conclusions

The key points of this introductory chapter were to first present the context of this research. We have started explaining that the idea of porous surface as aerodynamical performance enhancement came from various examples in nature. Many model based on this idea already exist and we gave an extensive summary of the results present in literature. We have also presented the key points of the mathematical methods used to derive the porous equation that supply a basis for the next chapter in which the volume average method is formally explained. Some of the results and the context of the chapter 3 has been also presented to clarify the connection between the stability analysis and the porous flows.

## Chapter 2

# Volume Average Method

*Do not worry about your difficulties in mathematics; I can assure you that mine are still greater.*

- Letter to junior high school student Barbara Wilson,  
January 7, 1943, *Albert Einstein*

### 2.1 Introduction

In the previous chapter we have already introduced the volume averaging method and how it can be used to derive a macroscopic description of the microscopic system of equations. The homogenized version of the system is valid everywhere in the porous medium domain, and not only in the fluid phase. Theoretical aspect of the volume averaging method can be found in Whitaker [159], Whitaker [156], Whitaker [158], Quintard and Whitaker [126], Quintard and Whitaker [127], Quintard and Whitaker [128], Quintard and Whitaker [129], Quintard and Whitaker [130] and many others contributions that are introduced in the next chapter. The various steps necessary to derive the local average version of the fluid dynamic equations are listed in the following.

### 2.2 Homogenization procedure

The mathematical method of volume averaging is based on some fundamental steps that one should follow in order to retrieve the homogenized version of the equations. The main steps are:

- Definition of the averaging operator
- Use of theorems that permits to interchange the derivation and the averaging operation

- Decomposition of fields as a sum of mean field and a perturbed field
- Assumption of length-scales constraints (based on the problem definition) that help to simplify and define a local closure problem

Such schema is graphically resumed in Paéz-García et al. [119] and Davit et al. [46]. A similar flowchart of the complete overall procedure is showed in figure 2.1.

## 2.3 Derivation of VANS equations for 3D incompressible fluids

### 2.3.1 Navier-Stokes equations

The dynamic of the fluid phase (indicated with the subscript  $\beta$ ), inside and above the porous medium, is governed by the Navier-Stokes equation for incompressible Newtonian fluid:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_\beta}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v}_\beta \mathbf{v}_\beta) = -\frac{1}{\rho_\beta} \nabla p_\beta + \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}_\beta \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_\beta = 0 \\ \mathbf{v}_\beta = \mathbf{v}_\sigma \quad \text{at } A_{\beta\sigma} \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

where  $\mathbf{v}_\beta$ ,  $p_\beta$ ,  $\rho_\beta$  and  $\nu_\beta$  stand, respectively, for the velocity, the pressure, the density and the kinematic viscosity of the fluid. The interface between the fluid and the solid is indicated as  $A_{\beta\sigma}$ , in which the no-slip condition for the velocity apply. In the above boundary condition  $\mathbf{v}_\sigma$  is the velocity of the solid phase. Initial condition should also be specified in order to solve the system, but they do not take active part in the homogenization procedure. The next sections shows how to average this system using the volume average method.

### 2.3.2 Definition of the averaging operators

Figure 2.2 show the schematics of the internal structure of a fibrous porous medium, the important quantities are also indicated in the same picture. The shape of the volumes used in the averaging operations are enclosed in continuous lines.  $V|_x$  indicate the volume with centroid  $x$  and  $V_\beta|_x$  indicate the fluid volume fraction inside the latter. The coordinate  $r = x + y$  represent the centroid of another possible volume in which one can compute the average quantities, the boundaries of the same volume are indicated with dotted lines.

Let  $\psi_\beta$  be a an arbitrary order tensors (scalar, vector or second order tensor) defined in the fluid phase of the volume  $V$  with  $x$  as centroid.

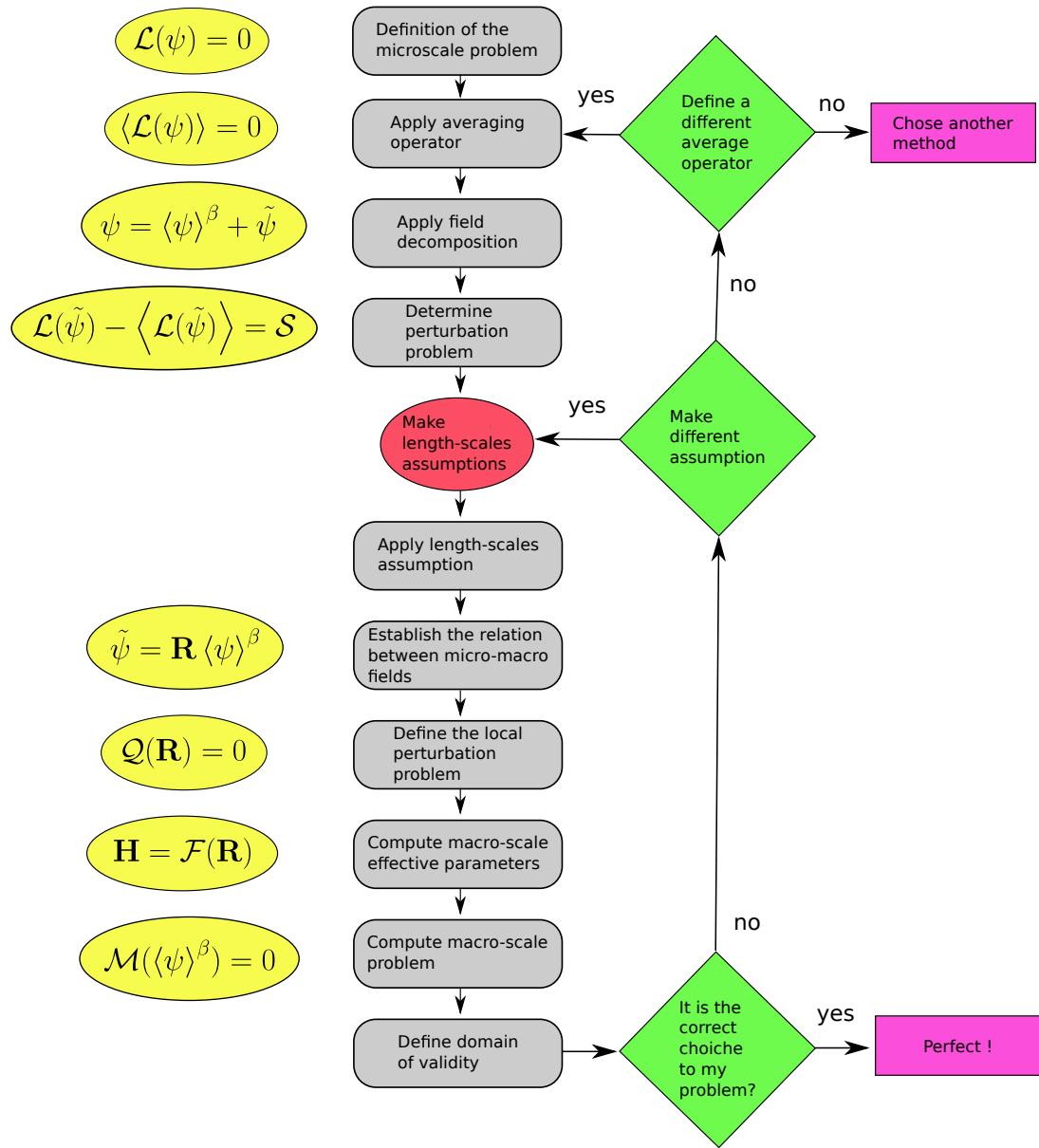


Figure 2.1: Illustration of the volume average homogenization procedure. Image adapted from Davit et al. [46]

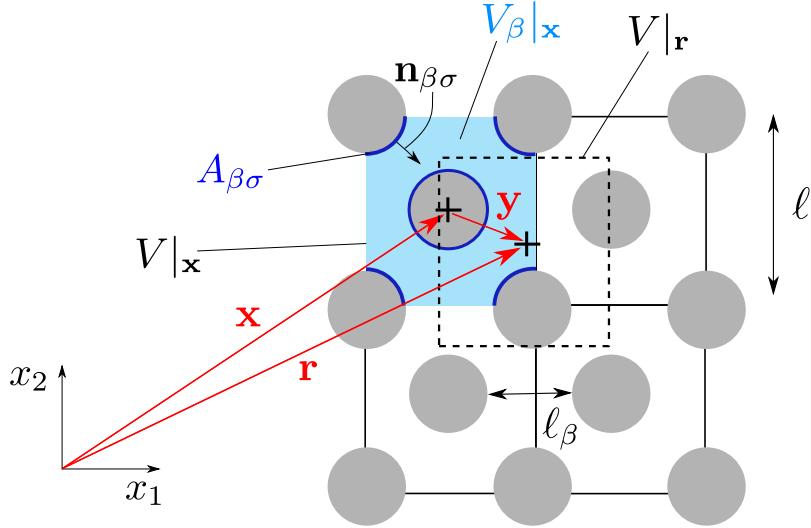


Figure 2.2: A graphic representation of the averaging volumes and interfaces in case of fibrous (ordered) porous media. In this example the fibers are in staggered arrangement. The edges of the volumes that have centroid position  $\mathbf{x}$  are shown in continuous lines and the ones with centroid  $\mathbf{r}$  are shown in dotted lines.

Two different volume averaging operators should be defined, the *intrinsic average* indicated as  $\langle \cdot \rangle^\beta$  reads:

$$\langle \psi_\beta \rangle^\beta |_{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{1}{V_\beta(\mathbf{x})} \int_{V_\beta(\mathbf{x})} m(\mathbf{y}) \psi_\beta(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}, t) dV_\beta, \quad (2.2)$$

where  $m$  is a weight function defined on  $V_\beta$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  is the relative position vector with respect to the centroid  $\mathbf{x}$  of the averaging volume  $V_\beta$ .

The second one is the *superficial average* indicated with  $\langle \cdot \rangle$ :

$$\langle \psi_\beta \rangle |_{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{1}{V} \int_{V_\beta(\mathbf{x})} m(\mathbf{y}) \psi_\beta(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}, t) dV_\beta, \quad (2.3)$$

In the two definition  $\mathbf{y}$  is the integration variable. The difference between the two formulations is that the former takes into account the actual fluid fraction in averaging the filed instead of the pure size of the total volume.

In order to use a less heavy notation, the subscript  $|_{\mathbf{x}}$  is dropped in the following procedure, but should be kept in mind that the volume averaged quantities are explicitly dependents on the center position of the volume as both averaging operators are defined as a volume integral. The size and shape of the integration domain can also be problematic and more details on this issues are presented in the paragraphs 2.3.3.

In the definition of the average operators is possible to introduce a weight function ( $m$ ), that has the aim to guarantee smooth volume averaged fields. However, the choice of his formulation depends on the porous media geometry, as the size of the average volume.

The notation is further simplified if a constant weight is considered ( $m = 1/V$ ), in such case it is possible to drop it from the average operators. However any shape of the function  $m$  can be used without formally change the final form of the averaged equation.

The porosity of a porous medium cell is defined as:

$$\varepsilon = \frac{V_\beta}{V} \quad (2.4)$$

which represent how much fluid is actually present inside the averaging volume, in other terms it is an indication of how packed are the fibers of our porous media.

Using the above definition, it is possible to express a relationship between the two averaging operators:

$$\langle \psi_\beta \rangle = \varepsilon \langle \psi_\beta \rangle^\beta \quad (2.5)$$

### 2.3.3 Choice of shape and size of averaging volume and weight function

The problem of choosing the right weight function, for a give geometry of the porous medium, has been extensively studied by the series of works Quintard and Whitaker [126], Quintard and Whitaker [127], Quintard and Whitaker [128], Quintard and Whitaker [129], Quintard and Whitaker [130] and more recently generalized by Davit and Quintard [45].

The authors above differentiate their results for ordered and disordered porous medium. They show that in each case a specific size and shape of the weight function (and the volume) is needed. The volume in which the average procedure is applied is called *reference elementary volume* (REV). Usually for disordered porous media a spherical volume is the most appropriate, and the REV size ( $\ell$ ) should satisfy the length scale constraint:

$$\ell_\beta \ll \ell \ll L$$

where  $\ell_\beta$  is a characteristic distance of the pore spacing. Instead in case of ordered porous media the most appropriate shape is usually a cube with side:

$$O(\ell_\beta) = \ell \ll L$$

The above constraint can be reinterpreted as the separation of scale parameter in the multiple scale method  $\epsilon = \ell/L \ll 1$ .

Ochoa-Tapia and Whitaker [115] confirm the same length-scale constraints even in case of an interface between a free fluid and a porous medium.

The size of the REV ( $\ell$ ) should be chosen with the above specifications. These length scale constraints ensure that the volume is large enough that periodic boundary condition can be applied in the exterior of the volume. Anyhow the REV size should also capture all

the phenomena that take place at the micro-scale ( $\ell_\beta$ ). If the REV size is the correct one, increasing or decreasing its size should not change the averages quantities. The weight function can also help to attenuate variation of the averaged fields due to geometrical inhomogeneities of the porous medium. As a matter of fact, it acts as a low-pass filter for the perturbations fields.

The weight function can also play an important role in the interpretation of the averaged equation. As showed later on, in order to retrieve a local form of the VANS equations, the following statement should in principle has to be true:

$$\langle \langle \psi_\beta \rangle |_{\mathbf{r}} \rangle |_{\mathbf{x}} = \langle \psi_\beta \rangle |_{\mathbf{x}} \quad (2.6)$$

It means that the averaged field contain small variations at the micro-scale (inside the averaging volume  $V$ ). In order to satisfy this requirement certain weight function can perform better than others, although the same conclusion can be derived from the length-scales constraints. In paragraph 2.7, at the end of this chapter, some details of this approximation are further explained.

For disordered porous medium the *hat function*  $m^\square$  which has the form:

$$m^\square(\mathbf{y}) \begin{cases} \frac{1}{V} & |\mathbf{y}| \leq r_0 \\ 0 & |\mathbf{y}| > r_0 \end{cases} \quad (2.7)$$

can be used to produce smooth averaged fields.

Instead for ordered porous medium the literature shows that triangle shaped functions called *cellular filter*  $m^\triangle$  performs better:

$$m^\triangle(\mathbf{y}) \begin{cases} (\ell/2 - |\mathbf{y}|) & |\mathbf{y}| \leq r_0 \\ 0 & |\mathbf{y}| > r_0 \end{cases} \quad (2.8)$$

Davit and Quintard [45] had recently expanded the required hypothesis that a  $m$  function should satisfy. In general the weight function  $m$  should:

- be normalized in as:  $\int_{V_\beta} m(\mathbf{y}) dV_\beta = 1$
- have compact support
- satisfy:  $m * \psi_\beta \in C^k$ , where  $k$  represent the order of the closure
- satisfy:  $(m \mathcal{P}^j(\mathbf{y})) * \psi_\beta \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } j \text{ odd} \\ \text{const} & \text{if } j \text{ even} \end{cases}$

Where  $\mathcal{P}^j(\mathbf{y})$  is a polynomial of order  $j$ . The last requirement uses the fact that the average operation can also be defined as a convolution product between the weight function and the flow field quantities (Marle [101]):

$$\langle \psi_\beta \rangle|_{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{1}{V} \int_{V_\beta(\mathbf{x})} m(\mathbf{y}) \psi_\beta(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}, t) dV_\beta = m * \psi_\beta$$

The choice of the weight function shape is very important, however previous works in which the authors had implicitly used  $m^\square$  are not wrong. As a matter of fact, if the assumption of well behaved fields hold <sup>1</sup> then the homogenized equations are the correct one. However neglecting the use of the proper weight function can induce some problem on the interpretations of the averaged fields <sup>2</sup>, as a consequence particular care should be used especially when making comparison to experiments.

In the following derivation of the equation no weight function is used inside the averaged operators, in order to not make the notation heavier. In any case in the following text is indicated whenever this special hypothesis on the weight function is needed.

### 2.3.4 Theorems involving derivatives of spatial averaged quantities

The purpose of these theorems is to be able to swap the derivative and the volume average operation.

**Theorem 1** (Spatial averaging theorem). *Let  $\psi_\beta$  be a scalar quantity defined in the fluid phase  $\beta$ , then:*

$$\langle \nabla \psi_\beta \rangle = \nabla \langle \psi_\beta \rangle + \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \psi_\beta \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \quad (2.9)$$

In the above  $\langle \psi_\beta \rangle$  is evaluated at  $\mathbf{x}$  and the operator  $\nabla$  express the differentiation operation in respect to  $\mathbf{x}$  also.

**Corollary 1** (Vector form of (2.9)). *The vector form of the spatial averaging theorem is given by:*

$$\langle \nabla \cdot \psi_\beta \rangle = \nabla \cdot \langle \psi_\beta \rangle + \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \psi_\beta \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \quad (2.10)$$

**Corollary 2.** *Applying the theorem (2.9) to a constant field  $\psi_\beta = 1$  the following relation can be found:*

$$\nabla \varepsilon = - \int_{A_{\sigma\beta}} \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA, \quad (2.11)$$

---

<sup>1</sup>it means that the equation (2.6) can be verified a posteriori

<sup>2</sup>as Quintard and Whitaker [126] show for the example case of hydrostatic pressure

**Theorem 2** (Reynolds transport theorem). *Let  $\psi_\beta$  be a quantity defined in the fluid phase  $\beta$ , then:*

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{V_\beta(t)} \psi_\beta \, dV = \int_{V_\beta(t)} \frac{\partial \psi_\beta}{\partial t} \, dV + \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}(t)} \psi_\beta (\mathbf{v}_\sigma \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\beta\sigma}) \, dA, \quad (2.12)$$

where  $\mathbf{v}_\sigma$  is the point velocity of the solid-fluid interface  $A_{\beta\sigma}$ .

The three theorems and the corollary are essential to develop the closed form of the equations. One interesting thing to pay attention is that the theorems switch the average and derivative operation but always introduces a non local integral term.

### 2.3.5 Averaged continuity equations

We start by finding the averaged version of the continuity equation in (2.1):

$$\langle \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle = 0 \quad (2.13)$$

Applying theorem (2.9) to the previous equation we get:

$$\langle \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle = \nabla \cdot \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle + \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \mathbf{v}_\beta \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} \, dA$$

The boundary condition at the interface ( $\mathbf{v}_\sigma = \mathbf{v}_\beta$ ) implies that the integral above can be modified:

$$= \nabla \cdot \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle + \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \mathbf{v}_\sigma \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} \, dA$$

Now we rewrite the last term as if it was a result of the Reynolds transport theorem applied to a constant unitary scalar field:

$$= \nabla \cdot \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \frac{1}{V} \int_{V_\beta} dV - \frac{1}{V} \int_{V_\beta} \frac{\partial 1}{\partial t} \, dV$$

where the last integral is zero due to the time derivation of a constant field. The first term can be further developed, obtaining finally the averaged continuity equation:

$$\nabla \cdot \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle + \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial t} = 0 \quad (2.14)$$

### 2.3.6 Averaged momentum equations

We seek the average version of the momentum equation in (2.1) re-showed below:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_\beta}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v}_\beta \mathbf{v}_\beta) = -\frac{1}{\rho_\beta} \nabla p_\beta + \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}_\beta \quad (2.15)$$

In order to keep the procedure readable the development of each term is performed separately, in the same order as they appear in equation (2.15).

### Temporal derivative term

Using theorem (2.12) we can rewrite the first term of the equation as:

$$\left\langle \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_\beta}{\partial t} \right\rangle = \frac{\partial \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle}{\partial t} - \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \mathbf{v}_\beta (\mathbf{v}_\sigma \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta}) dA \quad (2.16)$$

### Convective term

Theorem (2.10) applied to the convective term gives us:

$$\langle \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v}_\beta \mathbf{v}_\beta) \rangle = \nabla \cdot \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle + \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} (\mathbf{v}_\beta \mathbf{v}_\beta) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \quad (2.17)$$

The boundary condition at the interface ( $\mathbf{v}_\sigma = \mathbf{v}_\beta$ ) implies that the integrals inside the convective and temporal part are equal, so the total left end side of the momentum equation became:

$$\text{LHS} = \frac{\partial \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle \quad (2.18)$$

### Pressure term

The pressure term is also expanded using theorem 2.9:

$$\left\langle -\frac{1}{\rho_\beta} \nabla p_\beta \right\rangle = -\frac{1}{\rho_\beta} \nabla \langle p_\beta \rangle - \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \frac{p_\beta}{\rho_\beta} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \quad (2.19)$$

### Diffusion term

Here we fist use the identity  $\nabla^2 = \nabla \cdot (\nabla)^3$ , then we apply the theorem 2.10 directly to this expansion to get:

$$\left\langle \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}_\beta \right\rangle = \langle \nu_\beta \nabla \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle = \nabla \cdot \langle \nu_\beta \nabla \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle + \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \nu_\beta \nabla \mathbf{v}_\beta \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \quad (2.20)$$

Now using the theorem 2.10 on  $\langle \nabla \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle$  we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \left\langle \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}_\beta \right\rangle &= \nabla \cdot \nu_\beta \nabla \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle + \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} (\nu_\beta \mathbf{v}_\beta) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \right) + \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} (\nu_\beta \nabla \mathbf{v}_\beta) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \\ &= \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle + \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} (\nu_\beta \mathbf{v}_\beta) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \right) + \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} (\nu_\beta \nabla \mathbf{v}_\beta) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA, \end{aligned}$$

---

<sup>3</sup>laplacian = div(grad)

using Gauss theorem on the second term we get:

$$\langle \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle = \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle + \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{1}{V} \int_{V_\beta} \nabla \cdot (\nu_\beta \mathbf{v}_\beta) dV \right) + \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} (\nu_\beta \nabla \mathbf{v}_\beta) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA,$$

the second term is zero due to the continuity equation, so the viscous term yields:

$$\langle \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle = \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle + \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} (\nu_\beta \nabla \mathbf{v}_\beta) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \quad (2.21)$$

Before continuing the development, by summing all the terms together we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle &= -\frac{1}{\rho_\beta} \nabla \langle p_\beta \rangle + \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle + \\ &+ \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \left( -\frac{p_\beta}{\rho_\beta} \mathbf{I} + \nu_\beta \nabla \mathbf{v}_\beta \right) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \end{aligned} \quad (2.22)$$

This is still not the averaged version of the momentum equation, since it has the presence of the non-homogeneous term  $\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle$  and the integral term still has the local (microscopic) variables inside. In the next section these two terms are treated in order to make them function of the only averaged quantities.

### 2.3.7 Length scale decomposition

The decomposition proposed by Gray [73] is now used to get the average version of the problem (2.1):

$$\psi_\beta(\mathbf{r}, t) = \langle \psi_\beta \rangle^\beta|_{(\mathbf{r}, t)} + \tilde{\psi}_\beta(\mathbf{r}, t), \quad (2.23)$$

where  $\tilde{\psi}_\beta$  is the microscopic scale contribution and  $\langle \psi_\beta \rangle^\beta$  the volume average one. The two contributions should be added together to obtain the local filed value for the considered quantity  $\psi_\beta$ . This decomposition has been introduced in order to separate the different scales of the spatial variation of the fields, and so separate the low frequencies from the high one.

If the hypothesis of that this division holds, it is possible to demonstrate that the average value of the perturbation field is null <sup>4</sup>:

$$\langle \tilde{\psi}_\beta \rangle = \langle \psi_\beta \rangle - \langle \langle \psi_\beta \rangle^\beta \rangle \approx \langle \psi_\beta \rangle - \varepsilon \langle \psi_\beta \rangle^\beta = \langle \psi_\beta \rangle - \langle \psi_\beta \rangle = 0$$

---

<sup>4</sup>the paragraph 2.7 specifically addresses the hypothesis behind this result

Using the above results, the non-homogeneous term in equation (2.22) can be converted in:

$$\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle = \left\langle \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \right\rangle + 2 \left\langle \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \right\rangle + \langle \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \rangle = \varepsilon \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \langle \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \rangle \quad (2.24)$$

For each integral term of (2.22) the same field decomposition should be applied:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} - \left( \frac{p_\beta}{\rho_\beta} \mathbf{I} \right) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA &= \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} - \frac{1}{\rho_\beta} \left( \langle p_\beta \rangle^\beta + \tilde{p}_\beta \right) \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \\ &= + \frac{1}{\rho_\beta} \nabla \varepsilon \langle p_\beta \rangle^\beta - \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \frac{\tilde{p}_\beta}{\rho_\beta} \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \end{aligned} \quad (2.25)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \nu_\beta \nabla \mathbf{v}_\beta \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA &= \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \nu_\beta \nabla (\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \\ &= - \nu_\beta \nabla \varepsilon \nabla \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \nu_\beta \nabla \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \end{aligned} \quad (2.26)$$

The momentum equation now reads:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\varepsilon \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta) + \nabla \cdot (\langle \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \rangle) &= - \frac{1}{\rho_\beta} \nabla \langle p_\beta \rangle + \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle + \\ - \nu_\beta \nabla \varepsilon \nabla \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \frac{1}{\rho_\beta} \nabla \varepsilon \langle p_\beta \rangle^\beta + \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \left( - \frac{\tilde{p}_\beta}{\rho_\beta} \mathbf{I} + \nu_\beta \nabla \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \right) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \end{aligned} \quad (2.27)$$

At this step the momentum equation is not closed since either the averaged quantities and the perturbation fields are present. In order to overcome this problem in the next section the intrinsic version of these equations will be computed.

### 2.3.8 Intrinsic average form

In order to get the intrinsic average formulation the relation (2.5) is used to express surface averaged quantities in terms of intrinsic ones.

First, the continuity equation becomes:

$$\nabla \cdot (\varepsilon \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta) + \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial t} = 0$$

The temporal derivative term of the momentum equation becomes:

$$\frac{\partial \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial (\varepsilon \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial t} \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \varepsilon \frac{\partial \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta}{\partial t}$$

Applying the same relation to the viscous term it yields:

$$\nabla^2 \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle = \nabla^2 (\varepsilon \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta) = \varepsilon \nabla^2 \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \nabla^2 \varepsilon + 2 \nabla \varepsilon \nabla \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \quad (2.28)$$

and the pressure term is also transformed into:

$$\nabla \langle p_\beta \rangle = \nabla (\varepsilon \langle p_\beta \rangle^\beta) = \varepsilon \nabla \langle p_\beta \rangle^\beta + \langle p_\beta \rangle^\beta \nabla \varepsilon \quad (2.29)$$

Summing up all the terms, we get:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial t} \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \varepsilon \frac{\partial \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\varepsilon \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta) + \nabla \cdot (\langle \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \rangle) \\ &= -\varepsilon \nabla \left( \frac{\langle p_\beta \rangle^\beta}{\rho_\beta} \right) - \nabla \varepsilon \frac{1}{\rho_\beta} \langle p_\beta \rangle^\beta + \nu_\beta \varepsilon \nabla^2 \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \nu_\beta \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \nabla^2 \varepsilon + 2 \nu_\beta \nabla \varepsilon \nabla \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \\ &+ \frac{1}{\rho_\beta} \nabla \varepsilon \langle p_\beta \rangle^\beta - \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \frac{\tilde{p}_\beta}{\rho_\beta} \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \\ &- \nu_\beta \nabla \varepsilon \nabla \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \nu_\beta \nabla \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \end{aligned} \quad (2.30)$$

After the proper simplification we have the final versions of the Navier-Stokes system of equations (2.1) using intrinsic quantities:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial t} \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \varepsilon \frac{\partial \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\varepsilon \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta) + \nabla \cdot (\langle \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \rangle) \\ = -\varepsilon \nabla \left( \frac{\langle p_\beta \rangle^\beta}{\rho_\beta} \right) + \nu_\beta \varepsilon \nabla^2 \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \nu_\beta \nabla \varepsilon \nabla \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \nu_\beta \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \nabla^2 \varepsilon \\ + \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \left( -\frac{\tilde{p}_\beta}{\rho_\beta} \mathbf{I} + \nu_\beta \nabla \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \right) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \\ \nabla \cdot (\varepsilon \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta) + \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial t} = 0 \end{array} \right. \quad (2.31)$$

It is important to pinpoint that the intrinsic momentum equation explicitly depends on the porosity of the medium, because of the terms involving gradients of the porosity field. In applications where the porosity can vary spatially, like the interface of a porous medium, this formulation has the advantage to treat explicitly the interface non-homogeneities <sup>5</sup>.

The equation (2.31) is also *non-local* since it has volume average quantities and surface integrals. This terms need some explicit manipulation in order to get a close formulation of the above system. In the next paragraphs a closure formulation of these terms is discussed. Usually these latter terms of the equations are named as *sub-filter stresses*  $\zeta$  and *microscopic force*  $\mathbf{F}^m$ :

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<sup>5</sup>further discussion of the interface treatment is presented in paragraph 2.5

$$\begin{aligned}\zeta &= \nabla \cdot (\langle \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \rangle) \\ \mathbf{F}^m &= \frac{1}{V} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \left( -\frac{\tilde{p}_\beta}{\rho_\beta} \mathbf{I} + \nu_\beta \nabla \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \right) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA\end{aligned}$$

## 2.4 Closure problems

### 2.4.1 Microscopic force $\mathbf{F}^m$

The term  $\mathbf{F}^m$  act as a surface filter in the momentum equation. The perturbation fields are filtered out by the integral operation over the fluid-solid interface. However is usually called microscopic force since it physically represent the force per unit mass that the fluid exerts on the solid inclusions.

There is no simple representation for  $\mathbf{F}^m$  if we include the terms that contain gradients of the porosity ( $\nabla \varepsilon$ ). Although since we are interested in developing a **local** closure problem, which will depend on the geometry of each REV, it is possible to neglect these terms. It means that the closure problems are not correct at the interface between a porous medium and a free fluid. However if we use these closure problems at the interface we can still obtain good results, as shown in the last chapter, even if they are not formally correct.

The continuity equation in the system (2.31) becomes  $\nabla \cdot \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta = 0$  after the assumption of constant porosity. We subtract this last equation from the continuity equation valid for the local velocity velocity (2.1):

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_\beta - \nabla \cdot \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta = 0$$

From the Gray decomposition (2.23) the perturbation velocity field is written as  $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta = \mathbf{v}_\beta - \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta$ , using this relation after grouping the divergence we obtain the continuity equation for the perturbations:

$$\nabla \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta = 0 \tag{2.32}$$

To continue the development, we first divide the momentum equation present in system 2.31 by the permeability  $\varepsilon$ , and we also apply the assumption of constant porosity:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \left( \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \right) + \nabla \cdot (\langle \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \rangle) \\ = -\nabla \left( \frac{\langle p_\beta \rangle^\beta}{\rho_\beta} \right) + \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \frac{1}{V_\beta} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \left( -\frac{\tilde{p}_\beta}{\rho_\beta} \mathbf{I} + \nu_\beta \nabla \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \right) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA\end{aligned}$$

Subtracting the above momentum equation from the local field one (2.1) it yields:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v}_\beta \cdot \nabla \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta + \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \cdot \nabla \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \varepsilon^{-1} \nabla \cdot \langle \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \rangle = \\ = -\nabla \left( \frac{\tilde{p}_\beta}{\rho_\beta} \right) + \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta - \frac{1}{V_\beta} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \left( -\frac{\tilde{p}_\beta}{\rho_\beta} \mathbf{I} + \nu_\beta \nabla \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \right) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \end{aligned} \quad (2.33)$$

Now in order to simplify this last equation the following length-scale estimates are introduced:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta = O(\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta), \quad \nabla \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta = O\left(\frac{\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta}{\ell}\right), \quad \nabla \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta = O\left(\frac{\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta}{L}\right), \quad \varepsilon = O(\delta)$$

The last relation state that the porosity varies at a scale  $\delta$ . Valdés-Parada et al. [150] and Ochoa-Tapia and Whitaker [115] propose the estimate  $\ell \ll \delta$  arguing that  $\delta$  has the size of the zone in which the porosity varies, in case of an interface between a porous medium and a free fluid. However it is important to state that this assumption does not holds at the interface of all the porous media geometry. As a matter of fact for ordered porous media  $\varepsilon = O(\ell)$ . Whitaker [158] state clearly that there is no easy way to define a *local* closure problem when the relation  $\ell \ll \delta$  does not hold. In order to continue with the development of the equation, the relationship  $\ell \ll \delta$  is assumed to be true. Although the derived closure problem will be formally correct only far from regions where the porosity varies.

Analyzing the estimates order of magnitude it is possible to neglect some of the terms in momentum equation (2.33):

$$\mathbf{v}_\beta \cdot \nabla \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \gg \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \cdot \nabla \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \Rightarrow O\left(\frac{\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta}{\ell}\right) \gg O\left(\frac{\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta}{L}\right) \quad (2.34)$$

$$\mathbf{v}_\beta \cdot \nabla \langle \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \rangle^\beta \gg \varepsilon^{-1} \nabla \cdot (\langle \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \rangle) \Rightarrow O\left(\frac{(\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta)^2}{\ell}\right) \gg O\left(\frac{(\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta)^2}{\delta}\right) \quad (2.35)$$

$$\nu_\beta \nabla^2 \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \gg \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta}{\partial t} \Rightarrow O\left(\frac{(\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta)^2}{\ell}\right) \gg O\left(\frac{(\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta)^2}{L}\right) \quad (2.36)$$

In the last assessment it has been assumed that the time scale associated respectively with the micro and macro-scale are  $t = \ell / \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta$  and  $T = L / \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta$ . These assumptions imply that the perturbation problem is *quasi-stationary*, since physically the perturbation field can be considered steady from the macroscopic point of view (Davit et al. [46] and Zhu et al. [170]). I can also be notice that in the above simplifications we have neglected terms that contains the small parameter  $\epsilon$  or its powers. This last results is coherent with the multiple scale theory in which only zero order terms are kept in the local closure problem formulation.

With this order of magnitude analysis the governing equations are simplified as:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{v}_\beta \cdot \nabla \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta = -\nabla \left( \frac{\tilde{p}_\beta}{\rho_\beta} \right) + \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta - \frac{1}{V_\beta} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \left( -\frac{\tilde{p}_\beta}{\rho_\beta} \mathbf{I} + \nu_\beta \nabla \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \right) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \\ \nabla \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta = 0 \\ \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta = -\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \quad \text{at } A_{\beta\sigma} \end{cases} \quad (2.37)$$

it is indeed the transport equations system for the perturbation fields.

Considering rigid porous media is possible to derive the boundary condition at the interface, substituting the Gray decomposition inside the boundary condition expression (2.1). As a consequence in this section the solid phase is assumed rigid, although in section 2.6 this model is extend for take into account moving porous media. The above system is still defined on all the porous domain and so we would like to find a way to reduce its size and still obtain the same results. Although it is possible to use Green function to solve the problem in this form (Wood and Valdés-Parada [160]).

This can be done restricting the solution region to a single REV, enforcing periodic boundary condition at the exterior of such volume. Such hypothesis is consistent with periodic ordered porous media in which the macroscopic field variation inside the REV are negligible <sup>6</sup>. The problem as stated here becomes:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{v}_\beta \cdot \nabla \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta = -\nabla \left( \frac{\tilde{p}_\beta}{\rho_\beta} \right) + \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta - \frac{1}{V_\beta} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} \left( -\frac{\tilde{p}_\beta}{\rho_\beta} \mathbf{I} + \nu_\beta \nabla \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \right) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \\ \nabla \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta = 0 \\ \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta = -\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \quad \text{at } A_{\beta\sigma} \\ \tilde{p}_\beta(\mathbf{x} + \ell_i) = \tilde{p}_\beta(\mathbf{x}), \quad \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta(\mathbf{x} + \ell_i) = \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = 1, 2, 3 \\ \langle \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \rangle^\beta = 0 \end{cases} \quad (2.38)$$

In this set of equations the averaged condition  $\langle \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \rangle^\beta = 0$  is imposed to ensure a unique solution.

Now the perturbed field have to be express as a function of some averaged values. Let us introduce the closure tensor  $\mathbf{R}$  and the closure vector  $\mathbf{r}$  as:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta(\mathbf{x}) + \boldsymbol{\xi}(\mathbf{x}) \quad (2.39)$$

$$\tilde{p}_\beta(\mathbf{x}) = \mu_\beta \mathbf{r}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta(\mathbf{x}) + \gamma(\mathbf{x}) \quad (2.40)$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\xi}(\mathbf{x})$  is vector and  $\gamma(\mathbf{x})$  a scalar, however Whitaker [158] have demonstrated that the first is null and the second constant. Is very important to pinpoint that (2.39) and (2.40) are crucial since a linear correlation between the micro and macro-scale fields is

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<sup>6</sup>see paragraph 2.7

implied. However these relations can be function of the space coordinate  $\mathbf{x}$  as explored later in chapter 4.

Since it is free to define the tensor  $\mathbf{R}$  and the vector  $\mathbf{r}$  as we wish, Whitaker [158] proposed to define the two quantities with the following problem:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\mathbf{v}_\beta}{\nu_\beta} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{R} = -\nabla \mathbf{r} + \nabla^2 \mathbf{R} - \frac{1}{V_\beta} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} (-\mathbf{r}\mathbf{I} + \nabla \mathbf{R}) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{R} = 0 \\ \mathbf{R} = \mathbf{I} \quad \text{at } A_{\beta\sigma} \\ \mathbf{r}(\mathbf{x} + \ell_i) = \mathbf{r}(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{x} + \ell_i) = \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = 1, 2, 3 \\ \langle \mathbf{R} \rangle^\beta = 0 \end{cases} \quad (2.41)$$

It is difficult to solve this problem computationally because it is an integral-differential equation. In order to simplify the problem, it is decomposed in two parts, the solution if the first one gives us the *permeability tensor* and the solution of the second one the *Forchheimer tensor*.

The variables  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $\mathbf{r}$  are further decomposed as:

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C}, \quad \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}$$

In this manner the micro-macro field relationship can be written as:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta = \mathbf{B} \cdot \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \mathbf{C} \cdot \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \quad (2.42)$$

$$\tilde{p}_\beta = \mu_\beta \mathbf{b} \cdot \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \mu_\beta \mathbf{c} \cdot \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \quad (2.43)$$

Where  $\mathbf{B}$  is defined as:

$$\begin{cases} 0 = -\nabla \mathbf{b} + \nabla^2 \mathbf{B} - \frac{1}{V_\beta} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} (-\mathbf{b}\mathbf{I} + \nabla \mathbf{B}) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0 \\ \mathbf{B} = -\mathbf{I} \quad \text{at } A_{\beta\sigma} \\ \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x} + \ell_i) = \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{x} + \ell_i) = \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = 1, 2, 3 \\ \langle \mathbf{B} \rangle^\beta = 0 \end{cases} \quad (2.44)$$

and  $\mathbf{C}$  as:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\mathbf{v}_\beta}{\nu_\beta} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{B} + \frac{\mathbf{v}_\beta}{\nu_\beta} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{C} = -\nabla \mathbf{c} + \nabla^2 \mathbf{C} - \frac{1}{V_\beta} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} (-\mathbf{c}\mathbf{I} + \nabla \mathbf{C}) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{C} = 0 \\ \mathbf{C} = 0 \quad \text{at } A_{\beta\sigma} \\ \mathbf{c}(\mathbf{x} + \ell_i) = \mathbf{c}(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{x} + \ell_i) = \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = 1, 2, 3 \\ \langle \mathbf{C} \rangle^\beta = 0 \end{cases} \quad (2.45)$$

The problems definition for  $\mathbf{R}$ ,  $\mathbf{B}$  and  $\mathbf{C}$  do not arise from the direct substitution of (2.42) and (2.43) into the system (2.38) they are instead a choice made to simply the calculations (Whitaker [158]). Substituting the decomposition (2.39) and (2.40) inside the surface filter  $\mathbf{F}^m$  we get:

$$\mathbf{F}^m = \nu_\beta \left( \frac{1}{V_\beta} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} (-\mathbf{r}\mathbf{I} + \nabla \mathbf{R}) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA \right) \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta$$

Diving then the closure variable as in (2.42) is possible to define the *permeability tensor*  $\mathbf{K}$ :

$$\frac{1}{V_\beta} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} (-\mathbf{b}\mathbf{I} + \nabla \mathbf{B}) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA = -\varepsilon \mathbf{K}^{-1}$$

and the *Forchheimer tensor*  $\mathbf{F}$ :

$$\frac{1}{V_\beta} \int_{A_{\beta\sigma}} (-\mathbf{c}\mathbf{I} + \nabla \mathbf{C}) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\sigma\beta} dA = -\varepsilon \mathbf{K}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{F}$$

Using this definition to make the changing of variables proposed by Barrere et al. [10]:

$$\mathbf{d} = \varepsilon^{-1} \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{K}, \quad \mathbf{D} = \varepsilon^{-1} (\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{I}) \cdot \mathbf{K} \quad (2.46)$$

$$\mathbf{m} = \varepsilon^{-1} \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{H}, \quad \mathbf{M} = \varepsilon^{-1} (\mathbf{N} + \mathbf{I}) \cdot \mathbf{H} \quad (2.47)$$

the problem (2.44) can be written as:

$$\begin{cases} 0 = -\nabla \mathbf{d} + \nabla^2 \mathbf{D} + \mathbf{I} \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = 0 \\ \mathbf{D} = 0 \quad \text{at } A_{\beta\sigma} \\ \mathbf{d}(\mathbf{x} + \ell_i) = \mathbf{d}(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{x} + \ell_i) = \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = 1, 2, 3 \\ \langle \mathbf{D} \rangle^\beta = \varepsilon^{-1} \mathbf{K} \end{cases} \quad (2.48)$$

from which is possible to compute the permeability tensor.

The problem (2.45) with the change of variables (2.47) becomes:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\mathbf{v}_\beta}{\nu_\beta} \nabla \mathbf{M} = -\nabla \mathbf{m} + \nabla^2 \mathbf{M} + \mathbf{I} \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{M} = 0 \\ \mathbf{M} = 0 \quad \text{at } A_{\beta\sigma} \\ \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{x} + \ell_i) = \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{x} + \ell_i) = \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = 1, 2, 3 \\ \langle \mathbf{M} \rangle^\beta = \varepsilon^{-1} \mathbf{H} \end{cases} \quad (2.49)$$

where  $\mathbf{H}$  is called *effective permeability tensor* and it represent a generalization of the permeability tensor in the inertia regime. The relation between the Forchheimer tensor and the effective permeability is the following:

$$\mathbf{H}^{-1} = \mathbf{K}^{-1} (\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{F})$$

With the help of the above closure problem the final closed formulation for the microscopic force becomes:

$$\mathbf{F}^m \approx \mathbf{F}^M = -\nu_\beta \varepsilon \mathbf{H}^{-1} \cdot \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \quad (2.50)$$

in which it is clear the equivalence between the descriptions by means of the perturbation fields and the one that uses only the macroscopic fields.

However it is possible to use simplified regression that permits to by-pass the *local* closure problem computation and get directly the tensors  $\mathbf{K}$  and  $\mathbf{F}$ . One of the most famous relations are the Kozeny-Carman equation Kozeny [89] and the modified Ergun equation R. Byron Bird [131]. Extended version of this empirical formulation can be found in Zampogna and Bottaro [164] and Yazdchi and Luding [161]. The above relationships are always based on regressions from experiments and they are usually parameterized with the porosity and some geometrical characteristic of the medium. The downsizes in using these simplified formulas is that the geometries used are most of the time very simple such as spheres, or 2D regular arranged cylinders and they are difficult to generalize. Also their range of application is usually restricted to very small Reynolds number. Such restrictions makes the local closure problem the main reliable source to compute the Forchheimer and permeability tensors.

#### 2.4.2 Sub-filter stresses $\zeta$

The model is not yet completed, also the *sub-filter stresses* needs to be closed. This term act as a volume filter for the perturbation velocity, in fact the product of the velocity perturbation appear inside the volume averaging operator:

$$\zeta = \nabla \cdot (\langle \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_\beta \rangle)$$

The same term has already been neglected in the equation (2.35) in the previous paragraph, based on some length-scale argument. Here we want to explain briefly what this term represent and possibly when it can become important.

Breugem et al. [26] and Nepf [114] separates the nature of sub-filter stresses in two different components:

- *mechanical diffusion*: when the fluid is forced to flow inside the pore, it has to pass around the solid structure causing an augmentation of diffusion inside the VANS momentum equations. This mechanism is usually studied by means of the flow path tortuosity for each different particle.
- *turbulent dispersion*: it is caused by the subfilter scales eddies that create at the pore scale. This turbulent diffusivity can be anisotropic. For example in case of fibrous porous media the vertical penetration and breakdown, of eddies, is much higher than the horizontal one.

Breugem et al. [26] shows that even if the two different components are equally important they are negligible in the volume averaged field equations.

However, we speculate that this term can becomes important in situations involving elastic porous media where sweep and injection of fluid can be observed at the interface. This statement is supported by Finnigan [56] and De Langre [47] that have shown the turbulence spectrum modification in case of canopy flow. Possibly the sub-filter stresses term can model this shift of the spectrum to high frequencies.

In order to better study this term, we need many more reliable full DNS inside the porous media at high pore Reynolds number. However such simulations are very expensive and almost un-existent in literature. Experimental measurements inside the porous structure can be another way to study this volume filter, even though such measurements can be very difficult to perform.

## 2.5 Interface treatment

The problem of the interface condition between a porous medium and a free fluid has been approached by many different authors. Ehrhardt [52] has given a concise but very clear introduction on the problem, even thought the field is rapidly evolving (Minale [110], Angot et al. [6], Lācis and Bagheri [91] and [cite new work of Giuseppe](#)). Our work is not focused on the development of a new condition although, in this paragraph, we want to explain our choice for the interface treatment over the many possible ones.

The interface conditions can be classified in two groups, the *one domain approach* (ODA) and the *two domain approach* (TDA). In the TDA the porous domain is splitted in two and a boundary condition at the interface is specified. Historically the necessity of such a treatment was mainly due by the difference of order of the Stokes equations and the Darcy one, that makes them incompatible at the interface. The Brinkmann model adjust

the order of the porous media equations, however the validity of this correction deep inside the porous medium was questionable. The TDA was followed by Beavers and Joseph [15], Mikelic and Jäger [108], Ochoa-Tapia and Whitaker [115] and Le Bars and Worster [96]. These works have all in common the fact that a certain slip is specified at the interface, for example the Beavers and Joseph [15] condition read:

$$\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta(x, \Gamma^+) = \frac{\sqrt{\mathbf{K}}}{\alpha} \frac{\partial \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta(x, \Gamma^-)}{\partial y}$$

where  $\Gamma^+$  and  $\Gamma^-$  represent the wall normal coordinate above and below the interface,  $\mathbf{K}$  is the permeability tensor and  $\alpha$  is a coefficient based on the porous medium geometry. Others proposition changes and extends this formulation but basically still imposes a velocity jump at the interface, as a function of a parameter  $\alpha$  needed to fit the experimental data.

On the contrary in the ODA approach the final averaged equation are valid through all the domain and the quantities that define the presence of the porous media i.e. the porosity and permeability, vanished in the free fluid region. This method is also known as *penalization method*. One of the first porous media application can be found in Caltagirone [33], after that it was used by many other authors, like Bruneau and Mortazavi [29], Bruneau and Mortazavi [30], Bruneau et al. [31], Hussong et al. [79]. We think that the interface boundary condition approach is not superior, neither physically nor mathematically. As a matter of fact either methods require a parameter to close the formulation. The advantage of using the penalization method is that in this case the parameter needed is the spatial distribution of the porosity field that is trivial to compute when the geometry of the medium is known. Although it is still not clear how to vary the permeability in the transition zone. Most of the authors propose a sharp jump from the porous media value and the free fluid one. Neglecting the variation of permeability at the transition zone appear to be acceptable, even though examples of linear variation of this term exists (Caltagirone [33]). Hussong et al. [79] made a direct comparison, with a DNS simulation, for the porosity treatment concluding that the variation of the permeability is very important in order to have a good comparison with high fidelity computation.

A direct comparison between the ODA and TDA is presented in Cimolin and Discacciati [42] that concludes that the macroscopic description of the interface provided by the two different methods is similar. They also pinpoint that the penalization method has the advantage to be easily implemented in a Navier-Stokes solver and it does not present sensible convergence properties as the TDA do.

Also, there is evidence in literature (Ochoa-Tapia et al. [116]) that exist a transition zone with the size of the pore scale in which the velocity and pressure have a continuous variation and not a steep one. It has been demonstrated, by the same author, that the same transition zone is physical and not a result of the averaging procedure.

In the following work we adopt the penalization approach with the porosity variation computed directly from the geometry of our fibrous medium and a steep variation of the

effective permeability at the interface. In chapter 5 we show some details and results on this approach.

## 2.6 Elastic porous media: hybrid homogenization approach

Elastic porous media has been studied by Biot [21] which developed a model for the stresses wave propagation inside the solid matrix of a porous medium. His model has been a reference for elastic porous media with a close to unity density ratio ( $\rho_\beta/\rho_\sigma$ ), as for the case of saturated soil.

Whitaker [155] has also approached the problem using the volume average method to homogenize either the solid and the fluid part. But the closure problems that came out from the averaging procedure of the solid equation are very difficult to solve. Also there are no following studies that neither clarify the problem nor confirm the formulation.

The following works by Hussong et al. [79] and Wang et al. [152] showed how to extend the rigid case formulation of the VANS in case of elastic medium. They show that the only term that has to be changed is the closure for the microscopic force (2.50). As a matter of fact the hypothesis of rigid porous media has been used in only in the development of this term. They proposed a modification based on the physical interpretation of the microscopic force. In reality the force exerted by the fluid on the solid part has to take into account the solid velocity:

$$\mathbf{F}^M = -\nu_\beta \varepsilon \mathbf{H}^{-1} \cdot [\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta - \langle \mathbf{v}_\sigma \rangle^\beta]$$

the physic behind the force generation is the same and so it should be the formulation of the closure.

This simple modification can be included in a *hybrid homogenization approach*. As presented in paragraph 1.4, in order to describe the dynamic of a poroelastic layer we need a model for the fluid phase, one for the solid phase and an interface condition. Nevertheless since the dynamic of the solid is usually computationally cheap there is no need to use an homogenized model for this part. Here we propose an approach that is independent from whatever solid model one want to use. The pseudo-code fo the macroscopic algorithm is the one in 1.

```

Data:  $\langle \psi_\beta \rangle_n^\beta = \{\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle_n^\beta, \langle \mathbf{v}_\sigma \rangle_n^\beta, \langle p_\beta \rangle_n^\beta, \mathbf{H}_n, \varepsilon_n\}$ 
1 while  $t < T$  do
2    $n \rightarrow 0$  ;
3   while  $n < n_{max}$  do
4     Fluid solver VANS:  $\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle_{n+1}^\beta, \langle p_\beta \rangle_{n+1}^\beta$ 
5     Solid solver:  $\mathbf{v}_\sigma{}_{n+1}$ 
6     Solid averaging:  $\varepsilon_{n+1}(x), \langle \mathbf{v}_\sigma \rangle_{n+1}^\beta$ 
7     Effective permeability metamodel:  $\mathbf{H}_{n+1} = f(\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle_{n+1}^\beta, \langle \mathbf{v}_\sigma \rangle_{n+1}^\beta)$ 
8     Relaxation:  $\langle \psi_\beta \rangle_{n+1}^\beta = (1 - \omega) \langle \psi_\beta \rangle_n^\beta + \omega \langle \psi_\beta \rangle_{n+1}^\beta$ 
9     if  $\| \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle_{n+1}^\beta - \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle_n^\beta \| < \epsilon$  then
10      | break ;
11    else
12      |  $n = n + 1$ ;
13    end
14  end
15   $t = t + \Delta t$ ;
16   $\langle \psi_\beta \rangle_{n+1}^\beta = \langle \psi_\beta \rangle_{t+\Delta t}^\beta$ ;
17 end

```

**Algorithm 1:** Macroscopic algorithm for fluid-structure interaction of homogenized poroelastic medium.

Any solid model can be used in the model (for example Bernulli beam) and after its solution the new porosity field and homogenized solid velocity can be computed in the following manner:

$$\begin{aligned}\varepsilon &= \frac{1}{V} \int_{V_\beta} dV \\ \langle \mathbf{v}_\sigma \rangle^\beta &= \frac{1}{V} \int_{V_\sigma} \mathbf{v}_\sigma dV\end{aligned}$$

where  $V_\sigma$  is the solid part of the REV. The latter averaging procedure of the solid phase makes sense only in presence of multiple fibers in each REV or in case of non-rigid solids.

Using this approach with just some slight modification in the fluid equations, it is possible to easily develop a macroscopic algorithm that can take into account moving fibrous media. In the above algorithm we also introduce (in line 7) the concept of a metamodel for the apparent permeability. This model is needed since the effective permeability  $\mathbf{H}$  can be affected by the direction and intensity of the mean velocity field, as we show later in chapter 4. It is also worth noting that with the use of the penalization method (paragraph 2.5) the interface condition is implicitly treated in the above algorithm, and it is very simple

to implement even for moving porous media. Also possible convergence and numerical instabilities of the algorithm can be controlled in a certain manner with the relaxation parameter  $\omega$  (Iron and Tuck [82]).

## 2.7 Note on the average of an average field

In the above sections we have briefly talked about the results in equation (2.6) that we recall here:

$$\langle \langle \psi_\beta \rangle |_{\mathbf{r}} \rangle |_{\mathbf{x}} = \langle \psi_\beta \rangle |_{\mathbf{x}}$$

And introducing the decomposition (2.23) the above results can be used to state that the perturbation fields have null averaged:

$$\langle \tilde{\psi}_\beta \rangle = 0$$

But let's recall what the average operator really does when applied to an averaged quantities:

$$\langle \langle \psi_\beta \rangle |_{\mathbf{r}} \rangle |_{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{1}{V} \int_{V_\beta(\mathbf{x})} \langle \psi_\beta \rangle |_{\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{r})} dV$$

The above equation can be described as the average computed over the volume  $V$  with centroid  $\mathbf{x}$ , of the averaged field  $\langle \psi_\beta \rangle |_{\mathbf{r}}$  that can vary spatially, because of the change of  $\mathbf{r}$ .

In order to show how the above expression can be simplified we expand the averaged quantity  $\langle \psi_\beta \rangle |_{\mathbf{r}}$  over the centroid  $\mathbf{x}$  using Taylor's polynomial:

$$\langle \psi_\beta \rangle |_{\mathbf{r}} = \langle \psi_\beta \rangle |_{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{y} \cdot \nabla \langle \psi_\beta \rangle |_{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{y} \mathbf{y} : \nabla \nabla \langle \psi_\beta \rangle |_{\mathbf{x}} + O(\mathbf{y}^3)$$

Now if we put this expansion inside the averaging operator, we get:

$$\langle \langle \psi_\beta \rangle |_{\mathbf{r}} \rangle |_{\mathbf{x}} = \langle \psi_\beta \rangle |_{\mathbf{x}} + \langle \mathbf{y} \rangle |_{\mathbf{x}} \cdot \nabla \langle \psi_\beta \rangle |_{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{1}{2} \langle \mathbf{y} \mathbf{y} \rangle |_{\mathbf{x}} : \nabla \nabla \langle \psi_\beta \rangle |_{\mathbf{x}} + O(\mathbf{y}^3)$$

The term  $\langle \mathbf{y} \rangle$  is zero for REV used in ordered porous media since they are always chosen to be symmetric around the REV centroid. The second term can be shown to be negligible either with the same length-scale constraint used in the REV definition, in fact Ochoa-Tapia and Whitaker [115], Paéz-García et al. [119] showed that this term is order  $O(\epsilon^2)$ . Although there is possible to choose an appropriate weight function that enforce  $m * \mathbf{y} \mathbf{y} = 0$  strictly, these function are impractical (Davit and Quintard [45]). As we recall from section 2.3.3 the triangle shaped weight function almost satisfy this hypothesis. The function  $m^\Delta$  guarantee a second order closure it means that  $\frac{1}{2} \langle \mathbf{y} \mathbf{y} \rangle |_{\mathbf{x}} : \nabla \nabla \langle \psi_\beta \rangle |_{\mathbf{x}}$  is a constant. Further manipulation can show that it is also negligible ( $O(\epsilon^2)$ ).

## 2.8 Conclusions

We have shown in this chapter how to formally derive the homogenized version of the Navier-Stokes equations. We have also discussed the extension of the model in case of elastic porous medium. A lot of emphasis has been put on the closure problem for the microscopic force since the topic is further developed in chapter 4. Although the average volume method is not a new we think that this chapter help to place in context the latest works in literature. The chapter also form a basis for better understand the next chapters.

## Chapter 3

# Drag-model sensitivity of Kelvin-Helmholtz waves in canopy flows

*While knowledge can create problems, it is not through ignorance that we can solve them.*

- Asimov's New Guide to Science, 1984, Isaac Asimov

Gomez-de Segura et al. [70] state that their results agree with yours ??

Include this paper Sharma et al. [140]

cita Ortiz et al. [118]

cita Garcia Mayoral and Abderrahaman-Elena [61] nelle conclusioni dicendo che ha usato il nostro modello in caso turbolento ecc..

### 3.1 Introduction

modify the introduction to not repeat the same parts that you have presented in the intro

Flows through submerged aquatic plants exhibit large scale vortices at the top of the vegetation, advecting along the flow direction and causing a periodic waving of the plants, referred to as monami (Ackerman and Okubo [1]). Vortices arise from the nonlinear amplification of a Kelvin-Helmholtz instability mode, related to the presence of an inflection point in the base flow profile (Asaeda et al. [7]); the profile itself is inflectional because the fluid is slowed down by the drag exerted by the canopy, whose modeling has recently been addressed (Py et al. [124], Singh et al. [141], Zampogna et al. [168]). The correct prediction of the onset and characteristics of the Kelvin-Helmholtz instability is important for assessing the effects of turbulence, in particular to

- understand how the vertical exchange of momentum occurs (Ikeda and Kanazawa [80])
- clarify how the transport of  $CO_2$ , dissolved nutrients or sediments takes place between the obstructed vegetation flow and the free overflow motion (Gambi et al. [60], Eckman [50], Grizzle et al. [75], Finnigan [56]), and also
- assess the changes in the morphology of the vegetation in inland or coastal wetlands in response to continuous periodic forcing (Asaeda et al. [7], Patil and Singh [120])

Because of the flexibility of the vegetation, some theoretical studies have focussed on the modeling of the stems of the aquatic plants and their displacement in response to the forcing by the water flow (Py et al. [124], Patil and Singh [120]). However, Kelvin-Helmholtz vortices occur whether or not the plants bend and—to ascertain causes and effects to first order—it is acceptable to focus on the flow over and through a submerged array of rigid, cylindrical pillars. This has been the basis of the approach by Ghisalberti and Nepf (Ghisalberti and Nepf [67], Ghisalberti and Nepf [64], Ghisalberti and Nepf [66]) who have conducted a series of careful experiments; their results have often been used by fluid dynamicists to put forth and test theoretical hypotheses to predict the frequency and wavelength of the large scale vortical motion, for a variety of conditions. The configuration studied consists of a regular grid of rigid pillars, orthogonal to the surface, of identical height  $h$ ; in some of the theoretical models proposed to analyze the stability of this system, the Rayleigh equation is used throughout the water channel, with or without a drag term in correspondence of the canopy (Raupach et al. [132], Py et al. [124], Singh et al. [141]) Zampogna et al. [168] have recently demonstrated that the addition of a drag term through the vegetation reduces the amplification factor of the Kelvin-Helmholtz instability throughout the whole range of wavenumbers and increases mildly the wavelength of the fastest growing mode; further unpublished work by the same authors shows that the addition of a mixing length turbulence model in the stability equations has but a negligible influence on the leading instability mode. Questions remain, however, on the accuracy of the drag model and on its sensitivity. A partial answer to these questions is provided in Zampogna et al. [168]: there, a different model, applicable within the vegetated layer and based on the equations ruling the behavior of a transversely isotropic porous medium, has been developed and the stability results appear to better match experimental correlations. This conclusion is, however, not consolidated yet, and further studies are needed to assess the influence of the model of the drag force through the vegetation, both in setting up a particular (inflectional) mean flow and on the onset and growth of Kelvin-Helmholtz waves. The present work addresses the points above through an adjoint-based sensitivity analysis along the lines of Bottaro et al. [23] the direct stability equations are written with account of viscosity, and the adjoint equations are found and solved in the temporal framework. Results in the spatial setting are discussed in Appendix B, where a digression is made on the computation of the group velocity of the instability waves by the use of

the adjoint fields. The sensitivity functions to both mild modifications in the base shear layer and in the drag coefficient are computed and discussed. Finally, a different sensitivity analysis is developed on the basis of the recent anisotropic model by Zampogna et al. [168] and the results qualitatively compared to those obtained with the more conventional isotropic-drag-force model.

## 3.2 Model of the canopy flow

### 3.2.1 The mean flow

To obtain the mean flow on top of which small amplitude perturbations are superimposed, the procedure outlined by Ghisalberti and Nepf [64] and recently closely followed by Zampogna et al. [168] is used. For the sake of conciseness, the procedure which relies on several empirical correlations is not repeated here, aside from a few brief comments. A mildly inclined water channel is considered, with a canopy formed by rigid cylindrical dowels of height  $h$  equal to  $13.8\text{ cm}$  and diameter  $d = 0.64\text{ cm}$ . The frontal area of the vegetation per unit volume, i.e., the packing density of the elements, is either  $a = 0.04\text{ cm}^{-1}$  or  $0.08\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; the free surface is positioned at a level  $H = 46.7\text{ cm}$  from the bottom plate and the flow velocity at the free surface,  $U_2$ , varies from  $4.4$  to  $13.7\text{ cm/s}$ . The Froude number,  $F_r = \frac{U_2}{gH}$  is thus very low and water surface fluctuations can be ignored Brevis et al. [27]. To a good approximation the mean flow can be taken as steady and parallel, with the streamwise velocity varying from the value  $U_1$  at the bottom wall (not accounting for the thin bottom boundary layer) to the value  $U_2$  at the top, near the free surface (3.1). The slope of the bottom surface is very small; it is denoted as  $S$  and, in the experiments by Ghisalberti and Nepf [64] varies from  $1.8 \times 10^{-6}$  to  $10^{-4}$ ; such a slope provides the driving force for the motion. The viscous term is small compared to the turbulent diffusion term, so that the mean streamwise momentum equation can be approximated by:

$$gS = \frac{\partial \overline{u'v'}}{\partial y} + \frac{1}{2}C_D(y)aU(y)^2 \quad (3.1)$$

with  $g$  the acceleration of gravity and  $C_D$  an isotropic drag function available from the experiments, variable across the canopy and equal to zero when  $y \geq h$ .

The Reynolds stress  $\overline{u'v'}$  is modelled with the Boussinesq assumption, introducing a turbulent viscosity which depends on a mixing length and on the gradient of the mean velocity  $U$ . Referring to Ghisalberti and Nepf [64] for details of the empirical correlations used to close the equations and the solution method, we limit ourselves here to stating that the results obtained for the mean flow are very close to those reported in Zampogna et al. [168] (cf. their Figure 3) and closely match experimental points for the cases G, H, I, and J considered (we use the same terminology of Ghisalberti and Nepf [67] Ghisalberti and Nepf [64] Ghisalberti and Nepf [66] to indicate the different flow configurations). An example of



Figure 3.1: Configuration studied with main notations

mean flow is reported in 3.2 (left frame). There, one can observe the computed flow (against discrete measurement points), its first derivative, and the drag coefficient distribution for one representative case (experiment G), used below also to discuss stability and sensitivity results. Other procedures have been employed in the past to calculate the mean flow, with satisfactory results. For example, Singh et al. [141] have considered a constant value of  $C_d$  through the canopy, while Zampogna et al. [168] have coupled, at a fictitious interface, the fluid equations outside the canopy to Darcy's law within the vegetation. Thus, for the purposes of the present paper, the mean flow is assumed as given; it could be, for example, simply a fit through experimental data. Nonetheless, in Appendix A we provide some considerations on how  $C_d$  affects the mean flow in the model used here.

### 3.2.2 Stability and sensitivity equations

A temporal linear stability analysis is carried out, with the generic perturbation  $q'(x, y, t)$  of the form

$$q'(x, y, z, t) = \tilde{q}(y)e^{i(\alpha x - \omega t)} \quad (3.2)$$

with  $\alpha$  the real streamwise wavenumber and  $\omega$  a complex number whose real part,  $\omega_r$ , is the frequency of the mode and the imaginary part,  $\omega_i$ , is the growth rate. The dimensionless linear stability equations in primitive variables read

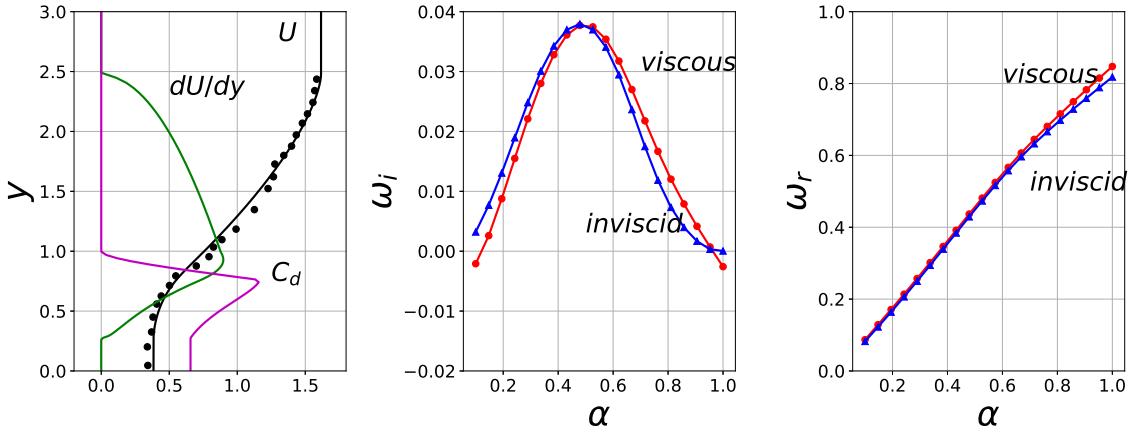


Figure 3.2: Left frame: mean flow  $U$ , together with experimental data points Ghisalberti and Nepf [64], its first derivative, and drag coefficient distribution (case G). Center: viscous and inviscid growth rates,  $\omega_i$ , as a function of the streamwise wavenumber  $\alpha$ . Right: corresponding frequencies,  $\omega_r$

$$\begin{aligned}
 i\alpha u + Dv = 0, \quad & D = d/dy \\
 \left[ i(\alpha U - \omega) - \frac{D^2 - \alpha^2}{Re} + aC_d U \right] u + U' v + i\alpha p = 0, \quad & U' = \frac{dU}{dy} \\
 \left[ i(\alpha U - \omega) - \frac{D^2 - \alpha^2}{Re} \right] v + Dp = 0
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.3}$$

with the perturbation velocity components which vanish when  $y = 0$  and  $y_\infty$ . The upper boundary of the computational domain is taken far enough away from the lower boundary to ensure that the results do not vary upon modifications of  $y_\infty$ . All the terms in the equations are dimensionless; the mean speed through the shear layer,  $U_m = \frac{U_1 + U_2}{2}$ , is used to scale the disturbance velocity components, pressure is scaled with  $\rho U_m^2$ , distances with  $h$ , and time with  $h/U_m$ . The Reynolds number in the equations above is thus defined as  $Re = \rho U_m / \mu h$ , with  $\rho$  and  $\mu$  the fluid's density and dynamic viscosity, respectively. The computations are performed both at the  $Re$  values of the experiments and in the inviscid limit ( $Re^{-1} \rightarrow 0$ ), for comparison purposes. In the latter case, the boundary conditions are simply  $v = 0$  at  $y = 0$  and  $y_\infty$ . System 3.3 above and its boundary conditions are, in the following, also written in short notation as  $\mathcal{L}q = 0$ . The eigenvalues of the system are those complex values of  $\omega$  which yield non-trivial solutions for  $u$ ,  $v$ , and  $p$ . Two numerical collocation codes are written, and successfully compared; one is based on the equations in primitive variables form, the second solves an Orr-Sommerfeld-like equation

(with the addition of the drag term) along the lines of Singh et al. [141]. In both cases, a spectral scheme based on N Chebyshev polynomials is used (N is typically equal to 300 to ensure grid-converged results), with an algebraic mapping between the physical and the spectral domains (Hussaini and Zang [78] ). Viscous and inviscid stability results for case G are shown in 3.2 (center and right frames); differences are small, in consideration of the fact that the Reynolds number of the viscous case is relatively large ( $Re = 3450$ ). The viscous wavenumber of largest amplification is found for  $\alpha = 0.4790$ ; the waves are weakly dispersive, particularly at low wavenumbers (an original interpretation of phase and group velocities is proposed in Appendix B). The wavelength of largest growth is smaller than that found by Zampogna et al. [168] which was 0.73; this is related to the slightly different base flow in the two cases (in the present contribution a smoothing has been applied to the  $U$  velocity distribution to render  $dU/dy$  continuous across  $y$ ) and highlights the sensitivity of this stability problem to base flow variations. Following Bottaro et al. [23] it is assumed that small variations in base flow and drag coefficient entail infinitesimal variations in the system's eigenvalues and eigenfunctions. We stress here the fact that  $C_d$  is identically equal to zero outside of the canopy, and this implies that there are no possible variations in  $C_d$  for  $y \geq 1$ . The sensitivity functions to variations in  $U$  and  $C_d$  are obtained by using the properties of the adjoint system which is defined from the Lagrange identity

$$0 = \delta \langle q^\dagger, \mathcal{L}q \rangle = \langle q^\dagger, \mathcal{L}\delta q \rangle + \langle q^\dagger, \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial U} q \delta U \rangle + \langle q^\dagger, \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial C_d} q \delta C_d \rangle + \langle q^\dagger, \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \omega} q \rangle \delta \omega \quad (3.4)$$

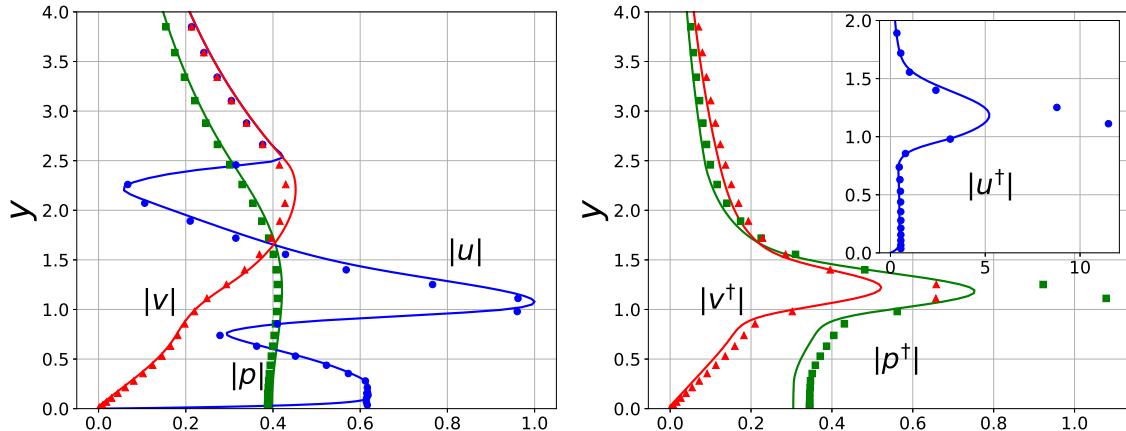


Figure 3.3: Moduli of direct (left frame) and adjoint (right frame) eigenfunctions for the viscous ( $Re = 3450$ ) and the inviscid (symbols) case, in correspondence to the wavenumber of largest amplification.

and considering the effect of independent variations of  $U$  and  $C_d$  onto  $q$  and  $\omega$ . It is

found that

$$\delta\omega = \delta\omega_r + i\delta\omega_i = \int_0^{y_\infty} G_U(y)\delta U(y)dy + \int_0^1 G_{C_d}(y)\delta C_d(y)dy \quad (3.5)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} G_U &= \alpha \left[ \bar{v}^\dagger v + \bar{u}^\dagger u \right] + i(\bar{u}^\dagger v)' - iaC_d \bar{u}^\dagger u \\ G_{C_d} &= -iaU \bar{u}^\dagger u \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

the required sensitivity functions; the real parts of  $G_U$  and  $G_{C_d}$  express sensitivities to variations in the frequency of the mode while the imaginary parts are sensitivities to variations in the growth rate. Direct and adjoint eigenfunctions are normalized so that  $N_\omega = 1$ , with

$$N_\omega = \int_0^{y_\infty} \left[ \bar{v}^\dagger v + \bar{u}^\dagger u \right] dy \quad (3.7)$$

An example of direct and adjoint eigenfunctions is provided in 3.3, both in the viscous case ( $Re = 3450$ ) and in the inviscid limit, for  $\alpha = 0.4790$ . It is interesting to observe that while the direct eigenfunctions are almost overlapped, the same is not the case for the adjoint eigenfunctions, with the inviscid mode (drawn with symbols) which has a larger amplitude than the viscous one. The shapes of the direct eigenfunctions are very close to those reported in Zampogna et al. [168]. The adjoint modes reveal that the flow is most sensitive to streamwise forcing, particularly when it occurs slightly above the edge of the canopy. Source terms in the mass conservation and in the vertical momentum equations are much less effective.

### 3.3 Sensitivity results for the isotropic drag model

Some representative sensitivity functions are plotted in 3.4; viscous and inviscid results concur in showing that the largest sensitivities to variations of  $U$  are found right above the vegetation's edge, where there are peaks in the adjoint eigenfunctions and where  $d^2U/dy^2$  vanishes. The  $U$ -sensitivities are negligible within the vegetated layer and for values of  $y$  larger than twice the canopy's height. The  $C_d$ -sensitivities are non-negligible only in close proximity of the interface. It is interesting to observe that real and imaginary parts of the  $U$ -sensitivity functions are shifted in  $y$  with respect to one another; this means that, for example, a localized perturbation at a given  $y$  position (above the canopy) might have a strong repercussion on the growth rate but not on the frequency of the most unstable Kelvin-Helmholtz mode, or vice versa. Comparing left and right frames of the figure, it is seen that inviscid  $G_U$  sensitivity functions display sharper peaks and steeper gradients, and yield larger variations in  $\omega$  than their viscous counterparts in the proximity of the  $U$

inflection point, a clear consequence of the inviscid mechanism ruling the instability. In both the viscous and the inviscid models, the sensitivity to base flow variations is typically one order of magnitude larger than the sensitivity to changes in the drag coefficient.

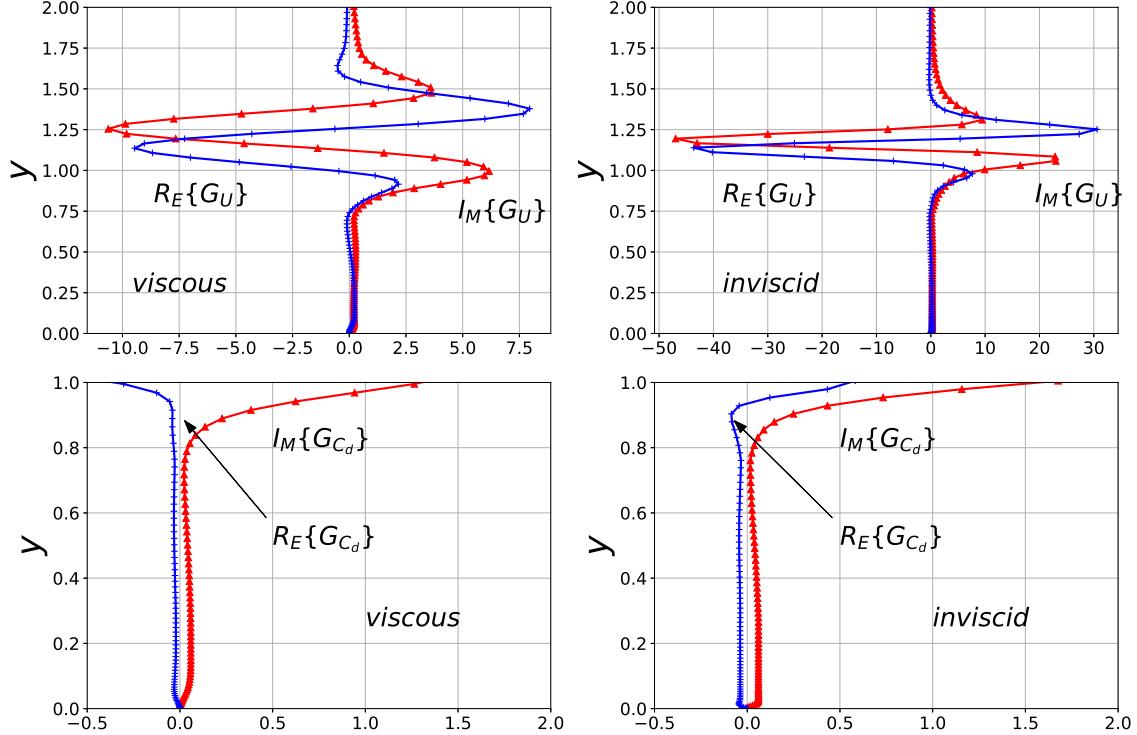


Figure 3.4: Real and imaginary parts of the sensitivities to mean flow variations (top) and to variations in the drag distribution function (bottom), for the parameters of 3.3

The infinite norm of the sensitivities for the four cases studied (G, H, I, and J) is reported in 3.5; the main result found is that  $|G_U|_\infty$  grows monotonically with  $\alpha$  (and more so in the inviscid case) whereas  $|G_{C_d}|_\infty$  does not. It is consistently found that  $|G_U|_\infty$  of case H is larger than that of case I, which exceeds the corresponding value of case J, in turn larger than  $|G_U|_\infty$  of case G. This is not unexpected in view of the values of the mean shear  $\frac{U_2 - U_1}{H}$  which are, going from H to G, equal

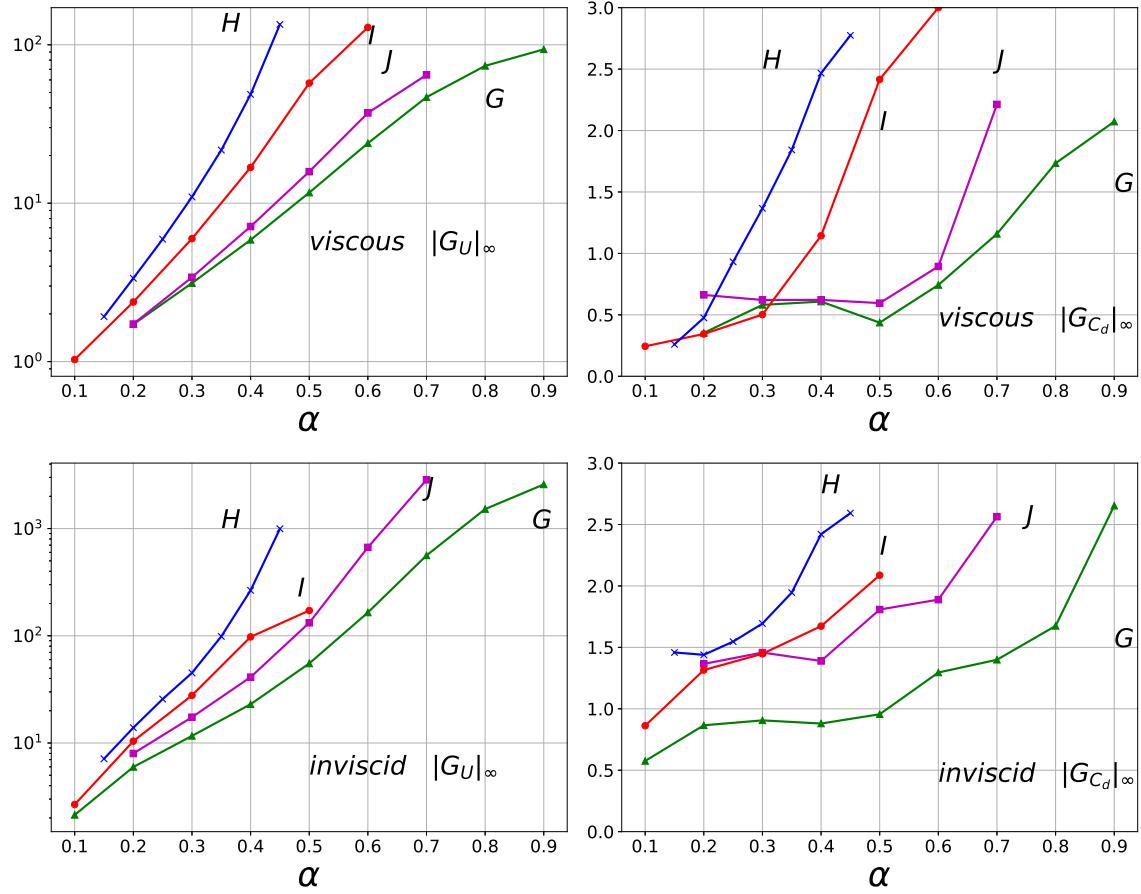


Figure 3.5: Infinite norms of the sensitivity functions for varying  $\alpha$

to  $0.236$ ,  $0.158$ ,  $0.084$ , and  $0.071 s^{-1}$ , respectively. The sensitivity of the eigenvalue  $\omega$  to variations in the mean flow is generally stronger than the corresponding sensitivity to variations in the drag coefficient (aside for the long wave limit, where they are comparable). This might be interpreted positively, considering that the use of a scalar coefficient  $C_d$  to represent the drag within the canopy is but a crude approximation. An alternative model to represent the flow throughout a network of rigid, cylindrical dowels has recently been proposed by Zampogna et al. [168]. The sensitivity results for such a new model are discussed next.

### 3.4 An alternative sensitivity model: accounting for the canopy anisotropicity

The stability problem in this section is based on the coupling between two regions, one outer region dominated by inertia and ruled by the inviscid equations and an inner one dominated by viscosity and ruled by Darcy's law, with account of the canopy geometry through a tensorial permeability, as described by Zampogna et al. [168]. Normalizing the disturbance equation which couples pressure and velocity in the inner region with the same scales as previously, we obtain

$$u_i' = -Re \frac{d}{ah^2} \mathcal{K}_{ij} \frac{\partial p'}{\partial x_j}, \quad (x_1, x_2) = (x, y) \quad (3.8)$$

with  $\mathcal{K}_{ij}$  the dimensionless permeability. The effective interface between the inertial region and the slow, viscosity-dominated region does not coincide with the edge of the canopy; in fact, the rapid outer flow penetrates through the upper part of the vegetation and an effective matching between outer and inner flows must be enforced some distance  $\delta$  below the canopy's edge Le Bars and Worster [96]. This distance, a penetration depth, has been successfully computed by Zampogna and Bottaro [164] for a few cases and is found to increase with the Reynolds number of the flow; for experiment G discussed below it is  $\delta = 0.40$  Zampogna and Bottaro [165]. On account of the results shown in 3.4, with the sensitivities which are negligible for  $y \approx 0.60$ , we expect that the exact position of the effective interface will not affect the results significantly. Using the fact that the velocity within the orthotropic porous medium is divergence free, the interface condition to be applied at  $y_{itf} = 1 - \delta$  is found to be 3.9

$$v|_{itf} + B(\alpha)p|_{itf} = 0 \quad (3.9)$$

with

$$B(\alpha) = Re \frac{d}{ah^2} \sqrt{\mathcal{K}_{11} \mathcal{K}_{22}} \alpha \tanh(\theta), \quad \theta = \alpha \sqrt{\frac{\mathcal{K}_{11}}{\mathcal{K}_{22}}} y_{itf}$$

The second boundary condition that the Rayleigh stability equation must satisfy at  $y_\infty$  is simply  $v = 0$ . Thus, we solve only for the inviscid flow in the outer region, and the permeability of the inner domain enters the equations only through the interface condition 3.9.  $\mathcal{K}_{ij}$  is a two- by-two diagonal tensor;  $\mathcal{K}_{11}$  is the component of the dimensionless permeability along  $x$  and  $\mathcal{K}_{22}$  is the  $y$  component. For case G considered here, the packing density of the elements is  $a = 0.04 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; it is also found that  $\mathcal{K}_{11} = 0.0512$  and  $\mathcal{K}_{22} = 0.0575$  Zampogna and Bottaro [165], so that the function  $B(\alpha)$  reads  $B = 15.727\alpha \tanh(0.566\alpha)$ .

### 3.4.1 The sensitivity equations

The adjoint equations in this case are the same as system 3.3, without the terms containing  $1/Re$  and  $C_d$ , and the boundary conditions are

$$v^\dagger|_{itf} - B(\alpha)p^\dagger|_{itf} = 0, \quad v^\dagger|_{y_\infty} = 0 \quad (3.10)$$

The variation in the complex frequency is related to variations in the mean flow and in the permeability components through the equation

$$\delta\omega = \int_{y_{itf}}^{y_\infty} G_U(y)\delta U(y)dy + G_{\mathcal{K}_{11}}\delta\mathcal{K}_{11} + G_{\mathcal{K}_{22}}\delta\mathcal{K}_{22}$$

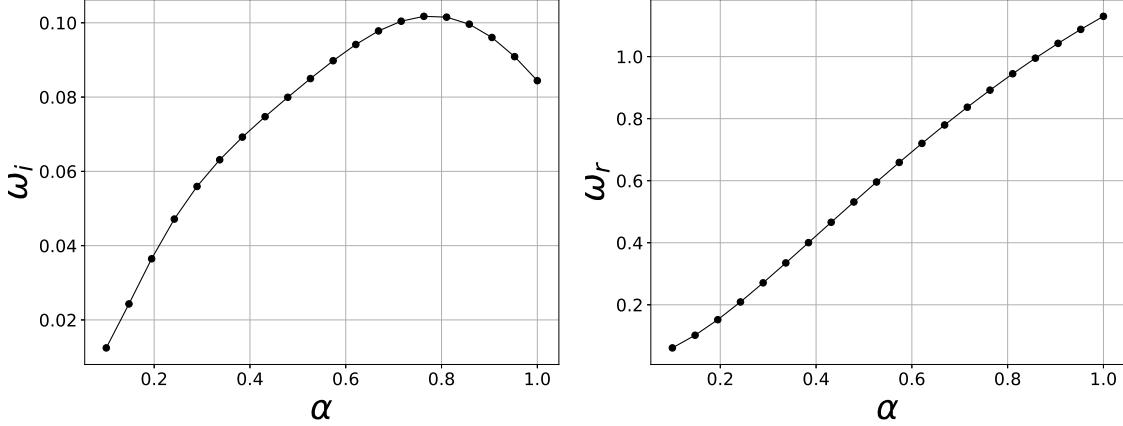


Figure 3.6: Amplification factor (left) and frequency of the most unstable mode as a function of  $\alpha$ , for the anisotropic drag model

with

$$\begin{aligned} G_U &= \alpha \left[ \overline{v^\dagger v} + \overline{u^\dagger u} \right] + i(\overline{u^\dagger v})' \\ G_{\mathcal{K}_{11}} &= -\frac{i}{2}\alpha Re \frac{d}{ah^2} \left[ \overline{p^\dagger p} \right] |_{itf} \sqrt{\frac{\mathcal{K}_{22}}{\mathcal{K}_{11}}} \left\{ \tanh \theta + \frac{\theta}{\cosh^2 \theta} \right\} \\ G_{\mathcal{K}_{22}} &= -\frac{i}{2}\alpha Re \frac{d}{ah^2} \left[ \overline{p^\dagger p} \right] |_{itf} \sqrt{\frac{\mathcal{K}_{11}}{\mathcal{K}_{22}}} \left\{ \tanh \theta - \frac{\theta}{\cosh^2 \theta} \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (3.11)$$

the required sensitivities, with the normalization  $\int_{y_{itf}}^{y_\infty} \left[ \overline{v^\dagger v} + \overline{u^\dagger u} \right] dy = 1$ . In writing  $\delta\omega$  above, we have made the assumption that the mean flow  $U$  does not vary at the two extreme points of the integration domain. The stability results (for the same parameters

as in 3.2) are displayed in 3.6. As already observed in Zampogna et al. [168], both the growth rate and the frequency are slightly larger with this model than with the isotropic resistance model, for all  $\alpha$ 's, and the most unstable mode is found at a larger value of  $\alpha$  (here  $\alpha \approx 0.8$ ) in better agreement with experimental correlations Zampogna et al. [168] Raupach et al. [132]. Also in this case the waves are found to be only weakly dispersive. Eigenfunctions are plotted in 3.7, together with the real and imaginary parts of the  $G_U$  sensitivity function. As in 3.3, the modulus of the  $u$  eigenfunction peaks near the edge of the canopy ( $y = 1$ ), whereas the adjoint eigenfunctions have a maximum value slightly above. As a general remark, the shapes of the direct and adjoint modes are quite similar to those found with the isotropic resistance model; as reported at the end of 3.2.2, it is found that the flow is most sensitive to streamwise momentum forcing. Also, real and imaginary parts of  $G_U$  have a double-peak structure, like in the isotropic-drag model, but now the largest absolute value of  $G_U$  is

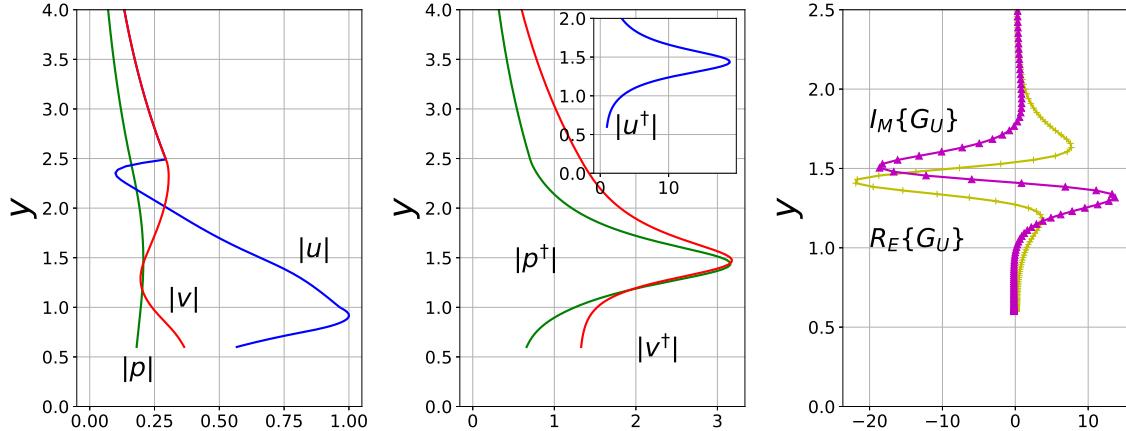


Figure 3.7: Left and center frames: moduli of direct and adjoint eigenfunctions; pressure and “adjoint pressure” are drawn with dashed lines. Right: real and imaginary parts of the sensitivity function  $G_U$  ( $\alpha = 0.4790$ )

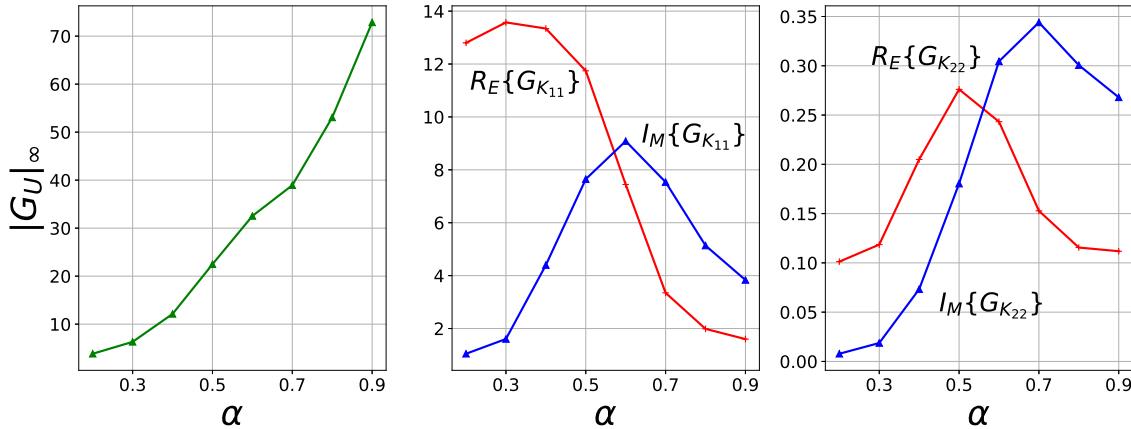


Figure 3.8: Case G. Left: infinite norm of  $G_U$  for varying  $\alpha$ . Center and right frames: real and imaginary parts of the sensitivity coefficients to variations in the permeability components

smaller and shifted towards a larger  $y$  than in the previous inviscid case (cf. 3.4, top-right frame). This can also be appreciated by the inspection of 3.8 (left);  $|GU|_\infty$  still grows monotonically with  $\alpha$ , but the sensitivity is smaller than that computed earlier (cf. 3.5) with either the viscous or inviscid model (it is actually closer to the viscous sensitivity, as an effect of the interface condition). Furthermore, it is interesting to observe that both real and imaginary parts of  $G_U$  vanish for  $y = y|_{itf}$  (cf. 3.7, right), and this supports the statement made previously that a small shift in the position of the effective interface has but a minor influence on the most unstable mode. The sensitivity coefficients for the two components of the permeability tensors are displayed in 3.8 (center and right frames): the present model is more effective to variations in  $K_{11}$  than to  $K_{22}$  as far as modifying the complex eigenfrequency. Significantly, different ranges of wavenumbers behave differently as far as the variation in  $\omega$  is concerned. The frequency  $\omega_r$  of long waves (around  $\alpha \approx 0.3$ ) is more easily modified by acting on  $K_{11}$  (with an almost negligible effect on the growth rate of the wave); conversely, the growth rate of modes with large values of  $\alpha$  is affected efficiently by variations in the first component of the permeability tensor.

### 3.5 Concluding remarks

We have considered two different models of the flow through a vegetated layer experiencing Kelvin-Helmholtz destabilization. One model is based on the use of a single drag coefficient to express the force exerted by the vegetation on the fluid, the second considers the canopy as an orthotropic porous medium and is based on Darcy's equation with a tensorial permeability Zampogna and Bottaro [164]. Both models have advantages and

drawbacks. The main advantage of the first model is that the drag coefficient can be taken to vary across the canopy; whether this positive consideration, based on macroscopic experimental measurements Ghisalberti and Nepf [67] Ghisalberti and Nepf [64] Ghisalberti and Nepf [66], carries over to the stability problem remains to be established. The second model, applicable to dense porous media, considers two independent parameters to express the disturbance flow perpendicular and parallel to the rigid dowels forming the canopy. Such parameters and components of the transversely isotropic permeability tensor  $K_{ij}$  arise from the solution of a local Oseen problem Zampogna and Bottaro [164]. The drawback of the second model is the fact that an interface (whether real or effective) appears, and adequate matching conditions must be enforced there. Despite much work since the seminal contribution by Beavers and Joseph [14], a consensus on the “best” interface conditions between a pure fluid region and a porous medium has not yet emerged. The models have been put to test through a classical sensitivity analysis Bottaro et al. [23]. Beyond displaying stability results which correspond better to those to be expected from available experimental correlations Raupach et al. [132] Zampogna et al. [168], the anisotropic model is less sensitive to variations in the base flow (with potentially larger variations in frequency and growth rate of the instability mode for the case of shorter waves). As far as a direct comparison between  $G_{C_d}$  and  $G_{K_{ii}}$  is concerned, this can hardly be made since the variables represent different objects; in particular, the pressure drop through the canopy depends directly on  $C_d$  and inversely on the permeability. The present results indicate that the anisotropic model depends significantly on the value of the apparent Zampogna and Bottaro [164] permeability component  $K_{11}$ , whose evaluation must thus be conducted carefully. This model is also of interest for further developments, in particular for the study of instabilities developing over waving canopies. Darcy’s law in this latter case would need to be modified, as described in Mei and Vernescu [107] and Zampogna and Bottaro [167].

## Appendix A: effect of $C_d$ on the mean flow

In 3.2 of the paper it is described how the eigenvalue  $\omega$  varies as an effect of independent variations of  $U$  and  $C_d$ . However, since  $C_d$  is not zero within the canopy and it is used to compute the mean flow profile  $U$ , we should in principle have expressed  $\delta U$  as  $\delta U = \frac{dU}{dC_d} \delta C_d$  and considered a single sensitivity function  $G^*_{C_d} = G_{C_d} + \frac{dU}{dC_d} G_U$ , instead of the two sensitivities given in 3.6. This would have certainly been the appropriate line of action if the mean flow equation were issued from exact equations, in which case we should have considered also the adjoint of the base flow equation in our variational problem. However, the mean flow model by Ghisalberti and Nepf [64] contains empirical approximations and parameters, and alternative models Singh et al. [141], Zampogna et al. [168] —including very different ones—have been used successfully in the past to predict the mean field; we have thus made the choice, in both 3.3 and 3.4, of considering the mean

flow as given, and to take independent variations of  $U$  and  $C_d$  in the stability analysis to assess the effect of modifications in either variable. If we were to find how much the base flow depends on the drag coefficient in this particular problem, we would need to determine the function  $U(C_d)$  and take its derivative. Since both  $U$  and  $C_d$  are functions of the space coordinate  $y$ , the implicit dependence can be found, and we have plotted it for one case on the left frame of 3.9. Clearly, the function  $U = f(C_d)$  is not single-valued and therefore the derivative can be calculated only over two separate  $U$  (or, equivalently,  $y$ ) intervals. We have carried out the derivation numerically over each interval, within the range  $0.3 \leq y \leq 1$ , and the result is reported on the right frame of 3.9. The filled triangle and circle symbols indicate the two  $y$  intervals within the canopy. We first observe that both the location where  $C_d$  is maximum and the shape of the function  $U = f(C_d)$  are strongly correlated to the drag law  $C_d(y)$ , modeled by Ghisalberti and Nepf [64]

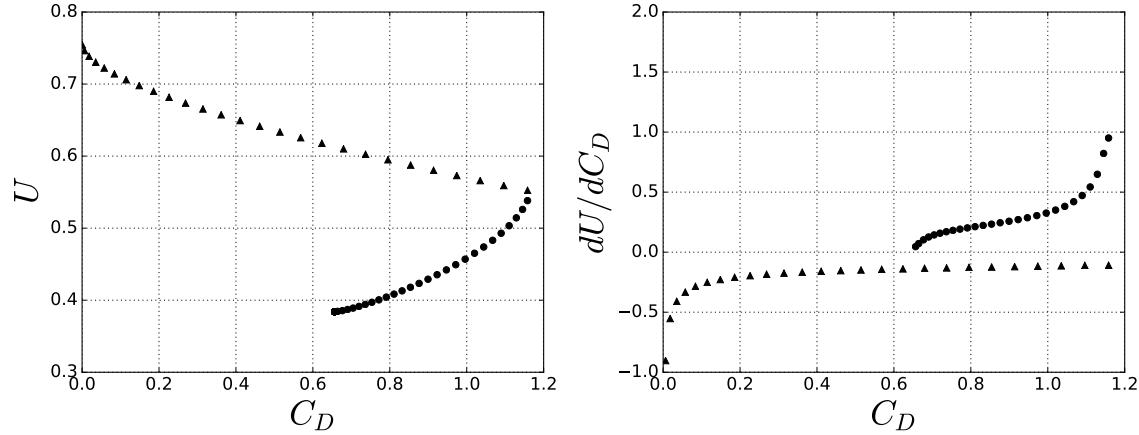


Figure 3.9: Case G. Left: mean velocity profile,  $U$ , versus the drag coefficient,  $C_d$ . Right: first derivative,  $dU/dC_d$ . The triangles denote the region  $y \in [0.76, 1]$ , the filled circles denote the region  $y \in [0.3, 0.76]$ .

through their measurement data (cf. their Figure 7 and Equation (18)). We also notice that the derivative  $dU/dC_d$  is reasonably small except locally at the point where the derivative of the function is not continuous, where it is of order 1. The discontinuity there is however artificial since the function  $C_d(y)$  given in Equation (18) of Ghisalberti and Nepf [64], where  $C_d$  is divided into a parabolic and a linear part, can be easily modified to yield a continuous first derivative at  $y = 0.76$  if required, still maintaining a mean flow very close to the measured one.

## Appendix B: a digression on spatial stability theory and group velocity

Stability problems such as the first one considered in this paper can be approached with the spatial theory framework, with the wavenumber  $\alpha$  complex, its imaginary part being a growth rate, and the circular frequency  $\omega$  a real constant parameter. Let us generalize the sensitivity analysis by considering, as a first step,  $\alpha$  and  $\omega$  as complex numbers which can vary. Equation 3.4 contains one additional term and reads:

$$0 = \delta\langle q^\dagger, \mathcal{L}q \rangle = \langle q^\dagger, \mathcal{L}\delta q \rangle + \langle q^\dagger, \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial U}q\delta U \rangle + \langle q^\dagger, \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial C_d}q\delta C_d \rangle + \langle q^\dagger, \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \omega}q \rangle \delta \omega + \langle q^\dagger, \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \alpha}q \rangle \delta \alpha \quad (3.12)$$

To obtain the sensitivities in the spatial problem (for which  $\delta\omega = 0$ ) we now have to solve an adjoint system similar to 3.3, where  $\omega^\dagger$  is replaced by  $\omega$  and  $\alpha$  by  $\alpha^\dagger$ . The variation of the wavenumber  $\delta\alpha = 0$  is thus given by:

$$\delta\alpha = \delta\alpha_r + i\delta\alpha_i = \int_0^{y_\infty} G_U(y)\delta U(y)dy + \int_0^1 G_{C_D}(y)\delta C_D(y)dy$$

the functions  $G_U$  and  $G_{C_d}$  maintain the same form as in the temporal theory 3.6, with the direct and adjoint eigenfunctions which are now normalized by imposing that  $N_\alpha = -1$ , with

$$N_\alpha = \int_0^{y_\infty} \left[ \left( U - \frac{2i\alpha}{Re} \right) (\bar{v}^\dagger v + \bar{u}^\dagger u) + \bar{p}^\dagger u + \bar{u}^\dagger p \right] dy$$

Let us now consider a problem in which  $U$  and  $C_d$  are not allowed to vary, but  $\alpha$  and  $\omega$  are. With reference to Equation 3.12, with any choice of normalization of direct and adjoint modes, it is found that  $N_\omega\delta\omega = N_\alpha\delta\alpha$ . Thus, once the adjoint problem is solved, it is possible to accurately compute the group velocity  $c_g$  of any stability problem using the value of  $N_\omega$  and  $N_\alpha$ , i.e.,

$$c_g := \frac{d\omega_r}{d\alpha_r} \approx \frac{\text{real}(N_\alpha)}{\text{real}(N_\omega)} \quad (3.13)$$

Note that  $c_g$  above is different from the “complex group velocity”  $C_g := \frac{d\omega}{d\alpha} \approx \frac{N_\alpha}{N_\omega}$ , and it is also  $c_g \neq \text{real}(C_g)$ . Relation 3.13 can be employed in either a spatial or temporal stability analysis and some representative results (for case G) are provided in Table I with the phase velocity  $c_r := \omega_r/\alpha_r$  and the group velocity determined from Equation 3.13. The temporal or spatial amplification factors,  $\omega_i$  or  $-\alpha_i$ , respectively, are also given for all cases using Gaster’s transformation:  $\omega_i = -\alpha_i c_g$ . Two types of errors on the calculation of the group velocity (noted *err*) are given in the table; the top four values, relative to the temporal theory, are defined as

$$err = \frac{|c_g|_{3.13} - c_g|_{FD}|}{c_g|_{3.13}}$$

with  $c_g|_{FD}$  arising from a first-order finite difference approximation of the group velocity. The bottom four values are defined by the formula

$$err = \frac{|c_g|_{temporal} - c_g|_{spatial}|}{c_g|_{temporal}}$$

The relative difference on  $c_g$  between temporal and spatial theory is rather low. It has to be kept in mind, however, that a stability analysis in the spatial framework yields a nonlinear eigenvalue problem, with a consequent larger numerical system than in the temporal framework; therefore, by inverting matrices of the same size, the accuracy is expected to be slightly lower. The accuracy of the growth rate approximated through Gaster's relationship is also found to be acceptable.

Theory	$Re$	$\alpha_r$	$\omega_r$	$-\alpha_i$	$\omega_i$	$c_r$	$c_g$	$err(\%)$
Temporal	500	<b>0.5</b>	0.4778	<i>0.0248</i>	0.0254	0.9556	1.0245	0.54
	3450	<b>0.5</b>	0.4601	<i>0.0413</i>	0.0404	0.9202	0.9797	0.06
	$10^5$	<b>0.5</b>	0.4514	<i>0.0436</i>	0.0421	0.9028	0.9661	0.63
	$10^9$	<b>0.5</b>	0.4508	<i>0.0451</i>	0.0425	0.9016	0.9427	2.90
Spatial	500	0.4993	<b>0.4778</b>	0.0248	0.0250	0.9569	1.0100	1.41
	3450	0.4990	<b>0.4601</b>	0.0427	0.0404	0.9220	0.9471	3.30
	$10^5$	0.4996	<b>0.4514</b>	0.0449	0.0416	0.9109	0.9371	3.46
	$10^9$	0.4993	<b>0.4508</b>	0.0450	0.0411	0.9028	0.9143	3.01

Table 3.1: Temporal versus spatial stability, Case G. The model employed here is based on a modified Orr-Sommerfeld equation—rather than a system based on primitive variables as done in the bulk of the paper—which is why the temporal results have slightly larger growth rates  $\omega_i$  than those displayed in Fig. 3.2; this is related to the need of computing numerically  $d^2U/dy^2$  and  $dC_d/dy$  in the Orr-Sommerfeld-like equation. In italics, the growth rates obtained from Gaster's transformation are reported; the parameters imposed in each simulation are indicated with bold characters. The solutions for  $Re = 10^9$  coincide with those found using the inviscid equations.

The amplitude of the sensitivity functions,  $|G_U(y)|$  and  $|G_{C_d}(y)|$ , in the spatial and temporal stability frameworks is of same order of magnitude (not shown here) since they are related through temporal spatial the complex group velocity  $C_g$ . It is found that  $|G_U^{temporal}| \approx |C_g| |G_U^{spatial}|$  with  $|C_g| \approx c_g \approx 1$  in the present case. Obtaining and comparing results in the temporal and spatial stability frameworks, such as in Table I,

is a good means to validate the sensitivity functions and to verify the accuracy of the computations of the adjoint stability equations.

## Appendix C: comparison between continuous and discrete adjoint eigenfunctions

The discretization operation transform the operator  $\mathcal{L}$  into a matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  and of course do the same things to the unknown functions that becomes vectors.

continuous	discrete
$\mathcal{L}$	$\mathbf{A}$
$q$	$\hat{q}$

This has a serious and most often hidden repercussion in th approach to solve the adjoint equations.

As above stated the derivation of the adjoint equation start with the enforcing of the Lagrange identity:

$$\langle q; \mathcal{L}q \rangle = \langle \mathcal{L}^\dagger q^\dagger; q \rangle \quad (3.14)$$

where the scalar product  $\langle ; \rangle$  is defined in our case as:

$$\langle a; b \rangle = \int_0^{y_\infty} \bar{a} \cdot b dy \approx \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \hat{\bar{a}}_i^T w_{i,j} \hat{b}_j = \hat{\bar{a}}_i^T \mathbf{M} \hat{b}_j = \langle a; b \rangle_{\mathbf{M}} \quad (3.15)$$

Is it clear from equation 3.15 that the scalar product takes two different forms in the continuous and in the discrete case. In fact in the discrete case is mandatory to introduce the quadrature rule weights  $w_{i,j}$  of the chosen discretization.  $\mathbf{M}$  is the matrix representation of the weights and is symmetric and positive defined.

In order to compute and solve the adjoint equation one could proceed as follow:

- The direct problem is defined in the continuous space as  $\mathcal{L}q = 0$
- Chose a discretization (FEM, FD, Chebychev polynomials...) and transform the above problem in a discrete one  $\mathbf{A}\hat{q}$
- Solve it to obtain the discrete version of the eigenfunctions  $\hat{q}$

For the adjoint problem on should at first compute the adjoint operator, this can be done using the Lagrangian identity at a continuous level:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle q; \mathcal{L}q \rangle &= \langle \mathcal{L}^\dagger q^\dagger; q \rangle \\ \Rightarrow \int_0^{y_\infty} \overline{q^\dagger} \mathcal{L}q dy &= \int_0^{y_\infty} \overline{\mathcal{L}^\dagger q^\dagger} q dy \end{aligned} \quad (3.16)$$

From the last equation starting from the left part is it possible after some manipulation to retrieve the form on the right part and so find the formulation of the adjoint operator.

It is important to pinpoint that in the above equation the scalar product  $\langle a; b \rangle$  is enforced at a continuous level.

And now to solve the adjoint system the procedure 3.5 can be used changing the direct system with the adjoint one. The above way of computing the adjoint and solve the system is called **continuous approach**.

To summarize this approach one can straight forward solve the direct problem computationally, mathematically find the adjoint operator using the continuous scalar product and the Lagrange identity and then discretize the adjoint problem and solve it computationally. This is why the **continuous approach** is sometimes known as derive than discretize. And the stability and accuracy problems derive directly from the fact that we discretize the problem two times (the direct first and than the adjoint).

On the contrary in the **discrete approach** the scalar product 3.15 is enforced at the discrete level in order to use the already discretized direct equation to retrive the adjoint system at a discrete level, to limit the computational errors.

$$\begin{aligned} \langle q^\dagger; \mathcal{L}q \rangle &= \langle \mathcal{L}^\dagger q^\dagger; q \rangle \\ \Rightarrow \overline{\hat{q}^\dagger}^T \mathbf{M} \mathbf{A} \hat{q} &= \left( \overline{\mathbf{A}^\dagger \hat{q}^\dagger} \right)^T \mathbf{M} \hat{q} \\ \Rightarrow \mathbf{M} \mathbf{A} &= \overline{\mathbf{A}^\dagger}^T \mathbf{M} \\ \Rightarrow \mathbf{A}^\dagger &= \mathbf{M}^{-1} \overline{\mathbf{A}}^T \mathbf{M} \end{aligned} \quad (3.17)$$

## Chapter 4

# Effect of geometrical parameters and inertia on the apparent permeability tensor in fibrous porous media

*Before we work on artificial intelligence, why don't we do something about natural stupidity?*

- , Steve Polyak

write clearly that you have taken Reynolds 100 max because after that the closure problems are not true. In fact the linear correlation hypothesis holds till 100. The check has been performed comparing H from inverting the DNS field and Darcy relation and the H from the closure problems, or comparing the latter directly with the force

### 4.1 Introduction

Include this paper Penha et al. [122] and this one Firdaouss et al. [58]

The flow through porous media is a problem of importance for several natural and technological applications. Since Darcy's original formulation [44], which relates the flow rate through a porous bed to the pressure drop across the bed's sides, many corrections have been made to account, for example, for viscous effects [28] or for the consequences of inertia [59]. All of the cited works are of empirical nature, but homogenisation has been able to recover all of these formulations rigorously starting from the Navier-Stokes equations [159]. This latter approach is sometimes defined VANS, for Volume-Averaged Navier-Stokes.

The theory requires the knowledge of a number of terms, most notably, in the case of an isotropic porous bed, a permeability coefficient and a Forchheimer coefficient. Initial efforts in defining these terms were based on a combination of physical reasoning and measurements, leading to expressions known as the Kozeny-Carman [89, 36] and the Ergun [53] correlations. The first provides the permeability for the laminar flow of a single-phase fluid through a packed bed of sand grains, as function of the porosity and the diameter of the grains, while the second extends Darcy's law to let the pressure drop depend on two terms, one proportional to the velocity and the second to its square, thus accounting for inertia. These approaches do not consider microstructural or geometrical features of the porous bed, which can render the permeability a tensorial quantity, and are often restricted to simple unidirectional flows. In the present work we are concerned with a transversely isotropic material composed by parallel fibers of circular cross-section, with one axis of symmetry,  $(O, x_3)$ ; in such materials the permeability is a diagonal tensor with the component in the direction parallel to the fibers greater than those along the transverse axes. For such an arrangement we will investigate the effects of both the direction of the forcing pressure gradient and inertia. When the latter effect is present, embodied by a Reynolds number  $Re_d$ , based on mean velocity through the medium and fibers' diameter, exceeding an order one threshold, the permeability is no more simply defined upon geometrical properties. This new permeability, which arises from a well-defined closure problem, is then called *apparent permeability*.

The influence of the geometry of the solid inclusions has been addressed previously by Yazdchi et al. [162] for arrays of cylinders in both square and hexagonal (or staggered) patterns, with the cylinders' section which can vary in shape. The results, in the two-dimensional and low Reynolds number limits, demonstrate the dependence of the permeability component along the flow direction to both the porosity and the direction of the macroscopic pressure gradient. The direction of the pressure gradient is found to have a weak effect for beds of medium-high porosity ( $\varepsilon > 0.7$ ) and a stronger dependence appears upon the geometry of the solid inclusions.

The influence of the Reynolds number on the permeability and on the Forchheimer correction has been presented in a number of papers. One of the contributions most relevant here is due to Edwards et al. [51]. These authors show that, for arrays of fibers, the apparent permeability decreases with the increase of the Reynolds number, and the rate of this decrease depends on the geometry of the array; also, the Reynolds number is found to have a stronger influence on the apparent permeability when the medium is highly porous. The results of the work by Edwards et al. [51] agree with those by Zampogna and Bottaro [163] and with our own work (as shown later), all for the case of cylindrical fibers, although some issues remain on the persistence of steady solutions in the simulations by Edwards et al. [51] in cases for which a limit cycle should have set in. A fully three-dimensional porous medium, more complex than those discussed so far, has been considered by Soulaine and Quintard [144], confirming the decreasing trend of the apparent permeability with the Reynolds number.

Another contribution which deserves mention is that by Lasseux et al. [95]; they have computed the permeability tensor for various Reynolds numbers, in a two-dimensional geometry with cylinders of square cross-section. Forcing the flow along the main symmetric directions of the fiber, Lasseux et al. [95] have identified different regimes:

- a creeping flow regime for  $0 < Re_d < 10^{-3}$ , without Forchheimer terms;
- a weak inertia regime for  $10^{-3} < Re_d < 1$ , with the Forchheimer correction quadratic in  $Re_d$ ;
- a strong inertia regime for  $1 < Re_d < 10$ , where the Forchheimer correction is linear with the Reynolds number;
- a turbulent regime, for  $Re_d > 10$ , with the Forchheimer correction again quadratic with the Reynolds number.

The boundaries between the different regimes are specific to the geometrical arrangements and to the porosities being considered; a step forward in rendering (some of) these boundaries rigorous and independent of the arrangement of the pores, through the definition of a Reynolds number which accounts for a "topological" coefficient, has been recently made by Pauthenet et al. [121]. For the purposes of the present paper, we must retain that Lasseux et al. [95] have parametrized the Forchheimer correction with the Reynolds number, and have found that the inertial correction is orders of magnitude smaller than the Darcy's term, at least before the turbulent regime sets in. Moreover, Lasseux et al. [95] have studied how a Forchheimer tensor,  $\mathbf{F}$ , depends upon the direction of the macroscopic forcing term with respect to the orientation of the square cross-section of the fibers, for  $Re_d$  up to 30. It is concluded that a deviation angle,  $\gamma$ , exists between the direction of the pressure gradient and that of the mean flow, because of the fibers' geometry. Finally, the inertial correction is strongly influenced by the orientation of the driving pressure gradient, and the tensor  $\mathbf{F}$  is not symmetric (in fact the off-diagonal components are found to be inversely proportional to the diagonal terms, and symmetric with respect to rotations about the diagonal axis of the square, i.e. the direction at  $45^\circ$  in the  $x_1 - x_2$  plane).

The effect of variations in the forcing angle, with restrictions to angles in the  $x_1 - x_2$  plane, is also examined by Soulaine and Quintard [144] with conclusions in qualitative agreement with those of both the contribution just cited and our results described further below. In all cases, the off-diagonal components of the apparent permeability tensor are small and the diagonal components display but a small variation upon rotation of the driving pressure gradient.

As already anticipated, this work investigates how the direction of the macroscopic pressure gradient, the porosity and the Reynolds number can modify the Darcy and Forchheimer closures arising from a VANS model of a fibrous porous medium. We will consider a three-dimensional unit cell for the microscopic model (such a unit cell is sometimes denoted

REV, for Representative Elementary Volume), with a generic forcing whose direction is defined by two Euler angles. Given the formidable space of parameters, some representative results are first shown and discussed. Response surfaces in the space of parameters are then identified by the use of a metamodel based on kriging interpolation. For the sake of space, only the first diagonal component of the apparent permeability tensor is discussed in detail in the paper; however, all components have been computed. They represent an extremely useful data base which we are now in the process of using in macroscopic simulations of flows through bundles of fibers of varying orientation and density.

## 4.2 The Volume-Averaged Navier-Stokes (VANS) method

### 4.3 Validation and setup

In this section the numerical methodology, the parameters, the setup and the validation for some reference cases are given.

#### 4.3.1 Computational domain

The geometry used for the base REV is shown in figure 4.1: a cylindrical inclusion is present at the centre of the REV and four quarters of cylinders are situated at the corners. The lateral length of the cubic envelop is  $\ell$ , which is used as length scale for the microscopic problem; the diameter  $d$  of the cylinders is adapted as a function of the desired porosity  $\varepsilon$ , ratio between the fluid volume over the total REV volume ( $\ell^3$ ).

The forcing term  $\mathbf{f}$  of the DNS is a vector whose direction is defined by two Euler angles, with rotations of the form:  $\theta \mathbf{e}_3 + \phi \mathbf{e}_2^T$  (cf. figure 4.1). Its amplitude is set a priori and is connected to the Reynolds number,  $Re_d$ , defined with the mean velocity over the REV and the fiber diameter,  $d$ .  $Re_d$  is a result of the calculations, once the mean velocity is evaluated.

#### 4.3.2 Numerical setup

The simulations have been carried out with the open-source code OpenFOAM [153], based on a finite volume discretization with a colocated arrangement for the unknowns. The standard solver icoFoam (incompressible Navier-Stokes) has been modified in order to include a constant pressure gradient acting as a forcing term  $\mathbf{f}$  in equation (??). The coupling between the velocity and the pressure equations is based on the pressure implicit split operator referred to as the PISO algorithm. The time derivative term is discretized using the second order backward Euler scheme and all the spatial terms use a second-order central difference stencil based on Gauss finite volume approach. The velocity system is solved with a preconditioned bi-conjugate gradient (PBiCG) iterative solver with the tolerance

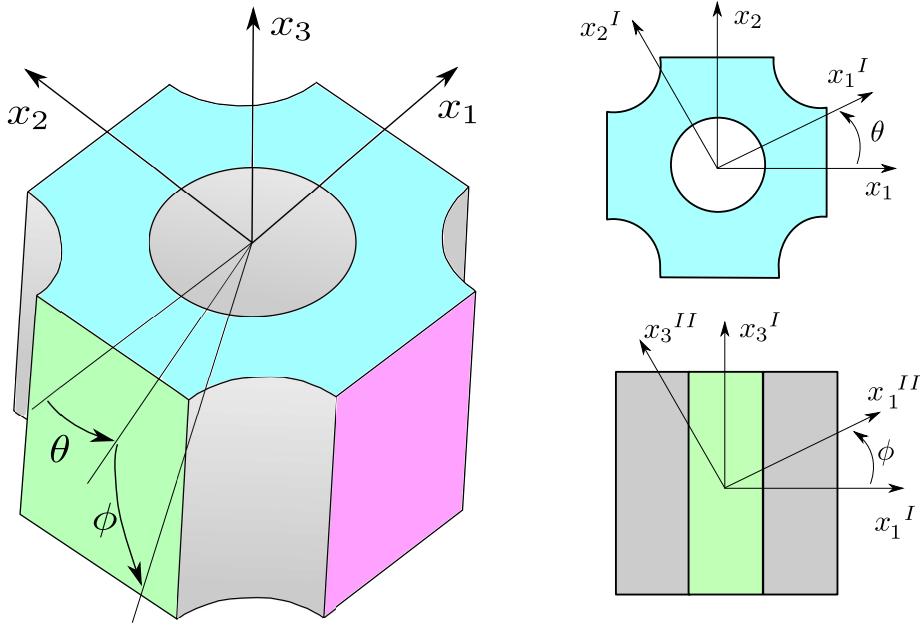


Figure 4.1: REV for the fiber geometry investigated.

on the velocity residuals set to  $10^{-8}$ , associated to a diagonal incomplete lower upper preconditioner (DILU). The pressure equation is solved with a geometric-algebraic multigrid (GAMG) algorithm associated to a Gauss-Seidel smoother and the tolerance on the pressure residuals is here equal to  $10^{-6}$ . Cyclic boundary conditions are applied to all fields on all fluid boundaries along the three directions, and the no-slip condition is imposed on the surface of the solid inclusions. The time step  $\Delta t$  is automatically determined to ensure that the maximum Courant number,  $Co$ , respects the condition:  $Co = \|v_\beta\| \Delta t / \Delta x < 1/2$ , in which  $\|v_\beta\|$  is the local velocity magnitude in the REV and  $\Delta x$  is the local grid spacing.  $Co$  is basically the ratio between the fluid speed and the velocity to propagate information through the mesh and the condition  $Co < 1/2$  is found to be sufficient to have a stable solver.

### 4.3.3 Mesh convergence analysis

The mesh has been computed using the internal OpenFOAM mesher named *snappyHexMesh*. The final grid is mainly composed by hexahedral cells with a refined regular grid in the boundary layer regions next to the solid surfaces. Three different mesh sizes, with  $0.65 \times 10^6$ ,  $10^6$  and  $1.5 \times 10^6$  elements, have been tested in order to demonstrate spatial convergence. This has been assessed using the Grid Convergence Index (*GCI*) introduced by Roache [134].

Details of the coarsest mesh used are shown in figure 4.2. On the right frame a close

up of the grid in the neighbourhood of the fiber's boundary is displayed: twenty points are used in the structured portion of the mesh along the wall-normal direction.

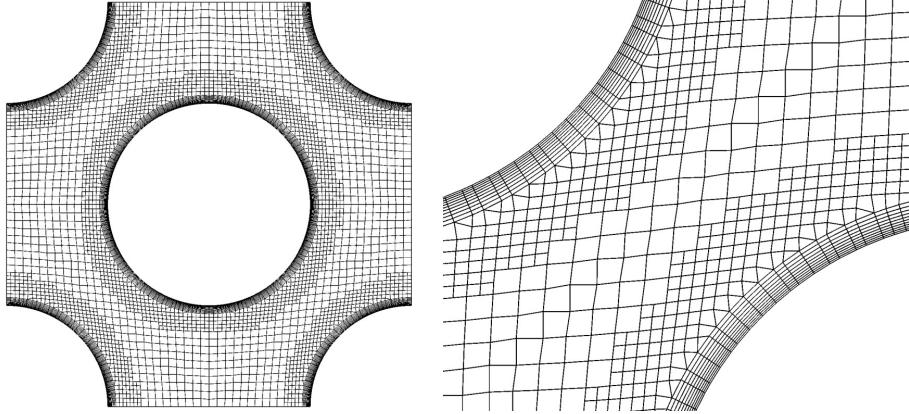


Figure 4.2: Mesh used for the computation; top view (left) and zoom in the boundary layer region (right).  $\varepsilon = 0.6$ .

The GCI method is based upon a grid refinement error estimator derived from the theory of generalized Richardson extrapolation. It measures the ratio between the computed value of a quantity over the asymptotic numerical value, thus indicating how far the solution is from the asymptotic ("exact") value. The procedure is simple and provides a method to estimate the order of the spatial convergence, based on two or three different grid sizes. First of all, the grids must be generated with the same algorithm and they must have the same final quality. In each simulation a physical scalar quantity representative of the physical phenomenon must be sampled. The method follows the following four steps:

1. Estimate the order of convergence of the procedure, defined as  $p = \ln \left( \frac{f_3 - f_2}{f_2 - f_1} \right) / \ln r$ , where  $r$  is the grid refinement ratio between each grid (it is computed as the ratio between the number of elements of two consecutive grids; the approach imposes that  $r$  should remain constant between any couple of consecutive grids and be larger than 1.1), and  $f_i$  represents the quantity of interest in each grid (1=coarse, 2=medium and 3=fine).
2. Compute the relative error between grid  $i$  and  $j$ :  $|\epsilon|_{ij} = \frac{f_j - f_i}{f_i}$ , for  $(i, j) \in \{(1, 2), (2, 3)\}$ .
3. Compute  $GCI_{ij} = \frac{F_s |\epsilon|_{ij}}{r^p - 1}$ , with  $F_s$  a safety factor equal to 1.25 if the grids are three, and equal to 3 if the grids are only two [134].

mesh index	mesh identifier	average velocity REV	metric	value
3	fine	1.11	$GCI_{23}$	0.366%
2	medium	1.07	$GCI_{12}$	1.11%
1	coarse	1.09	AC	1.006

Table 4.1: Convergence analysis. Left: average velocity within the REV, normalized with  $\frac{K_{11}}{\nu_\beta} \|\mathbf{f}\|$ . Right: grid convergence metrics. The REV has  $\varepsilon = 0.6$ , the motion is along  $x_1$ , i.e.  $\theta = \phi = 0$  and  $Re_d \rightarrow 0$ .

4. Check whether each grid level yields a solution that is in the asymptotic range of convergence; this means that the quotient  $AC = \frac{GCI_{23}}{GCI_{12}} \frac{1}{r^p}$  should be as close as possible to one.

In our case the quantity of interest chosen is the intrinsic average velocity inside the porous medium, and the results are summarized in table 4.1. From the table it can be seen that the intrinsic velocity difference is very small from one grid to the next and the coarse grid provides results close to the expected asymptotic value. This is taken as a sufficiently convincing argument to carry out all the computations in the following with a grid density equal to that of grid 1.

#### 4.3.4 Validation on two different configurations

The results published in the literature by Zampogna and Bottaro [163] and Yazdchi et al. [162] are now used to validate both the methodology and our choices of the computational parameters. In the cited papers, three-dimensional computations of the permeability components in different cells geometries are presented.

Figure 4.3 displays the comparison for a cell with a square arrangements of the fibers; here the permeability is evaluated along the two principal directions,  $x_1$  and  $x_3$ . A good agreement is found with the published results. Figure 4.4 shows a similar comparison for a staggered arrangement of the inclusions in the unit cell. In this case the section of the cell is rectangular. The agreement for the only permeability component available in the literature is again satisfactory.

Finally, to check the correct implementation of the closure model (??) it is important to verify the equality (??) between the amplitude  $F^M$  of the macroscopic force and its microscopic counterpart obtained through an integration of the DNS fields over the solid boundaries of the inclusions in the REV. Figure 4.5 shows a plot of the relative error between these two forces, i.e.  $\frac{\|F^M - F^m\|}{\|F^m\|}$ , as function of the Reynolds number. We

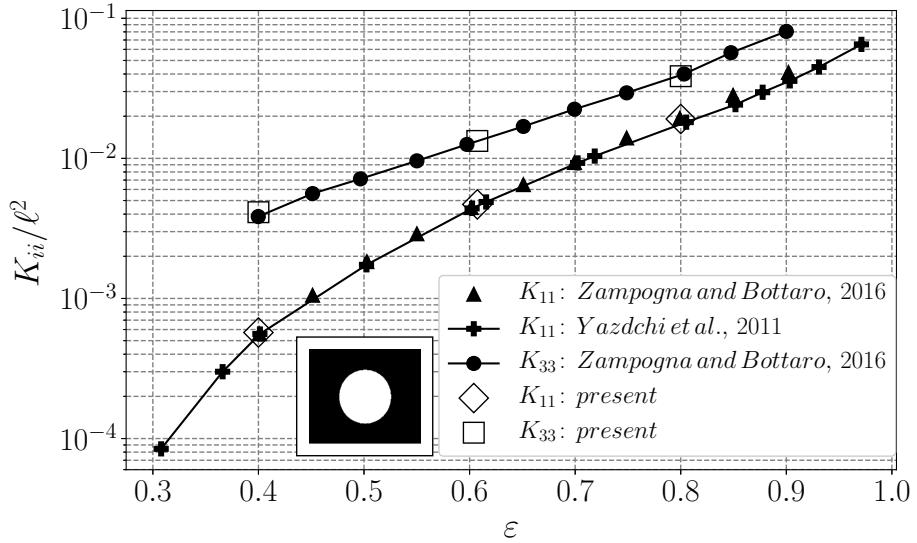


Figure 4.3: Permeability versus porosity for a square arrangement of cylinders. The scaling of the permeability is  $\ell^2$  and is explicitly indicated in the vertical axis.

consider the successful comparison displayed in figure 4.5 as the conclusive demonstration of the validity of the approach described here. We have nonetheless carried out the same verification displayed in figure 4.5 for each one of the simulations described in the following, to our satisfaction.

#### 4.3.5 Tests with larger REV's

Since the Reference Elementary Volume (REV) is the unit cell within the porous medium over which average quantities of the VANS are computed, it is important to choose its dimensions appropriately in the inertial regime for, if the REV is too small, it might be easy to miss crucial features of the wakes. For example, to predict the critical Reynolds number,  $Re_c$ , of the first Hopf bifurcation, a REV containing at least three solid inclusions in the direction of the mean pressure gradient is necessary in the simulations by Agnaou et al. [3]. Among the results reported, it is found that, for a fixed REV size, the error committed in the evaluation of the critical Reynolds number increases with the porosity. This same error is considerably reduced when the mean pressure gradient angle is  $\theta = 45^\circ$ . Thus, the choice of the number of inclusions in a REV is a task not to be overlooked, and the final choice must account for the porosity, the direction of the pressure gradient and the microscopic Reynolds number.

Here, the influence of the numbers of inclusions present in a REV is assessed by focussing only on the velocity components after averaging over the REV. The unit cubic cell of side

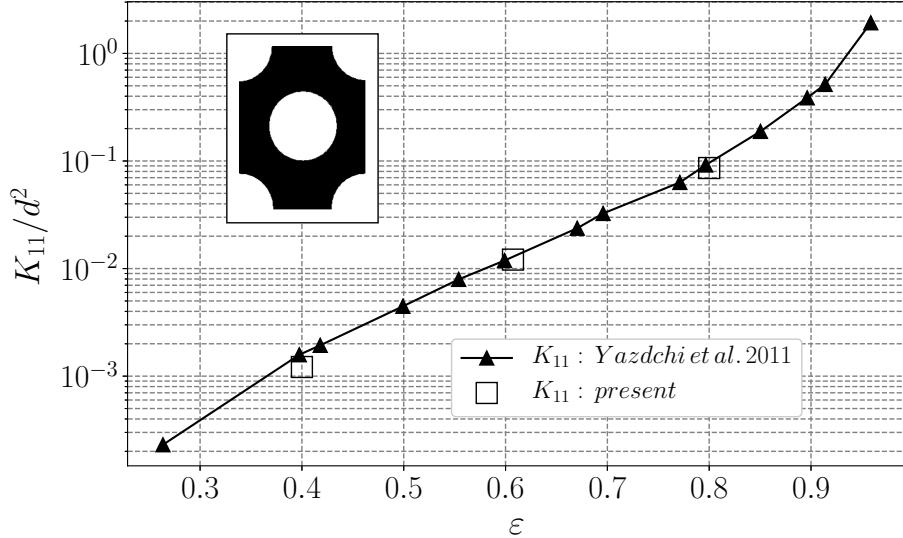


Figure 4.4: Permeability versus porosity for a staggered arrangement of cylinders. The permeability component is here scaled with  $d^2$  (and not  $\ell^2$ ), with  $d$  the diameter of the inclusions.

$\ell$  is used as reference: starting from this, two additional REV's are built, as shown in figure 4.6. The first one is doubled in both the  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  directions and the case tested numerically is characterised by  $\theta = 0$ ,  $\phi = 0$  (i.e. the forcing pressure gradient is directed along  $x_1$ ), porosity  $\varepsilon = 0.6$  and  $Re_d = 50$ . The second REV configuration is a composition of 3 reference REVs on top of one another along  $x_3$ , with the parameters set to  $\theta = 45^\circ$ ,  $\phi = 45^\circ$ ,  $\varepsilon = 0.6$  and  $Re_d = 100$ .

For both these test cases, no appreciable differences, neither in the mean velocity nor in the forces on the fibers, have been observed, with relative errors on the mean velocity with respect to the reference case which remain below 2%. We take this as sufficient evidence to use, in the following, only the reference cubic REV of side equal to  $\ell$ , with the understanding that only configurations with  $Re_d$  up to around 100 can be considered.

## 4.4 Microscopic solutions

In this section, some local microscopic fields computed with direct numerical simulations are shown, together with components of the intermediate tensor  $\mathbf{M}$  coming from the numerical solution of the closure equations (??).

In figure 4.7 (top row) the local  $x_1$  velocity component is drawn for the two-dimensional flow when  $\varepsilon = 0.6$ , for three Reynolds numbers, to cover the transition from the Stokes

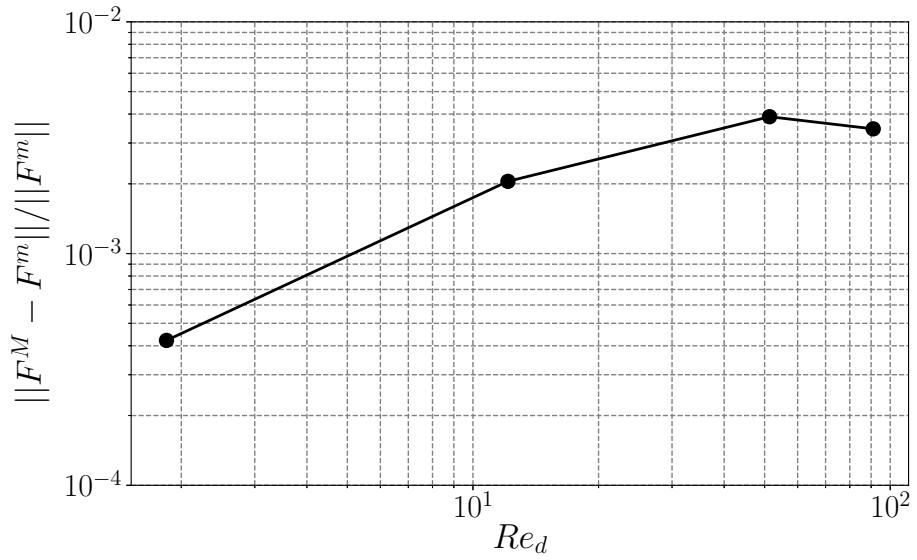


Figure 4.5: Relative error between the microscopically computed forces along the  $x_1$  direction and those arising from the Darcy-Forcheimber model;  $\varepsilon = 0.8$  for the REV in the staggered arrangement of Yazdchi et al. [162].

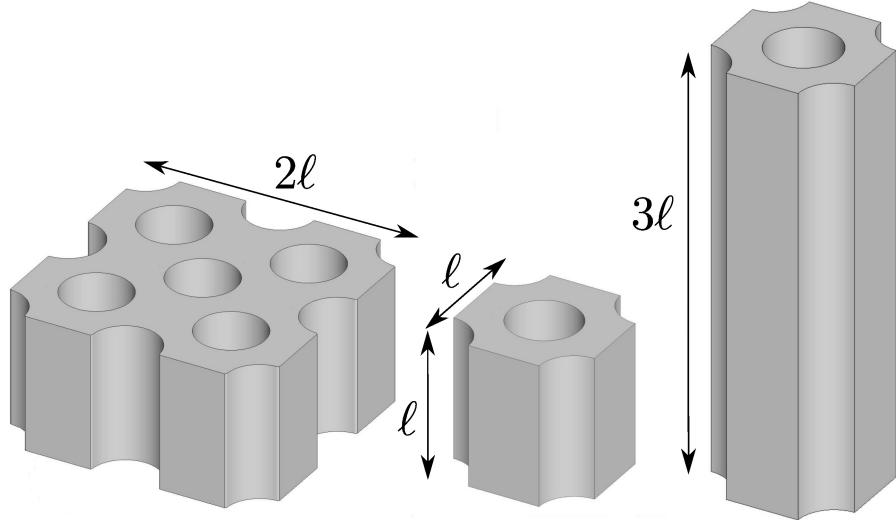


Figure 4.6: REV configurations. Left:  $2 \times 2 \times 1$  arrangement; centre:  $1 \times 1 \times 1$  arrangement (reference); right  $1 \times 1 \times 3$  arrangement.

to the inertial regime. In all plots, the velocities are rendered non-dimensional by the

corresponding value of  $\frac{K_{11}}{\nu_\beta} \|\mathbf{f}\|$ . When inertia is absent, the flow has a central symmetry; by increasing the Reynolds number, only the symmetry with respect to the  $x_1$  axis is maintained ( $x_1$  is the direction of the forcing pressure gradient), with the wake's length which increases with  $Re_d$ . When  $Re_d$  is of order 100 the wake spreads to the downstream boundary of the REV, re-entering, because of periodicity, at the upstream side. This  $Re_d$  represents the upper limit of validity for the cubic unit cell of side  $\ell$ ; larger values of  $Re_d$  could only be investigated with longer/larger/thicker REV's.

The non-dimensional local  $M_{11}$  fields for the same parameters are displayed in figure 4.7 (mid row). All values in the figures arise from scaling  $\mathbf{M}$  with  $\ell^2$ . Visually, these local fields are strongly correlated to the local streamwise velocity component in the whole  $Re_d$  range. This is not unexpected since the local velocity drives the convective term of system (??). The central symmetry of all components of  $\mathbf{M}$  in the Stokes regime is coupled to the rotational invariance of the apparent permeability tensor in two-dimensional flows.

The effect of varying the porosity is shown in figure 4.7 (bottom row) where  $\varepsilon$  is taken equal to 0.4. Even at such a low porosity the stretching of the wake can be noticed, and it increases with  $Re_d$ . Interestingly, this effect is milder when the forcing is inclined by an angle  $\phi$ , since the tighter packing of the inclusions causes a strong deviation of the mean flow along the axis of the fiber. In this case,  $M_{11}$  and  $M_{22}$  behave very similarly to the case  $\phi = 90^\circ$ .

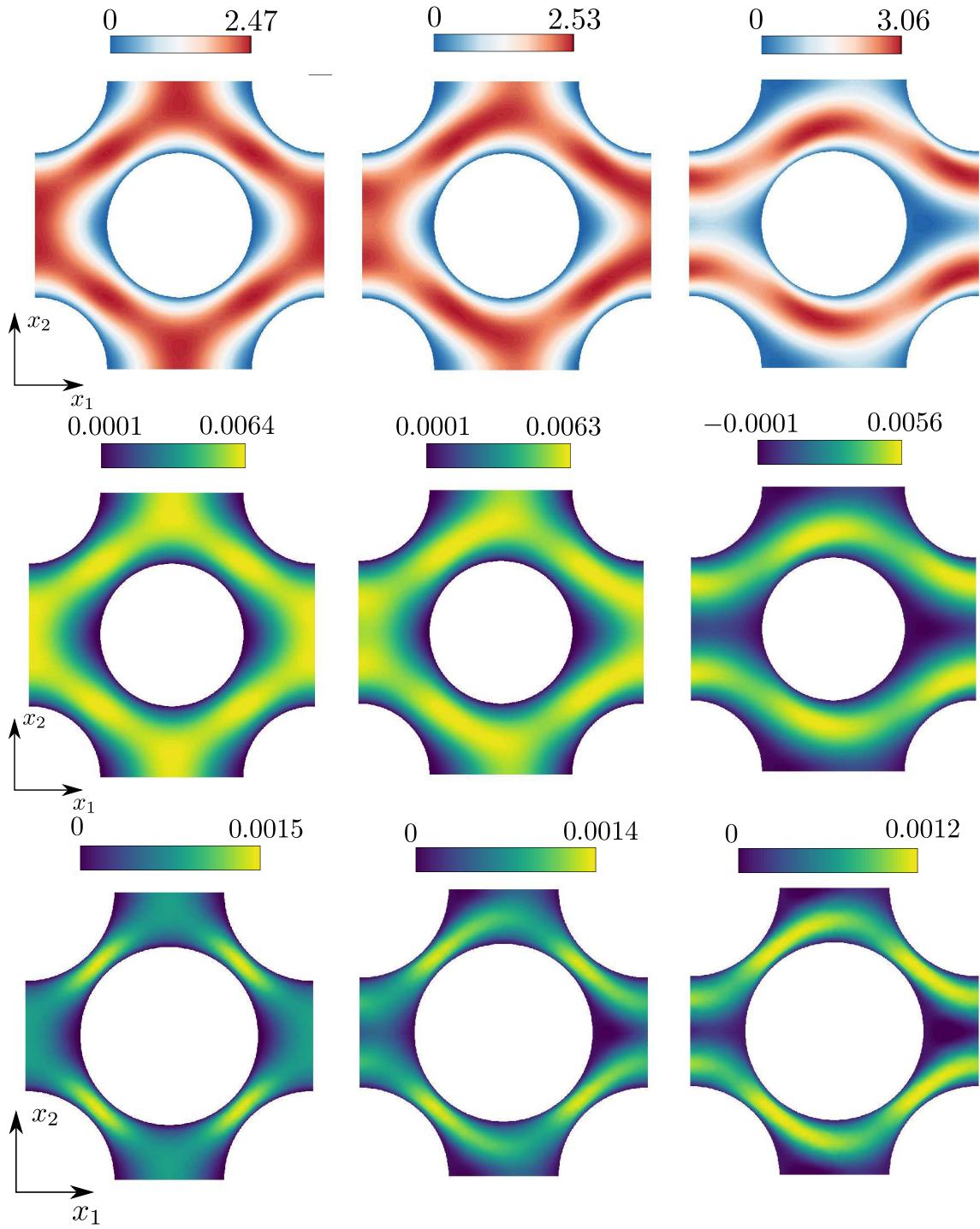


Figure 4.7: Top row: plane view of the dimensionless  $x_1$  component of the local velocity field  $\mathbf{v}_\beta$  for the case  $\theta = 0$ ,  $\phi = 0$ ,  $\varepsilon = 0.6$  and for three Reynolds numbers  $Re_d = 0, 10, 50$ , from left to right. Mid row: microscopic  $M_{195}$  fields corresponding to the images in the top row. Bottom row:  $M_{11}$  fields for the same Euler angles and Reynolds number as in the top two rows, and smaller porosity ( $\varepsilon = 0.4$ ).

Another interesting point emerges by inspection of figure 4.8 where two off-diagonal components of  $\mathbf{M}$  are shown for two porosity values; the first image (left frame) represents a plane flow in the Stokes regime while the second is the plane cut of a three-dimensional solution in the inertial regime. Positive and negative values of the microscopic fields can be seen in both images but, once averaging is applied over the REV, the resulting permeability component is very close to zero (in fact, exactly equal to zero in the Stokes case). This same features occurs for all off-diagonal terms in all cases examined, so that, within the current range of Reynolds numbers, the apparent permeability tensor is, to a good approximation, diagonal<sup>1</sup>.

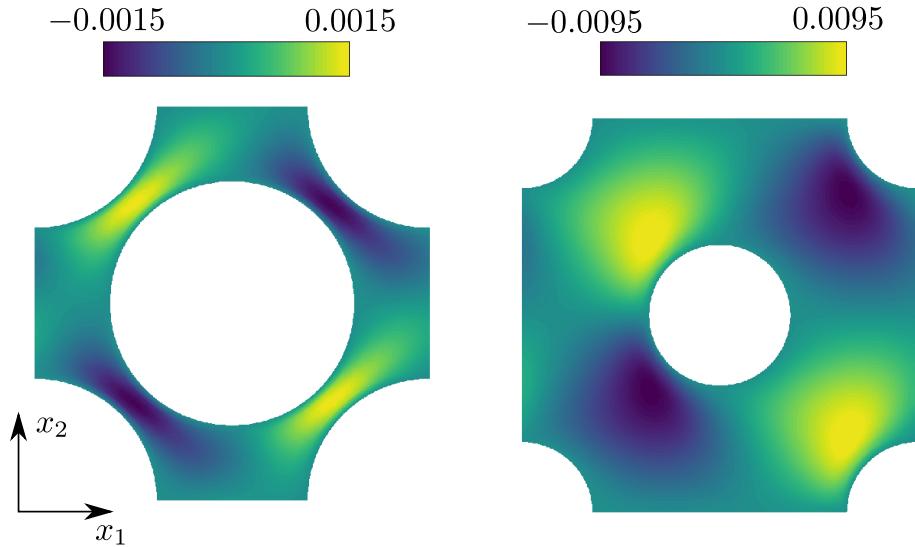


Figure 4.8: right: Non-dimensional  $M_{21}$  field for  $\theta = 0, \phi = 0, Re_d = 10, \varepsilon = 0.8$ , left: Non-dimensional  $M_{12}$  field for  $\theta = 22.5^\circ, \phi = 45^\circ, Re_d = 50, \varepsilon = 0.4$ .

A three-dimensional case is shown in figure 4.9, where all the non-zero terms of the  $\mathbf{M}$  tensor are plotted for a porous structure with  $\varepsilon = 0.6$ . The components shown are  $M_{11}, M_{22}, M_{33}, M_{12}$  and  $M_{21}$ , while  $M_{i3}$  and  $M_{3j}$  are not plotted because they are identically zero to machine accuracy. Distinct features are visible in each image; in particular, in the last frame the  $M_{33}$  microscopic component displays a low wavelength structure along the cylinder's axis. Increasing the dimensions of the REV along  $x_3$  does not alter such a structure, i.e. the  $\ell^3$  domain chosen with its periodic boundary conditions does not filter out significant high wave-numbers of the flow. We further note that the tensor  $\mathbf{M}$  is not symmetric in this case since each off-diagonal component represents the solution of the

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<sup>1</sup>In fact, there are always at least two orders of magnitude differences between the diagonal and the off-diagonal components. While the latter should not, in principle, be ignored, we will focus attention here only on the dominant terms of the permeability tensor.

closure problem in a specific direction (first index of the field) and the forcing term acts orthogonally to it (second index of the field). Once averaged over the REV it is found that both  $H_{12}$  and  $H_{21}$  are very close to zero.

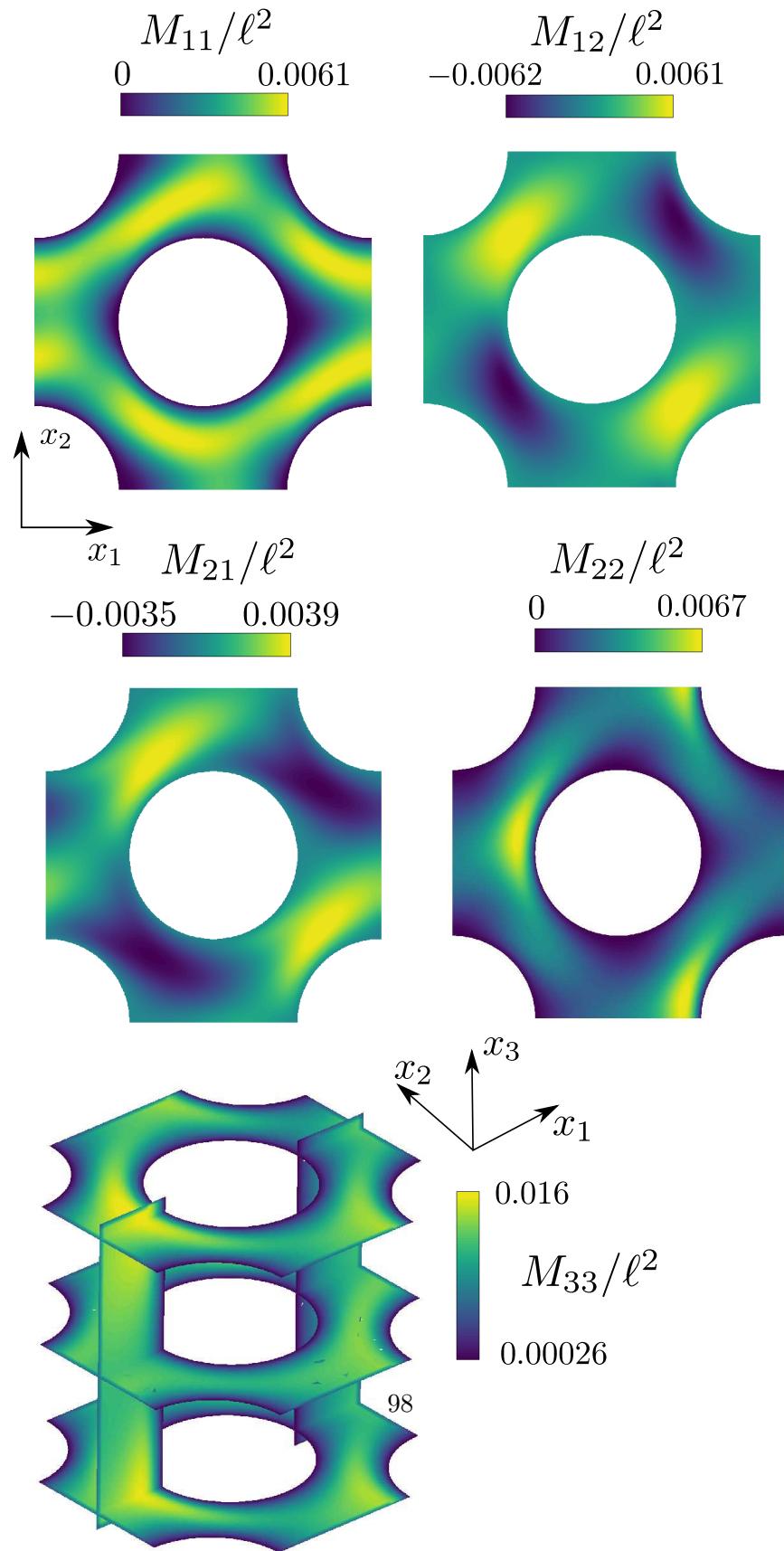


Figure 4.9: Non-dimensional  $\mathbf{M}$  components fields for the case  $\theta = 22.5^\circ, \phi = 45^\circ, Re_d = 50, \varepsilon = 0.6$ .

index	$\theta$	$\phi$	field properties
1	0°	0°	2D symmetric
2	22.5°	0°	2D non-symmetric
3	0°	45°	3D symmetric
4	22.5°	45°	3D non-symmetric
5	–	90°	3D symmetric

Table 4.2: Directions of the forcing tested and property of the solutions.

## 4.5 The apparent permeability tensor

In this section the variations of the diagonal components of the permeability tensor  $\mathbf{H}$  are discussed as function of the direction of the mean forcing, the Reynolds number and the porosity. As stated previously, the Reynolds number ranges from 0 to approximately 100 in order to capture phenomena associated with inertia; the cases considered never lead to unsteady signals. The porosity parameter  $\varepsilon$  is set to either 0.4 (low porosity), 0.6 (medium) or 0.8 (high). The forcing direction is defined by the Euler angles and all the configurations considered in this section are summarized in table 4.2; the choice has been made to explore a reasonably large range of parameters, with both two-dimensional and three-dimensional flows characterized by symmetric and asymmetric patterns.

Let us briefly recall the methodology. First, a DNS is carried out to compute the microscopic flow. Then the closure problem is solved for the tensor  $\mathbf{M}$ . Finally, each component of the apparent permeability  $\mathbf{H}$  is obtained by averaging (equation (2.2)). The results are collected in figures 4.10, 4.11 and 4.12, showing the variation of the diagonal components of  $\mathbf{H}$ .

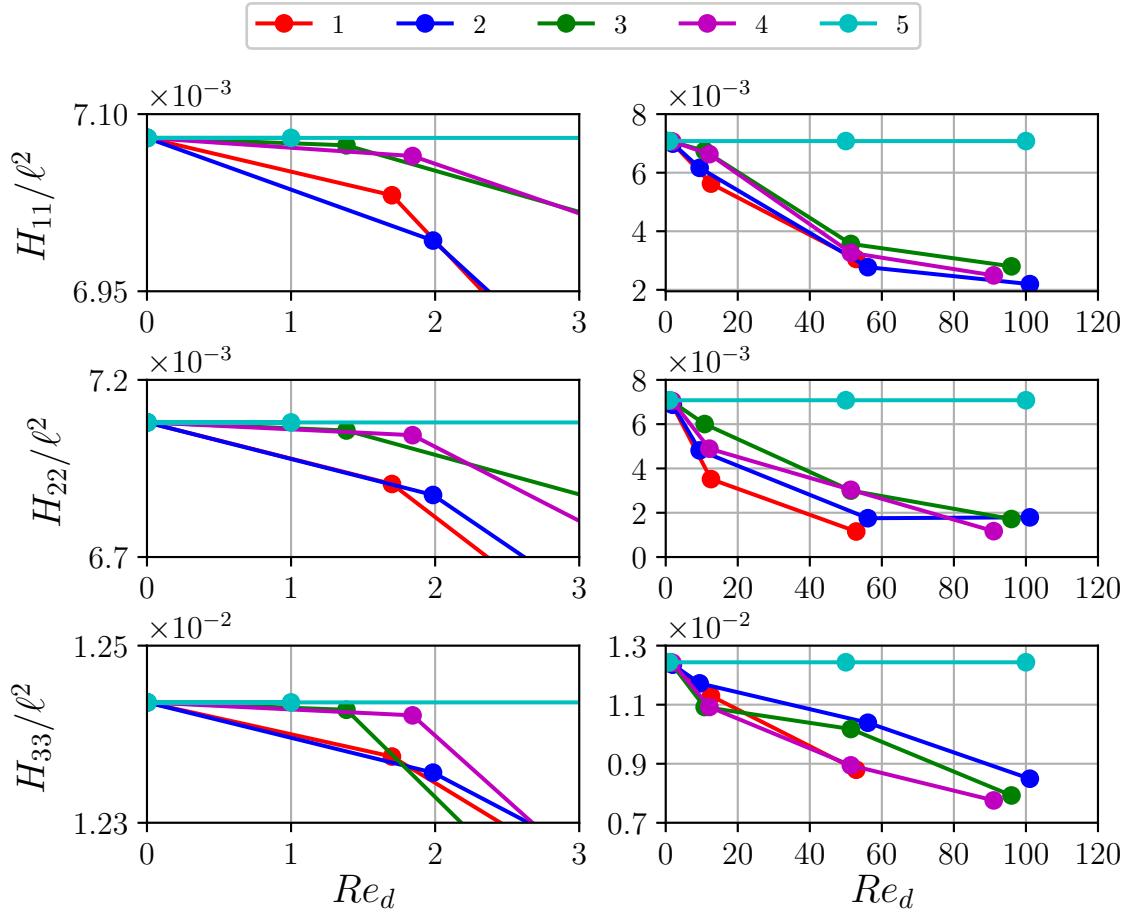


Figure 4.10: Diagonal elements of the apparent permeability  $\mathbf{H}$  as function of the Reynolds number for porosity  $\varepsilon = 0.8$ . The forcing direction is represented through the couple of Euler angles  $(\theta, \phi)$  (cf. table 4.2 for the case index). Left column: low- $Re_d$  regime; right column: inertial regime.

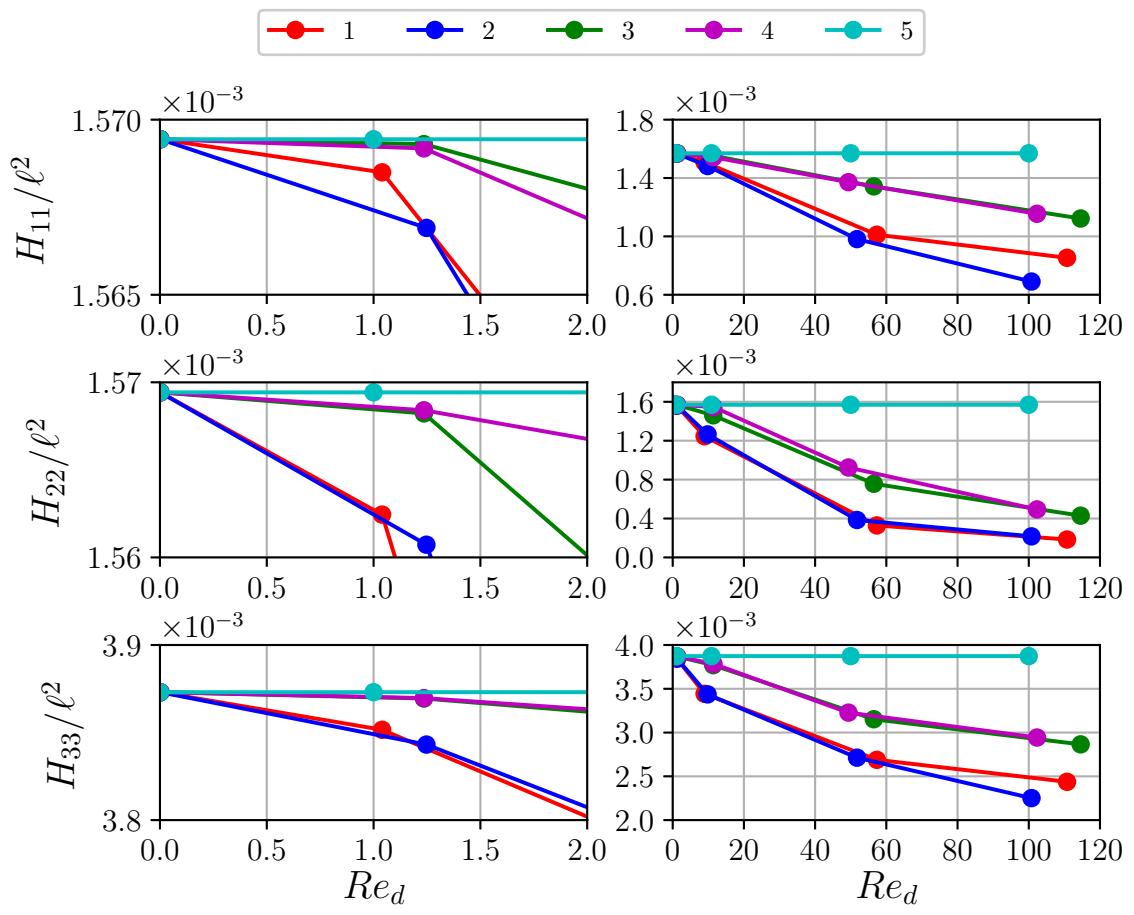


Figure 4.11: Same as figure 4.10 with porosity  $\varepsilon = 0.6$ .

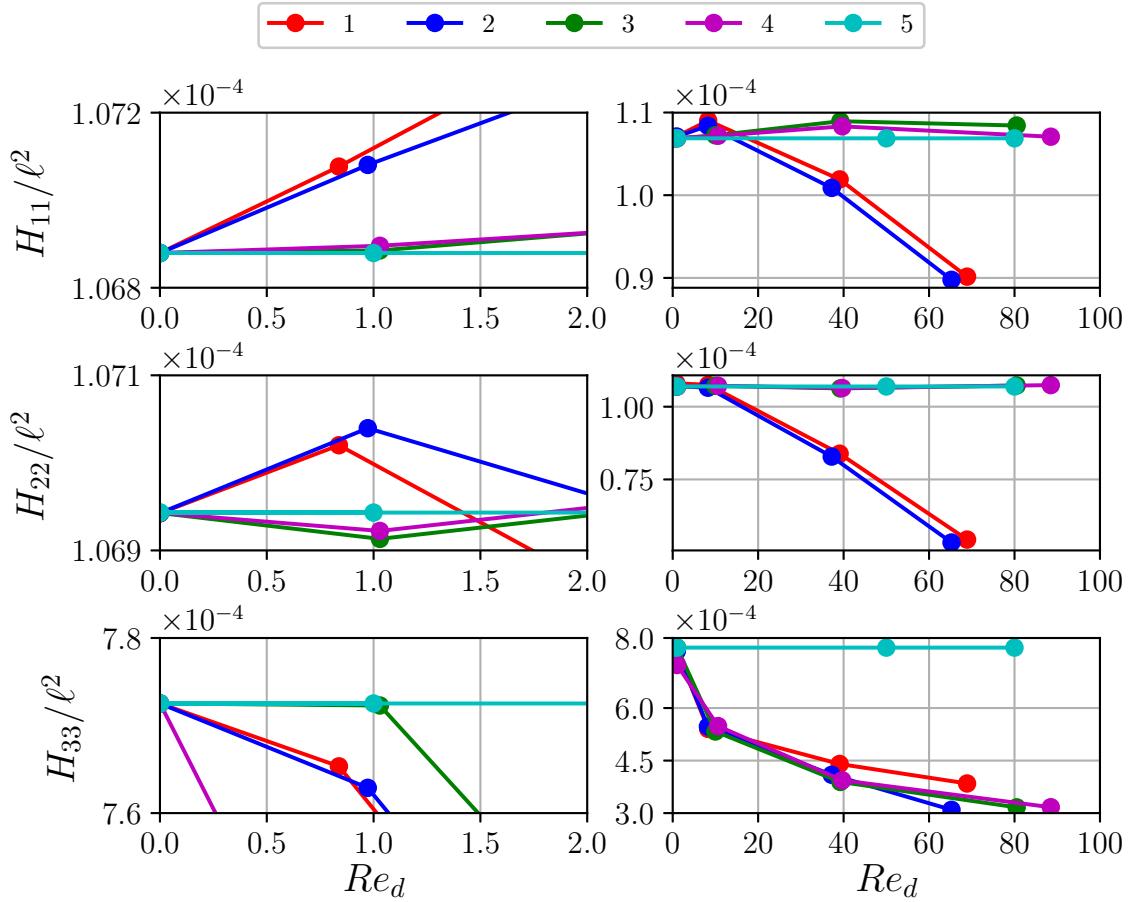


Figure 4.12: Same as figure 4.10 with porosity  $\varepsilon = 0.4$ .

In the left column of each figure we focus on the low- $Re_d$  regime ( $0 < Re_d < 2$ ), while in the right column the effect of inertia can be assessed. As expected, when  $Re_d$  is small the apparent permeability is quasi-Reynolds-number-independent (and can be approximated well by the true permeability). As the Reynolds number increases above a few units, inertial effects grow in importance yielding typically a monotonic decrease of all components of  $\mathbf{H}$ , aside from case indexed 5 ( $\phi = 90^\circ$ ) for which the flow remains aligned with the cylinder's axis. In case 5 the microscopic flow solution is invariant with  $x_3$  and does not change with  $Re_d$  in the range considered, so that  $\mathbf{H}$  is a constant tensor.

When the porosity is large all components show a similar behaviour irrespective of the forcing angle (except, clearly, case 5). Differences start appearing at  $\varepsilon = 0.6$ ; the two cases with  $\phi = 0^\circ$  (index 1 and 2) behave similarly, and so do the two cases indexed 3 and 4 (with  $\phi = 45^\circ$ ). This seems to suggest a weaker effect of  $\theta$  on the permeability components.

For even smaller porosity ( $\varepsilon = 0.4$ ), the blockage which the inclusions cause to the flow produces the unexpected behaviour displayed in figure 4.12. When the flow is purely two-dimensional (cases 1 and 2), variations in the Reynolds number affect  $\mathbf{H}$  significantly; when a pressure gradient along  $x_3$  is present the strong packing of the fibers constrain the fluid to flow prevalently along the fibers' axis, and the apparent permeability is almost  $Re_d$ -independent. When assessing variations in  $H_{jj}$  for this case, attention should also be paid to the fact that the permeability is now at least one order of magnitude smaller than in the previous cases so that variations of the diagonal components shown in figure 4.12 are tiny in absolute terms. This is related to the fact that the inverse of the permeability plays the role of a drag coefficient in the macroscopic expression of the force (cf. equation (??)). In other words, materials with higher porosity (larger space between solid inclusions) offer lower resistance to the motion of the fluid.

Applying the intrinsic average operator to the non-diagonal component of the tensor  $\mathbf{M}$  results in terms that are negligible with respect to their diagonal counterparts, and these results are true for all the parameters considered. This means that there is a very weak coupling between the principal directions of the fiber. The directional decoupling and the diagonal property of the apparent permeability tensor has also been computationally demonstrated on a completely different REV geometry by Soulaine and Quintard [144]. Conversely, Lasseux et al. [95] have carried out a two-dimensional study with fibers of square cross-section, finding that the off-diagonal terms are non-negligible and only about one order of magnitude smaller than the diagonal components. This result is a consequence of the non-rotationally-invariant geometry considered. The present work and the two articles just cited suggest that the diagonal property of the tensor  $\mathbf{H}$  is closely related to the geometry of the porous material, more than to the flow regime.

## 4.6 A metamodel for $\mathbf{H}$

The previous sections has shown how the apparent permeability depends on the two Euler angles, the Reynolds number and the porosity. The space of parameters is formidable and the results found so far are not sufficient to treat, for example, cases characterized by multiple inclusions' sizes and orientations in different regions of the domain, or cases involving a poroelastic medium, with temporally and spatially varying porosity, flow direction and local Reynolds number. The complete solution of the closure problem for a single set of parameters takes approximately 4 CPU hours on our two-processor Intel(r) IVYBRIDGE 2.8Ghz, each with 10 cores and 64 GB of RAM, so that a complete parametric study is, to say the least, unpractical. In view of this, the construction of a metamodel capable to provide a full characterisation of the permeability as a function of all parameters is a worthy endeavor. We have tested several surrogate models, before eventually settling on the kriging approach [88] described in the following.

parameter	values			
$\theta$	$0^\circ$	$22.5^\circ$	$45^\circ$	
$\phi$	$0^\circ$	$22.5^\circ$	$45^\circ$	$67.5^\circ$
$Re_d$	0	10	50	100
$\varepsilon$	0.4	0.6	0.8	

Table 4.3: Sampling parameters.

#### 4.6.1 DACE sampling

The first step to build a metamodel is the collection of relevant samples. The quality of the final metamodel strongly depends on the samples collected and their number and distribution is of primary importance. The apparent permeability tensor,  $\mathbf{H}$ , depends on four independent variables; the samples have been generated starting from the set of parameters given in table 4.3.

One of the best options to generate the relevant database would be to use a full factorial design approach in which all the combinations of the four variables from table 4.3 are computed. Because of the large number of computations required, this approach has not been retained. We have resorted to the methodology known as DACE (Design and Analysis of Computer Experiments), a technique to fill in the best possible way the space of the parameters of the problem. The Dakota library [2] has been selected for the purpose and the Monte-Carlo incremental random sampling algorithm [68] has been chosen, in order to make efficient use of the cases already computed. This incremental approach selects in a quasi-random way the new samples to generate, starting from the existing ones. In the end, the set of samples comprises 118 cases.

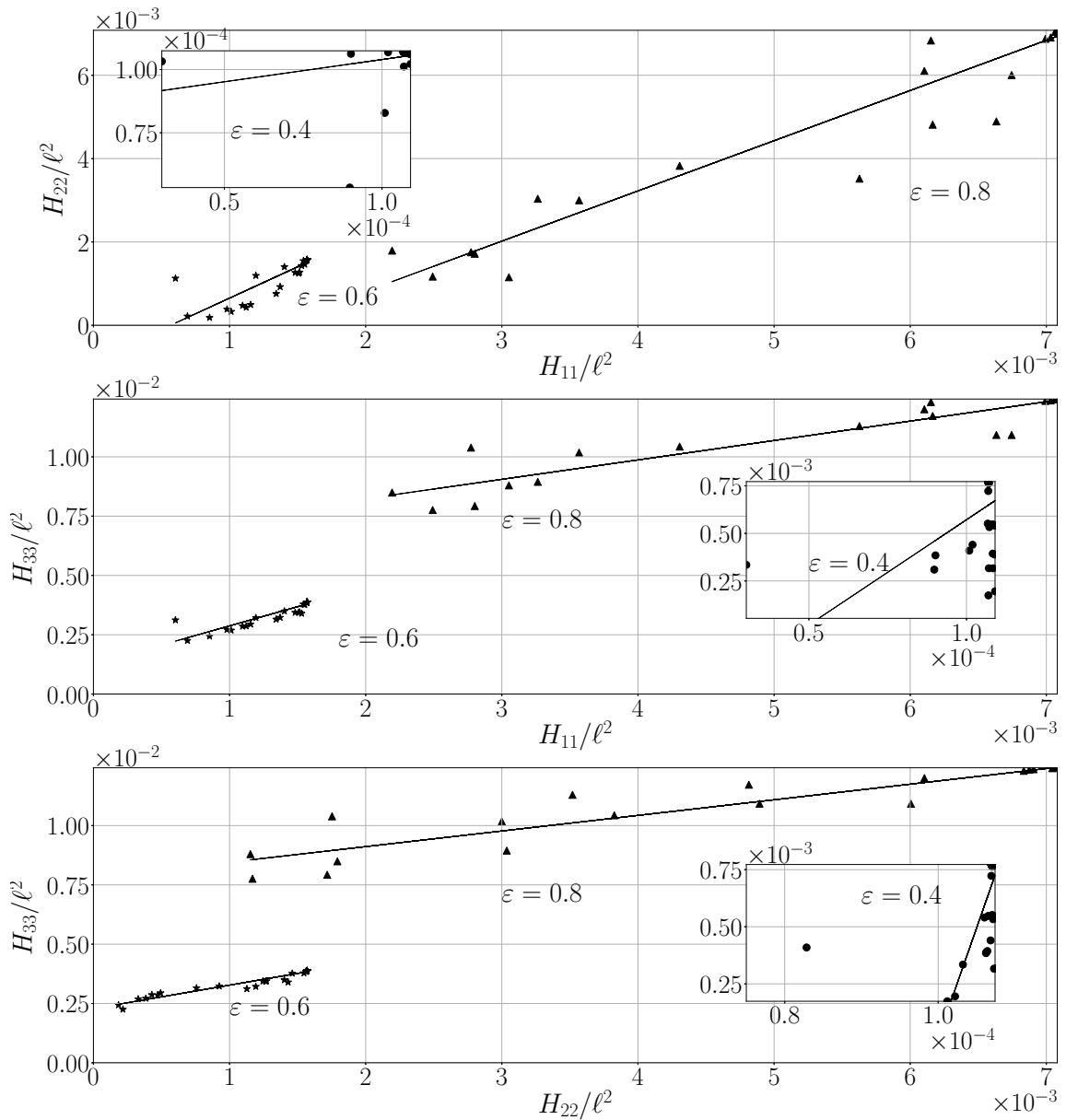


Figure 4.13: Scatter matrix plot for the collected numerical data of the apparent permeability tensor.

In the scatter plot of figure 4.13 the three diagonal components of the permeability tensor are shown as function of one another. The three porosities are separately considered in each of the above plot, and the permeability points are represented with their linear

regression on top. This kind of plot is common in statistical analysis to determine if correlations in the data are present. The permeability components show some correlation with the data points which lie reasonably well on a straight line. This result has a physical implication. Remembering the diagonal dominance of the permeability tensor, we have in the low  $Re_d$  limit:

$$\left( \langle u_\beta \rangle^\beta, \langle v_\beta \rangle^\beta, \langle w_\beta \rangle^\beta \right) \sim \left( H_{11} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x_1}, H_{22} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x_2}, H_{33} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x_3} \right). \quad (4.1)$$

It is then possible to compute the angle between the forcing term,  $\nabla p$ , and the average velocity vector, represented in figure 4.14 for the two-dimensional case,  $\phi = 0$ . This is achieved by taking the ratio between the first two components of Darcy's equation, calling  $\gamma$  the flow deviation with respect to the mean forcing. We thus have:

$$\tan(\theta + \gamma) = \frac{H_{22}}{H_{11}} \tan \theta. \quad (4.2)$$

If the ratio between the two permeability components is equal to one, the angle  $\gamma$  vanishes. The correlation between  $H_{11}$  and  $H_{22}$  controls the deviation of the flow in the  $(x_1, x_2)$  plane, and the argument can easily be extended to  $H_{11}/H_{33}$  and  $H_{22}/H_{33}$  for deviation angles in three-dimensions.

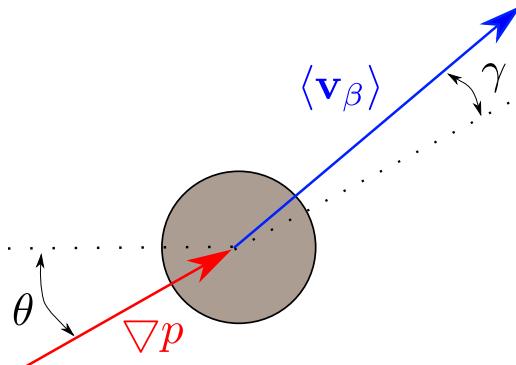


Figure 4.14: Explanatory sketch for the relation between mean pressure gradient and mean velocity field.

Using a linear correlation such as that shown in table 4.4 and figure 4.13, it is observed that in the low porosity case ( $\varepsilon = 0.4$ ) the ratio can become very large indicating a strong deviation of the flow from the forcing direction, because of the strong constraint provided by the inclusions. As the porosity increases, the ratio does not differ much from unity, which means that the deviation remains limited. It is simple to see that the deviation

$\varepsilon$	$H_{11}/H_{22}$	$H_{11}/H_{33}$	$H_{22}/H_{33}$
0.4	1.57	11.06	96.03
0.6	1.50	1.62	0.99
0.8	1.20	0.82	0.66

Table 4.4: Permeability components ratio for three values of the porosity. The permeability ratios here are given by the angular coefficients of the linear correlations displayed in figure 4.13.

angle, for example in the  $(x_1, x_2)$  plane, satisfies the approximate relation

$$\tan \gamma = \frac{\left(1 - \frac{H_{11}}{H_{22}}\right) \tan \theta}{\frac{H_{11}}{H_{22}} + \tan^2 \theta},$$

so that for  $\frac{H_{11}}{H_{22}}$  equal to, say, 1.5, the largest deviation remains always below  $12^\circ$  for any  $\theta$ . It should however be kept in mind that trends based on these ratios are valid only as long as Darcy's law and linear correlations are acceptable. Cases exists for which such trends are violated; for example, a flow with  $\theta = 45^\circ$  and  $\phi = 0^\circ$  has deviation angle  $\gamma$  equal to zero, for whatever porosity. In this case  $H_{11}/H_{22}$  is equal to one and such a point is an outlier in the regression plots of figure 4.13.

#### 4.6.2 Kriging interpolation method

The kriging approach is a linear interpolation/extrapolation method that aims to build a predictor field based on a set of observations  $(\mathbf{x}_i, y(\mathbf{x}_i))$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

The predictor  $\hat{f}(\mathbf{x})$  is a sum of a trend function  $t(\mathbf{x})$  and a Gaussian process error model  $e(\mathbf{x})$ :

$$\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) = t(\mathbf{x}) + e(\mathbf{x}). \quad (4.3)$$

The aim of the error model is to make adjustments on the trend function so that, for any point of the sampling the predictor is exactly equal to the sample, i.e.  $\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}_i) = y(\mathbf{x}_i)$ . This property represents one of the main qualities of this approach. In addition, when the model parameters are conveniently set, the trend function and the covariance model can take into account both smooth and steep variations in the data set.

The trend function defined here is based on a second order least-square regression, with the coefficients found from the solution of the associated linear system. The Gaussian process error model has zero-mean and its covariance between two generic data-points,  $x_i$  and  $x_j$ , is written as

$$\text{Cov}(y(\mathbf{x}_i), y(\mathbf{x}_j)) = \sigma^2 r(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j).$$

The coefficient  $\sigma$  is an amplitude parameter and  $r(x^i, x^j)$  is a correlation function, based on the Matérn covariance model that reads:

$$r(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) = \frac{2^{1-\nu}}{\Gamma(\nu)} \left( \frac{\sqrt{2\nu}|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j|}{|\boldsymbol{\lambda}|} \right)^\nu K_\nu \left( \frac{\sqrt{2\nu}|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j|}{|\boldsymbol{\lambda}|} \right), \quad (4.4)$$

where  $K_\nu(\cdot)$  is a modified Bessel function and  $\Gamma(\cdot)$  is the gamma function. The parameters that can be used to tune the metamodel are the amplitude parameter  $\sigma$ , the exponent  $\nu$  and the scale vector  $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$ . The kriging metamodel outputs can show different behaviours for different selections of the above three parameters and their setting is thus crucial. The amplitude parameter  $\sigma$  is chosen to be equal to 1; larger value lead to steeper gradients and undesirable local extrema around the data points. The vector  $\boldsymbol{\lambda} = (\lambda_\theta, \lambda_\phi, \lambda_{Re_d}, \lambda_\varepsilon)$  is a scaling parameter for the distance  $|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j|$ . In this study, through systematic variations of the parameters it is found that the choice  $\boldsymbol{\lambda} = (1.2, 1, 1, 1)$  yields acceptable results; in particular, the weight along  $\theta$  is mildly larger than in the other directions in order to obtain smoother metamodel surfaces in this direction. The exponent  $\nu$  controls the covariance function and more especially its gradients. When  $\nu = 1/2$  the covariance can be approximated by a negative exponential,  $\exp(-\alpha x)$  and when  $\nu$  goes to infinity it behaves as  $\exp(-\alpha x^2)$ . In the present study, the best (i.e. smoother) results are obtained for  $\nu$  equal to 1.9. The above parameters have been chosen in order to avoid unphysical or unrealistic behaviour of the apparent permeability such as, for instance, negative values or steep, spurious local maxima/minima. The method above is implemented in OpenTURNS and full details are provided by Baudin et al. [13].

A procedure called  $k$ -fold, belonging to the class of cross-validation methods, has been used in order to prove the robustness of the metamodel. The  $k$ -fold method starts with the full database  $S_n = (\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}_i))$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , split into two complementary set of size  $n_1$  and  $n_2$ , such that  $S_n = S_{n_1} \cup S_{n_2}$ . Then, a new metamodel is built using only the points present in the set  $S_{n_1}$ . For the sake of clarity, the metamodel built with only the subset  $S_{n_1}$  will be called from now on  $\hat{f}^{n_1}$ , and the metamodel build with all the database will be indicated as  $\hat{f}^n$ . The idea now is to use the points in the set  $S_{n_2}$  as test, since they are essentially "new" for the metamodel  $\hat{f}^{n_1}$ . The division of the subset is performed picking points in a random way, and is repeated  $k$  times in order to rule out any possible "lucky" combination.

Thus, the metric used for the error computation is the following:

$$\xi_{cv} = \frac{1}{k n_2} \sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{j=1}^{n_2} (\hat{f}_i(x_j)^n - \hat{f}_i(x_j)^{n_2})^2,$$

quantifying the quadratic error between the original metamodel and the one built each time with a different set that belongs to different folds. The metric is also averaged over all the test points  $n_2$  present in all the  $k$  folds. The relative mean error can be computed

as:

$$E_{cv\%} = 100 \frac{\sqrt{\xi_{cv}}}{mean(|\hat{f}_i^n|)}.$$

In our case the number of points used to test the model  $n_2$  is equal to  $\sqrt{N} \approx 12$  as recommended for kriging metamodels [? ]. The number of folds has been varied from 5 to 25 and in all the cases tested the  $E_{cv\%}$  has been found to decrease below 6% when we use at least 16 folds (which means leaving out 7 to 8 points from the metamodel construction), which is more than acceptable to prove that our kriging method is a robust approximation.

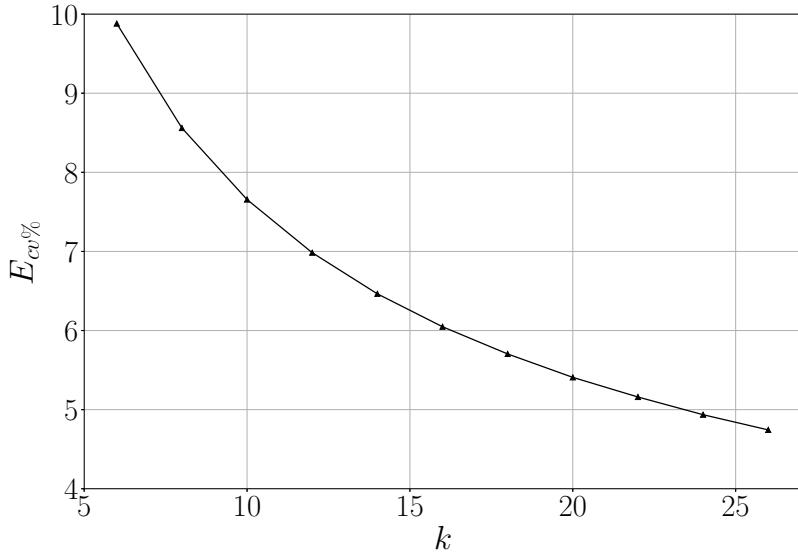


Figure 4.15: Relative mean error computed using the  $k$ -fold approach presented against the number of folds  $k$  used to divide the dataset

The metamodel provides a scalar function (for each term of the  $\mathbf{H}$  tensor) defined in a four-dimensional space. In each of the following figures two parameters are fixed and the response surface is displayed as function of the remaining two, focussing on the  $H_{11}$  component. The other diagonal components of the apparent permeability tensor behave in a similar fashion and will not be shown for brevity. All the results of the metamodel are, however, available from the authors upon request.

In figure 4.16 the angle  $\phi$  is fixed to zero, and the isolines display  $H_{11}$  as function of the angle  $\theta$  and of the Reynolds number,  $Re_d$ , for three values of porosity. The white square symbols indicate the samples used to build the metamodel. The maximum value of each surface is always found for  $Re_d$  equal to zero and  $H_{11}$  typically decreases with  $Re_d$ , when the porosity is sufficiently large. As seen previously, for a porosity approximately greater or equal to 0.6 the variation of the apparent permeability with the angle  $\theta$  is weak

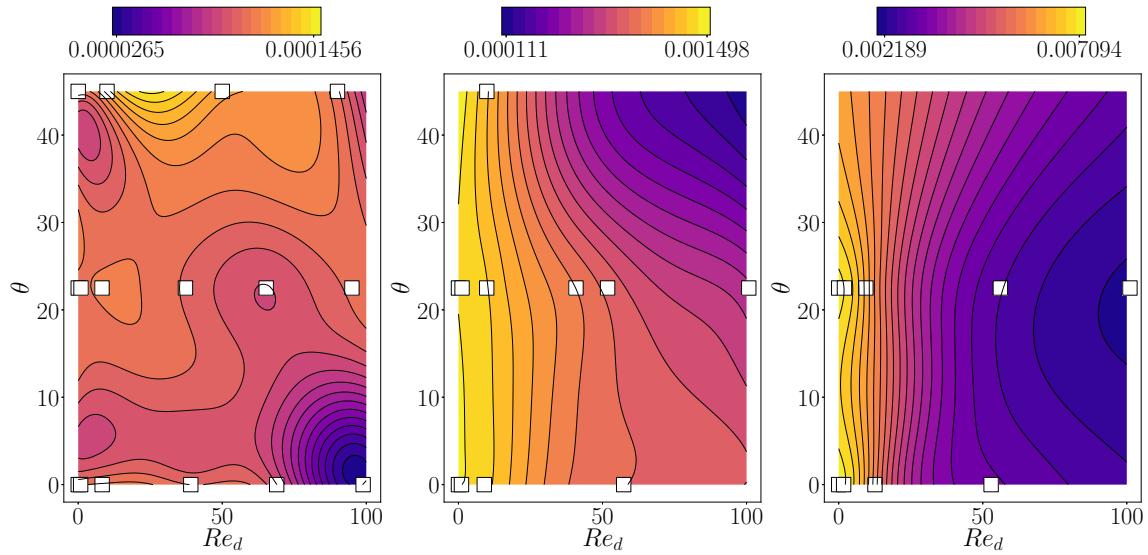


Figure 4.16: Response surfaces of  $H_{11}$  with  $\phi = 0^\circ$  for porosity  $\varepsilon = 0.4, 0.6, 0.8$ , from left to right.

in this two-dimensional configuration. For the lowest porosity studied (left frame) the permeability has very small values and the isolines display an irregular behaviour; this is a feature common to all plots relative to the smaller value of  $\varepsilon$ , signaling that it is probably necessary, in this specific case, to insert additional sample points in building the response surfaces.

In figure 4.17 the parameter  $\theta$  is set to  $0^\circ$  and the response surface is displayed in the  $Re_d - \phi$  plane. As already indicated, the results confirm that an increase of the Reynolds number is generally associated to a decrease of the first diagonal component of the apparent permeability tensor. However, the  $H_{11}$  variations with respect to  $\phi$  are more pronounced than those found with respect to  $\theta$  and are due to a real three-dimensionalization of the flow. This conclusion remains to be verified in the lower porosity case (left frame) where the variations are very tiny and more irregular.

In figure 4.18 the Reynolds number is set to the inertial range value of 40 and the response surface is displayed in the  $\theta - \phi$  plane. For the two highest porosity values, 0.6 and 0.8, the results confirm that  $H_{11}$  has a much stronger dependence on  $\phi$  than on  $\theta$ , suggesting that the real test of permeability models must include three-dimensional effects. As seen earlier, the behaviour of the permeability when the porosity is low (left frame in the figure) is not intuitive, with a significant effect of the angle  $\phi$  and a minor influence of  $\theta$ . Again this occurs from the constraint provided to the flow by the inclusions, and from the occurrence of a large deviation  $\gamma$  in these cases.

The response surface is shown in the  $Re_d - \varepsilon$  plane of figure 4.19 for three sets of  $\theta - \phi$

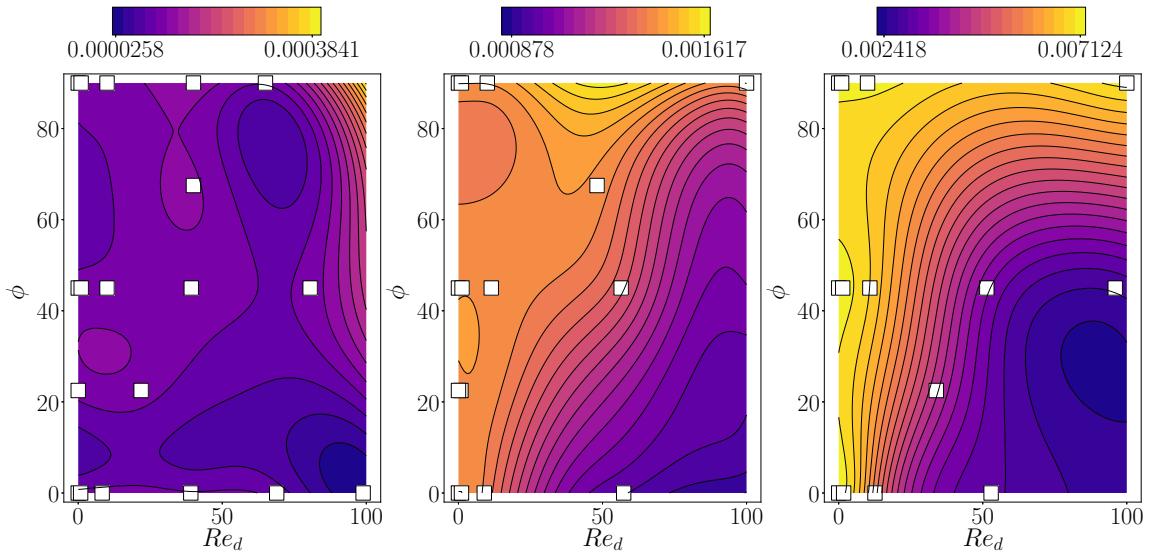


Figure 4.17: Response surfaces of  $H_{11}$  with  $\theta = 0^\circ$  for porosity  $\varepsilon = 0.4, 0.6, 0.8$ , from left to right.

angles. Here a significant effect of the porosity with respect to the Reynolds number is observable. In fact the surface gradient is almost aligned with the porosity direction, i.e. a quasi-Reynolds independence is demonstrated in this plane, and the apparent permeability can change by one order of magnitude in the range of the analysed porosity.

Some relatively small Reynolds number effects are visible at porosity equal to 0.8, when the wake of the flow has more space to develop in the inertial regime. In the central figure the flow is aligned with the direction of the fibers and, as expected, it shows practically no dependence with respect to the Reynolds number.

The response surface analysis has confirmed the qualitative trends which had been reached earlier on the basis of a few selected flow cases, yielding at the same time much more detailed information on the behaviour of the apparent permeability with the parameters of the problem. The data base which has been built will be used in future work which will focus, via the VANS approach, on configurations for which neither the porosity nor the local Reynolds number are constant in space or time.

## 4.7 Concluding remarks

The components of the permeability tensor are essential ingredients for any solution of flow through anisotropic porous media. When the flow through the pores resents of significant acceleration effects, the permeability must be modified (it is then called *apparent*) by the

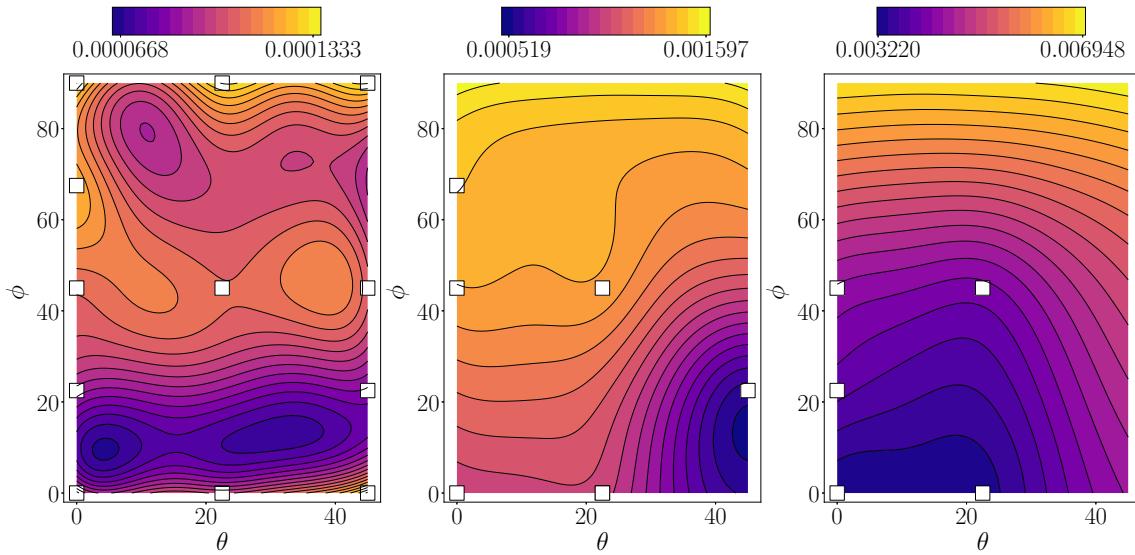


Figure 4.18: Response surfaces of  $H_{11}$  with  $Re = 40$  for porosity  $\varepsilon = 0.4, 0.6, 0.8$ , from left to right.

presence of a second tensor, the Forchheimer tensor  $\mathbf{F}$ , defined by

$$\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{K}\mathbf{H}^{-1} - \mathbf{I}.$$

The permeability,  $\mathbf{K}$ , and the apparent permeability,  $\mathbf{H}$ , can be formally deduced by two closure problems which have been briefly recalled in section 4.2. The real obstacle to the solution of the problem for  $\mathbf{H}$  is the need to know the microscopic velocity fields through the pores. We have solved for such fields in a unit cell (the REV), varying the forcing amplitude and direction, treating over one hundred different cases of flows through arrangements of parallel fibers. From this, we have thus been able to solve the linear system (4.1) for all the unknown elements of the intermediate tensor  $\mathbf{M}$ , from which, through averaging, we have computed the apparent permeability. Such a tensor is indispensable to evaluate accurately the drag force caused by the presence of the fibers, for a macroscopic solution of the flow on the basis of equations [159] when inertial effects are present.

It has been found that the apparent permeability tensor is strongly diagonally dominant for whatever forcing direction and porosity, provided the local Reynolds number remains below a value approximately equal to 100; this results – which is a direct consequence of the transverse isotropy of the material which has been considered here – can be used to compute  $\mathbf{H}$  rapidly, approximating it as a diagonal tensor.

Finally, a metamodel has been used to produce results so as to cover the whole space of parameters, and this has allowed the construction of a complete data base. This data base is now being used in simulations of poroelastic media based on the VANS approach.

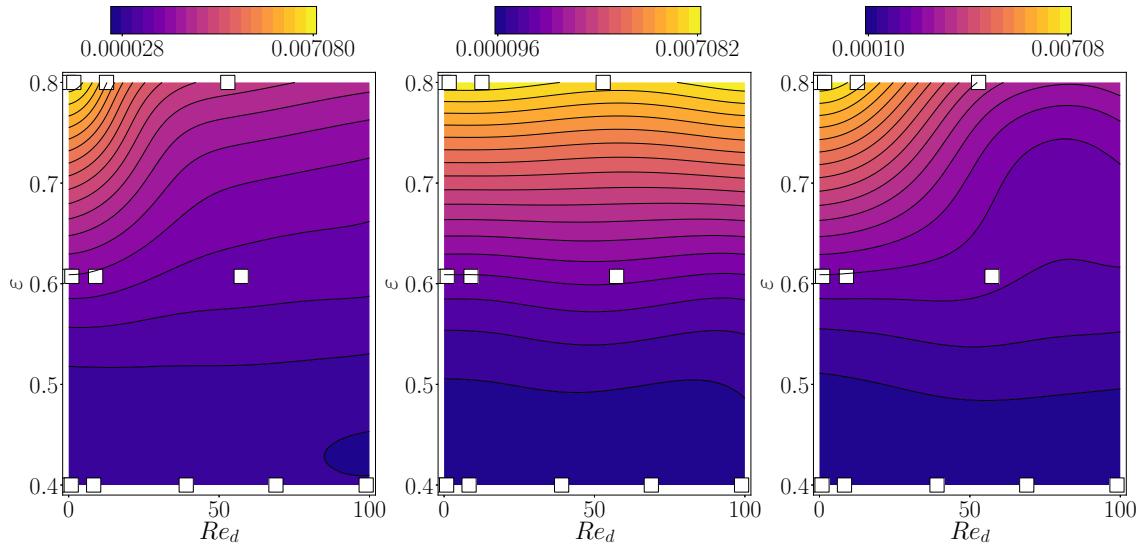


Figure 4.19: Response surface of  $H_{11}$ ; in the left frame  $\phi = \theta = 0$ , in the centre frame  $\phi = 90^\circ$ ,  $\theta = 0$  and on the right  $\phi = 45^\circ$ ,  $\theta = 22.5^\circ$ .

# Chapter 5

# VANS macroscopic applications

*The first principle is that you must not fool yourself — and you are the easiest person to fool.*

- 1974 Caltech commencement address, *Richard Feynman*

## 5.1 Introduction

In this last chapter the macroscopic VANS equation are validated against a full microscopic DNS. Special attention is focused on the interface treatment using the penalization method. We also assess the effects of the permeability tensor metamodel introduction in the algorithm. The computation is performed using the classical closed cavity configuration. The aim for the cavity problem is to validate the VANS approach and show the importance of the interface treatment and the permeability metamodel. In the last part the Ercoftac periodic hill case is also tested. This open configuration aim to test the performance of porous coating as a device that helps to reduce separated flow.

## 5.2 Closed cavity problem

The configuration chosen is the squared closed cavity, depicted in figure 5.1. The cavity is square shaped with size  $L$ , the lateral and bottom walls are fixed and a constant velocity  $U_{top}$  is specified at the top side. On the front and back side we apply periodic boundary condition since the simulation domain has a depth equal to  $\ell$ . A rigid porous media made by regularly arranged fibers is set at the bottom of the cavity, its vertical extension is equal to  $h$ . The *reference elementary volume* (REV) of the porous medium is a cubic cell of size  $\ell$  with a cylinder, with diameter  $d$ , at his center. The permeability of the medium  $\varepsilon$  is equal to 0.8 and with 50 fibers in the cavity.

To summarize the configuration:

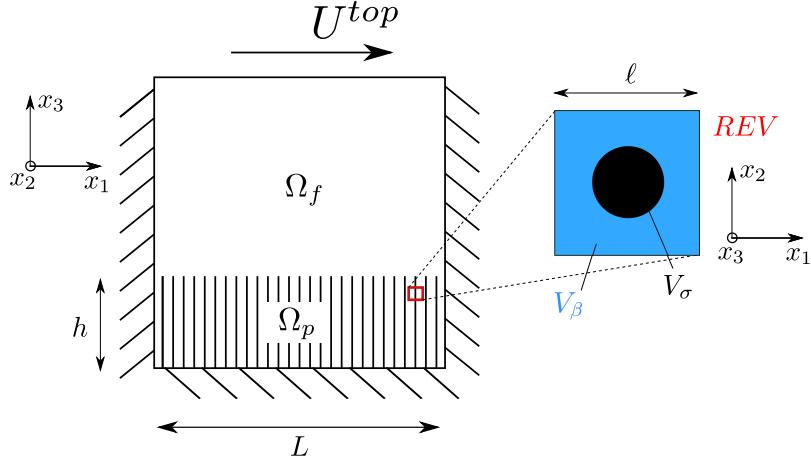


Figure 5.1: Schematics of the closed cavity 2D problem. The porous medium internal structure is depicted in the zoom on the right side in which the REV geometry is showed.

- $L$ : side of the cavity, also the macroscopic length scale
- $h$ : vertical extension of the fibers from the bottom of the cavity
- $\ell$ : side of the cubic REV, also the microscopic length scale
- $d$ : diameter of the cylindrical fiber
- $V_\beta$ : volume of the fluid inside the REV
- $V_\sigma$ : volume of the solid inside the REV
- $\varepsilon = \frac{V_\beta}{V_\sigma + V_\beta}$ : porosity of the medium
- $\epsilon = \frac{\ell}{L}$ : length scale ratio
- $Re = \frac{U_{top}L}{\nu_\beta}$ : Reynolds number of the cavity

The overall domain has the size  $L \times L \times \ell$  respectively in the  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$  and  $x_3$  directions. The origin of our coordinate system at the bottom left corner of the cavity. This configuration and porous arrangement has been chosen to reuse DNS data already available for this configuration (private communication with the authors of Zampogna and Bottaro [164]).

The length parameters for the specific case are:

- $h/L = 0.33$

- $\ell/L = 0.02$
- $\varepsilon = 0.8$

### 5.2.1 Microscopic approach with direct numerical simulations

In this approach the incompressible Navier-Stokes equations are solved in the three dimensional case (5.1). The problem is weakly three dimensional problem since we include only one REV in the  $x_3$  axes and we impose periodic boundary condition in this direction. This assumption seems fair since the Reynolds numbers tested are small and no 3D structure are expected in the flow. To complete the set of boundary condition the no-slip condition is applied at the rigid walls and a prescribed horizontal velocity is imposed at the top wall (5.1). The subscript  $\beta$  means that the variables belongs to the fluid phase, as usual. The mesh was fine enough to resolve the flow inside the fibers and the spatial converged is also assured.

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_\beta}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v}_\beta \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v}_\beta = -\frac{1}{\rho_\beta} \nabla p_\beta + \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}_\beta \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_\beta = 0 \\ \mathbf{v}_\beta = 0 \quad \text{on } x_1 = 0/L \quad x_3 = 0 \\ \mathbf{v}_\beta = U^{top} \quad \text{on } x_3 = L \\ \mathbf{v}_\beta|_{x_3=0} = \mathbf{v}_\beta|_{x_3=\ell} \\ p_\beta|_{x_3=0} = p_\beta|_{x_3=\ell} \end{cases} \quad (5.1)$$

Once the system (5.1) is solved, the microscopic fields (velocity and pressure) inside the porous medium are averaged with the operator 5.2 in order to get the homogenized macroscopic field  $\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta$  and  $\langle p_\beta \rangle^\beta$ .

$$\langle \psi_\beta \rangle^\beta = \frac{1}{V_\beta} \int_{V_\beta} \psi_\beta(\mathbf{x}) dV_\beta. \quad (5.2)$$

The operator (5.2) has been applied through the all porous domain using a REV with dimension  $\ell \times \ell \times \ell$ . It means that the centroid of the REV, in which the average operation is performed, span all the porous domain extension. It should be noted that the averaging procedure gives a two dimensional averaged fields as results, the only not null values are in the  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  directions. This is due to the symmetry of velocity and pressure in the  $x_3$  direction that return null averaged field as a result of the averaging operation (5.2).

### 5.2.2 Macroscopic approach though VANS

The same problem is solved using the VANS approach. The set of equation used are the incompressible Volume Averaged Navier-Stokes equations in the two dimensional case with

a Darcy-Forchheimer closure (5.3). The derivation of this set of equation has been already discussed in chapter 2.

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \nabla \cdot [\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta] = -\frac{1}{\rho_\beta} \nabla \langle p_\beta \rangle^\beta + \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \\ \quad - \nu_\beta \varepsilon \mathbf{H}^{-1} \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \frac{\nu_\beta}{\varepsilon} \nabla \varepsilon \cdot \nabla \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \frac{\nu_\beta}{\varepsilon} \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \nabla^2 \varepsilon \\ \nabla \cdot (\varepsilon \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta) = 0 \\ \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle = 0 \quad \text{at } x_1 = 0/L \quad x_2 = 0 \\ \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle = U^{top} \quad \text{at } x_2 = L \end{cases} \quad (5.3)$$

The boundary conditions are the same as the DNS approach except for the  $x_3$  dimension that in this case is neglected since the homogenized problem is already two dimensional. The solution of the system 5.3 gives directly the averaged velocity and pressure fields to be compared to the averaged DNS fields.

### Interface treatment

The penalization method (or one domain approach) has been chosen to threat the interface of the porous medium. The method has been already discussed in section 2.5 of chapter 2 but here some technical aspect are further discussed. In order to use the so called penalization method the porosity field and the effective permeability had to be defined in all the domain. In the free fluid the porosity is, of course, unitary and the effective permeability infinite. With such a numerical values the Navier-Stokes system 5.1 is retrieved from the system 5.3 after some simple simplifications. In the deep porous medium the porosity is constant and set equal to 0.8. The effective permeability is also constant and the components of the tensor has been taken from a posteriori computation of the homogenized-DNS problem. This procedure involves the inversion of the Darcy system  $\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle = \nu_\beta \varepsilon \mathbf{H}^{-1} \nabla \langle p_\beta \rangle^\beta$ . The numeric values for  $\mathbf{H}$  are represented in table 5.1.

	$H_{11} = H_{22}$	$H_{33}$
$Re = 100$	$2.63 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$5.49 \cdot 10^{-2}$
$Re = 1000$	$2.65 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$5.63 \cdot 10^{-2}$

Table 5.1: Apparent permeability values from table 1 in Zampogna and Bottaro [164]

The apparent permeability tensor  $\mathbf{H}$  is also diagonal. This is consistent with the result in chapter 4 in low pore Reynolds number, as a matter of fact in either the cavity Reynolds number tested the pore Reynolds number is always below 5.

However it is difficult to define how to connect the different values for the free fluid and the porous media part through the interface. Although, the exact profile for the porosity

filed can be computed known the geometry of the medium. In this case the porous medium is made of cylindrical fibers in a regular arrangement. The relationship between the porosity in the deep medium  $\varepsilon$ , the size of the REV  $\ell$  and the cylinder diameter  $d$  is:

$$\left(\frac{d}{\ell}\right)^2 = \frac{1-\varepsilon}{\pi}$$

With the above relationship is possible to define the porosity as a function of the vertical coordinate  $x_2 = y$ :

$$\varepsilon(z) = \begin{cases} 1 & y \geq (y_{itf} + \ell) \\ 1 - \frac{1-\varepsilon}{\ell} |y_{itf} - y + \ell| & (y_{itf} - \ell) < y < (y_{itf} + \ell) \\ 0.8 & y \leq (y_{itf} - \ell) \end{cases} \quad (5.4)$$

The same expression has been used for the effective permeability field. We have seen in chapter 4 that the components of  $\mathbf{H}$  are mostly driven by the porosity effect so, it is fair to suppose that the same variability should be used for either the porosity and the permeability fields.

In our simulations the metamodel for the effective permeability has not been applied. As a matter of fact the metamodel in chapter 4 was built for a porous medium made of staggered cylinders. So it would not be applicable in this case in which the porous medium is made by regular arranged cylinders. Although we have seen that at low pore Reynolds number the effective permeability is practically not sensitive in variation of flow direction and/or magnitude <sup>1</sup>. However, a direct comparison of the metamodel variation on the macroscopic field would be presented in the paragraph 5.2.5.

### 5.2.3 Cavity $Re = 100$ comparison

This section present the comparison between the microscopic and macroscopic different approach for the cavity at  $Re = 100$ . Pictures 5.2 and 5.3 show the pressure gradient and the velocity fields for the two different approaches. Each field is made non-dimensional using the macroscopic length and the velocity on the top of the cavity:

$$u^* = u/U_{top}, \quad v^* = v/U_{top} \\ \frac{\partial p^*}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} / \left(0.5\rho_\beta U_{top}^2/L\right), \quad \frac{\partial p^*}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} / \left(0.5\rho_\beta U_{top}^2/L\right)$$

The DNS approach is used as reference case for the comparison. At Reynolds number equal to 100 we have a fair agreement in the velocities and pressure gradients fields. The

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<sup>1</sup>see figures 4.10, 4.10 and 4.10 in chapter 4

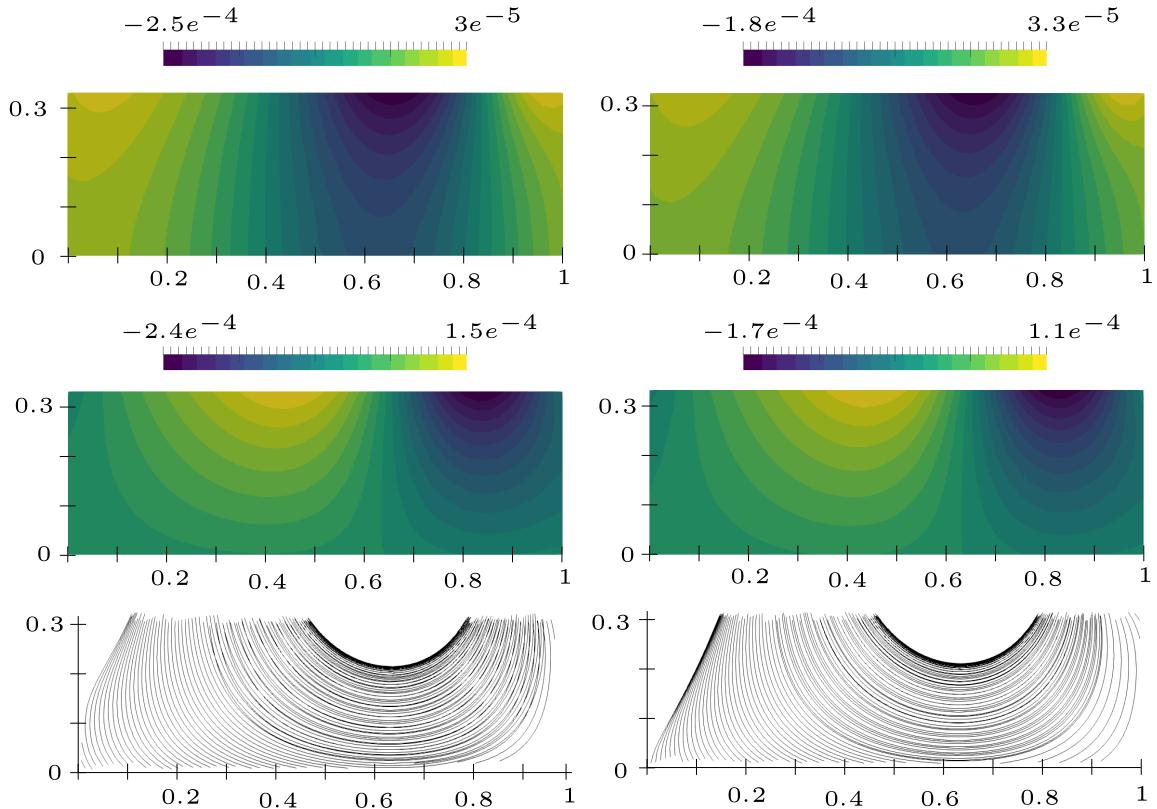


Figure 5.2: Left: VANS approach. Right: Homogenized DNS approach. The figure show, from top to bottom, the horizontal velocity the vertical velocity and the streamlines inside the porous domain  $\Omega_p$

contours and the location of the local minima and maxima are the same for the two approaches. If we look at the numerical values, for some fields the relative errors are not negligible however, they are always below 10%. In any case some differences between the two models has to be expected since in the VANS approach the micro-scale flow behavior is modeled and of course some of the details that the full DNS is able to retain are lost in the macroscopic approach.

#### 5.2.4 Cavity $Re = 1000$ comparison

The same case and comparison has been done also for a Reynolds number equal to  $Re = 1000$ . For this case we can confirm the same conclusion as the previous one. Some of the relative errors are even smaller compared to the lower Reynolds number case, this confirm that the model is robust in this range of Reynolds number.

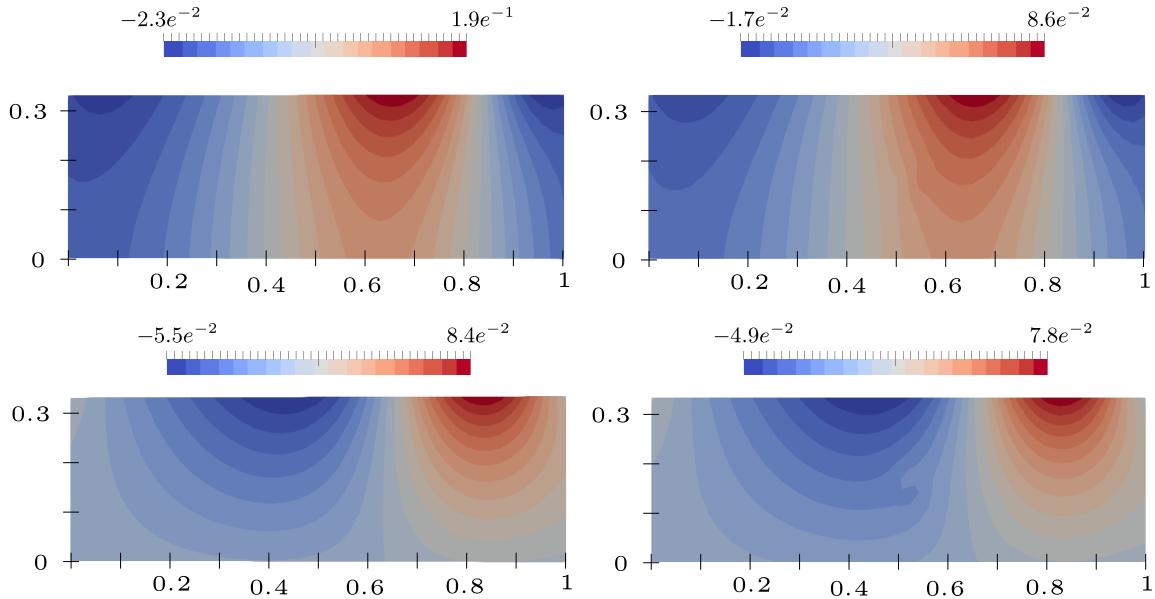


Figure 5.3: Left: VANS approach. Right: Homogenized DNS approach. The figure show, from top to bottom, the horizontal and the vertical component of the pressure gradient inside the porous domain  $\Omega_p$

### 5.2.5 Cavity $Re = 5000$ using H metamodel

From the figures is possible to see also how the trend of the two different treatments look like the same at the interface. The dots in the figure lines are used only to ease the read of the plots and do not correspond to the mesh nodes (that are too much to be represented clearly).

## 5.3 Separated flow between hills

In order to test the effectiveness of the porous media layer to reduce separation we have chosen to solve the flow over periodically arranged hills. This problem has been already investigated experimentally and numerically and is a classical CFD benchmark problem now standardized by the ERCOFTAC. The flow experiences separation caused by the curved surface of the hill and also recirculation and natural reattachment. The flow is supposed to be periodic and two dimensional, at the Reynolds number tested. Numerous DNS and LES works can be found in literature with Reynolds numbers up to 10000 (Chang et al. [39], Breuer et al. [24], Breuer et al. [25], [4] and [147]). This test case has been studied with two main objectives, either the modeling and simulation issue or the physical issue. Regarding the first, it is used as a benchmark case to investigate the ability of DNS,

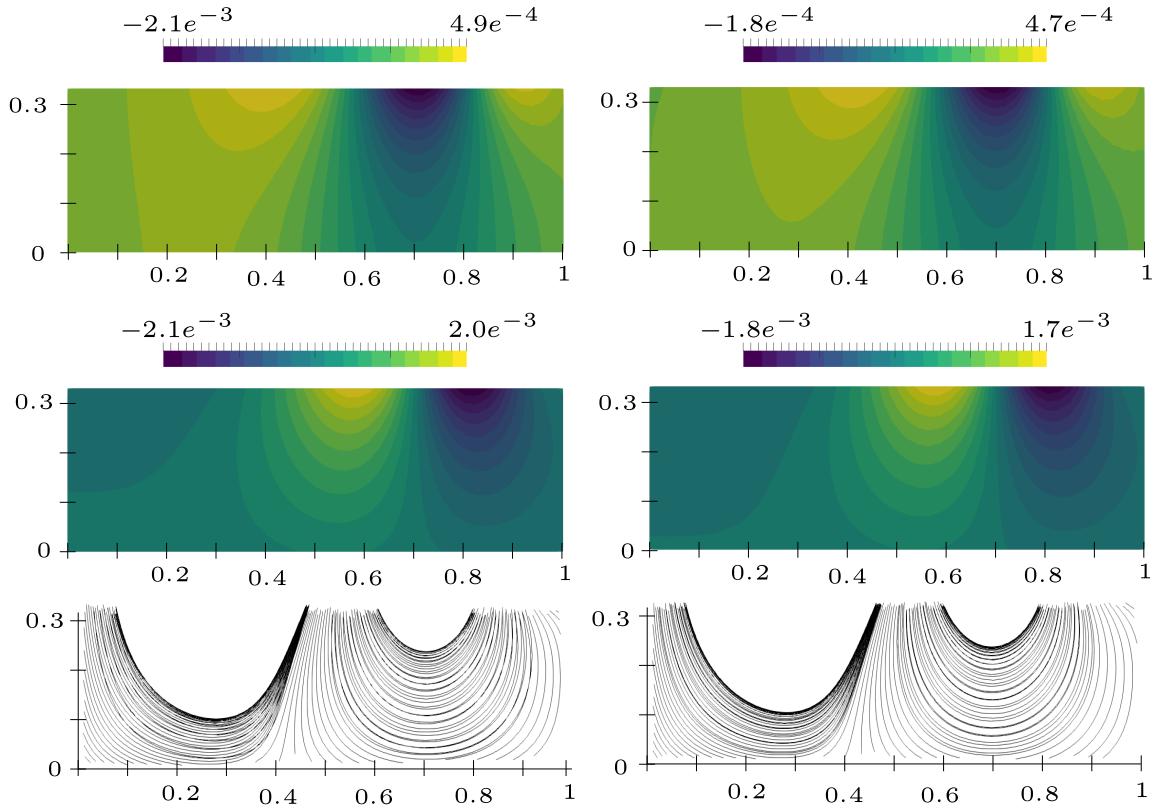


Figure 5.4: Left: VANS approach. Right: Homogenized DNS approach. The figure show, from top to bottom, the horizontal velocity the vertical velocity and the streamlines inside the porous domain  $\Omega_p$

RANS and LES to resolve separation from a curved geometry. Furthermore, the flow is also an interesting case to study the physical mechanisms of separation on curved surfaces in more detail. In our case we have tested smaller Reynolds number in the laminar regime. Although the problem has been chosen especially for the possibility to future extend the study in higher Reynolds number since a lot of data can be found in literature.

### Geometry and condition

The geometry of the problem is depicted in figure 5.7. The geometry used is the 2D version of the problem since the flow is practically two dimensional in the Reynolds number considered. The dimension of the hill crest and extensions are also showed in the same pictures in their adimensionalized version. However, in our case the height of the crest is equal to 1 so the adimensional and dimensional coordinates are the same. The dimensions of the domain are:  $L_x = 9.0h$ ,  $L_y = 3.036h$  and  $L_z = 4.5h$  where  $h$  denotes the hill height

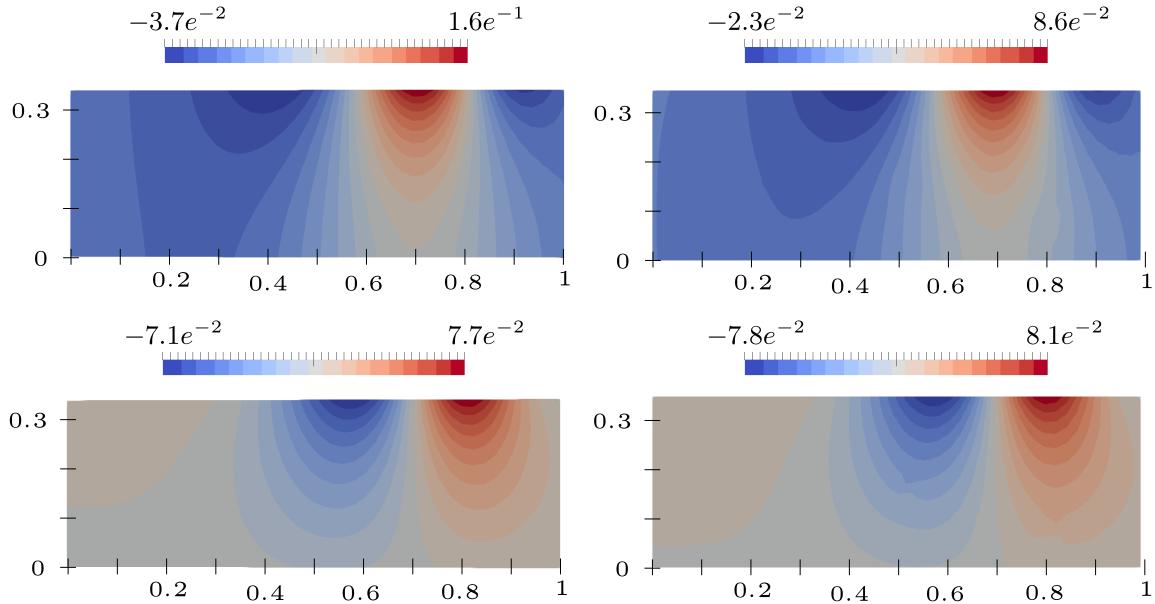


Figure 5.5: Left: VANS approach. Right: Homogenized DNS approach. The figure show, from top to bottom, the horizontal and the vertical component of the pressure gradient inside the porous domain  $\Omega_p$

and  $x, y, z$  are the streamwise, wall-normal and spanwise direction, respectively. It consists of a single streamwise periodic segment and thus covers solely one complete hill with an upstream and a downstream region. In the predictions reported here the domain starts and ends at the hill crest. Between one hill and the next one there is a flat plate region of extension  $5h$ . The pressure induced separation takes place from the first hill curved surface and reattachment is observed at the flat plate part between the two hills.

The problem is discretized using the finite volume method and the mesh used is showed in figure 5.7. The mesh is purely made of exahedral cell and counts 25000 elements in the two dimensional version. It is possible to download it at [https://turbmodels.larc.nasa.gov/Other\\_LES\\_Data/2dhill\\_periodic.html](https://turbmodels.larc.nasa.gov/Other_LES_Data/2dhill_periodic.html). The resolution has been already validate in DNS and LES computations so it has not been further investigated here.

The inlet and the outlet patches are connected with a periodic boundary condition, at the hill and flat plate surface the no-slip condition is imposed and finally at the top of the domain a slip condition is used.

### 5.3.1 Comparison between smooth and porous leeward side of the hill

The equation solved are a slightly modified version of the VANS system (5.3) in which the constant macroscopic pressure gradient is introduced as a source term in the momentum.

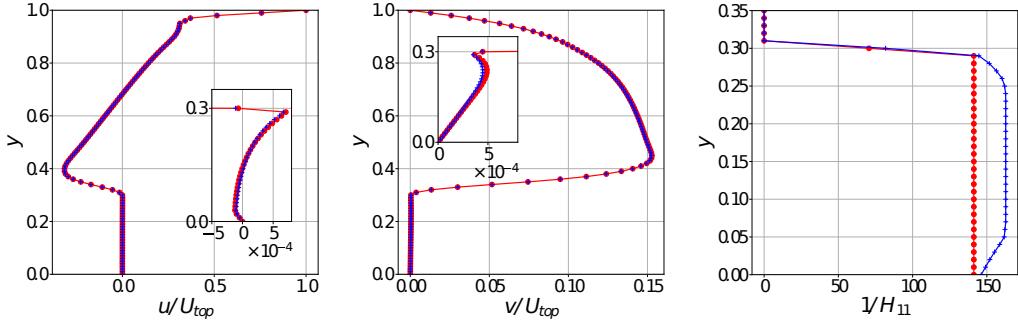


Figure 5.6: Left: horizontal velocity component. Center: vertical velocity component. Right: Effective permeability component 11 . The three fields has been sampled at the center of the cavity geometry,  $x_1 = 0.5 * L$ . The blue line represent the solution for the system (5.3) with the Kriging metamodel for the effective permeability, the red line is the solution wo the same system with the model switched off.

The non-periodic behavior of the pressure distribution can be accounted for by adding the mean pressure gradient as a source term to the momentum equation in streamwise direction.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \nabla \cdot [\langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta] = -\frac{1}{\rho_\beta} \nabla \langle p_\beta \rangle^\beta + \nu_\beta \nabla^2 \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \\ \qquad \qquad \qquad - \nu_\beta \varepsilon \mathbf{H}^{-1} \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \frac{\nu_\beta}{\varepsilon} \nabla \varepsilon \cdot \nabla \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta + \frac{\nu_\beta}{\varepsilon} \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta \nabla^2 \varepsilon - \mathbf{g} \\ \nabla \cdot (\varepsilon \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle^\beta) = 0 \\ \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle = 0 \quad \text{at hill wall} \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0 \quad \text{at } y = 3.035h \\ \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle|_{x_1=0} = \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle|_{x_1=9h} \\ \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle|_{x_1=0} = \langle \mathbf{v}_\beta \rangle|_{x_1=9h} \end{array} \right. \quad (5.5)$$

The flow is driven by the source term  $\mathbf{g}$  and the Reynolds number is computed a posteriori in the following manner:

$$R_e = \frac{U_b h}{\nu}$$

where  $U_b$  is the velocity in the top left corner of the domain, just above the first hill.

In the first case we study the the problem in the stable regime ( $Re \leq 200$ ). In this case the source term is equal to  $\mathbf{g} = (1e^{-9} \ 0 \ 0)$  and it result in a Reynolds number  $Re = 70$ . The porous media layer is has the same geometry of the one described in 4, it means a series of cylinders in staggered arrangement. The cylinders are then arranged on top of

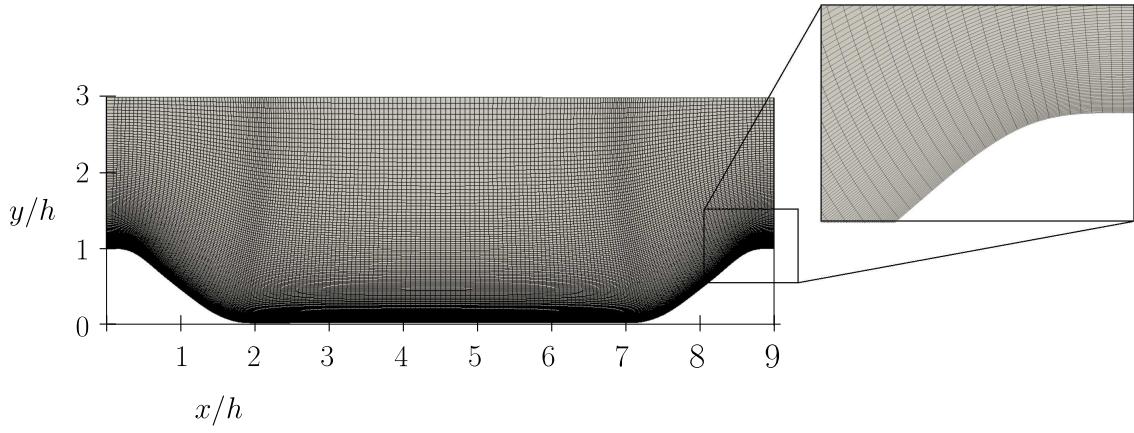


Figure 5.7: Domain of the problem and mesh used to discretize it. On the right side there is an enlargement of the zone on the hill curvature.

the leeward side of the hill and they are aligned with the wall normal direction. Although their extension is not uniform, the line that pass through all the cylinders lid describe the Gaussian:

$$y_{itf}(x) = \frac{2.5}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp(-0.5x^2) \quad (5.6)$$

The treatment for the porosity is the same as equation (5.4) where in this case the  $y_{itf}$  id described by the Gaussian function (5.6). Instead the permeability tensor has a discontinuity through the same interface line.

The porosity field is depicted in figure 5.8. Where the porosity deep inside the medium, showed in blue, is equal to 0.8 and the exterior is obviously equal to 1 and is showed yellow.

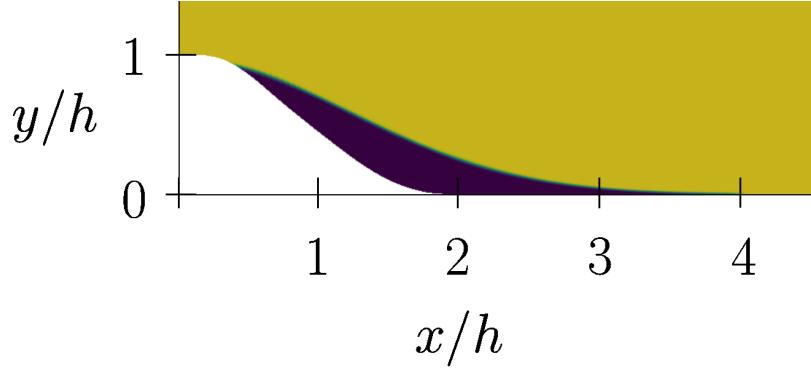


Figure 5.8: Porosity field in the leeward side of the first hill.

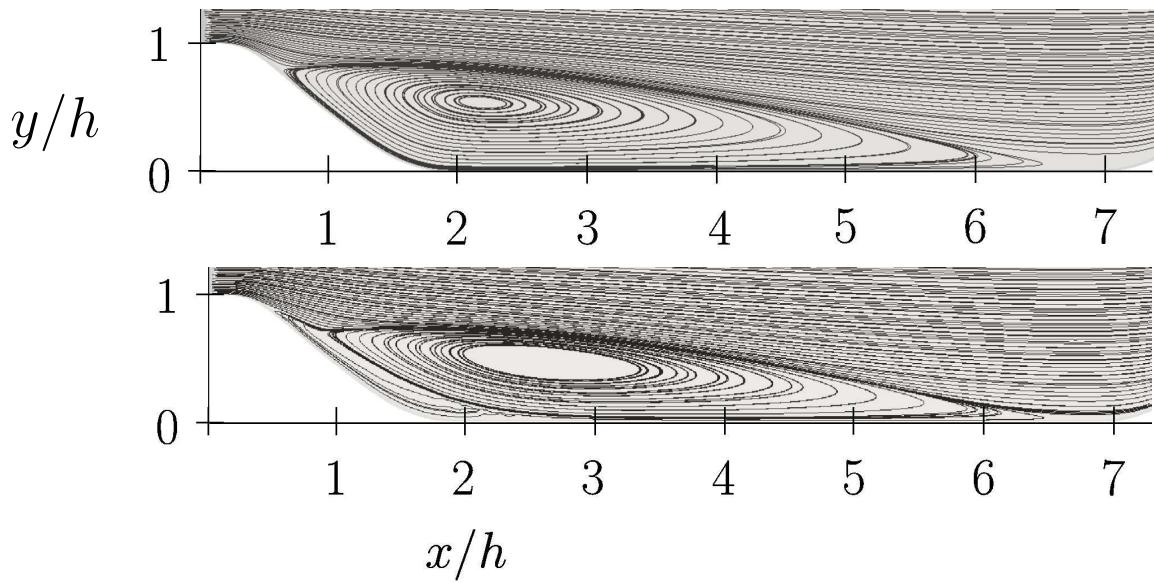


Figure 5.9: ??

## 5.4 Conclusions

If it would be possible to obtain systematically the same results with a reduced information model <sup>2</sup> and a full physic simulation we would be in a paradox. Basically it would means that some of the input information are redundant. This statements should be kept in mind when making analysis on the macroscopic model against the DNS.

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<sup>2</sup>like a general metamodel or a macroscopic model for porous media or a turbulence model for turbulent flow

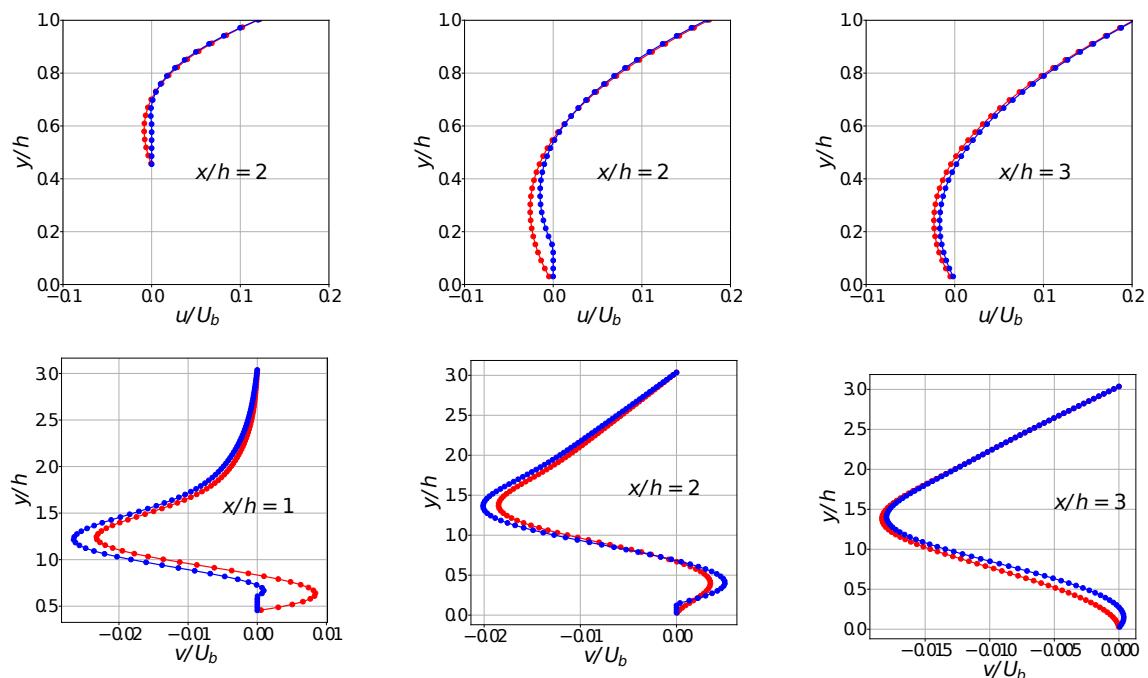


Figure 5.10: ???

# Appendix A: Kriging metamodel

## Introduction

The Kriging metamodel technique has already been introduced in chapter 4 however, to complete the description of the method the numerical procedure and some implementation examples are presented in this appendix.

The Kriging method was invented to get prediction of missing geostatics data (Krige [90]). However, this methodology has been further generalized and applied extensively to built metamodels for a large variety of applications. The method can treat highly non linear output of an experiment and can be used to either interpolate or extrapolate responses from a sample set.

In this discussion the  $\hat{f}(\boldsymbol{\chi})$  is a model for the true function  $f(\boldsymbol{\chi})$  and  $\hat{y}$  is the model prediction of the true response  $y = f(\boldsymbol{\chi})$  that is evaluated at the point  $\boldsymbol{\chi}$ .

After the exploration of the design possibilities the database produced is usually organized is a set  $(\mathbf{x}_i, y(\mathbf{x}_i))$   $i = 1, \dots, n$  where

- $\mathbf{x}_i$  is the  $i - th$  vector element containing the  $k$  input parameters for the  $i - th$  experiment realization
- $y_i$  is the scalar response of the experiment for the vector of inputs  $\mathbf{x}_i$ <sup>3</sup>
- $\boldsymbol{\chi}$  is the new input vector for which we seek the approximate output  $\hat{y} = \hat{f}(\boldsymbol{\chi})$

## Mathematical modelling

Provided that  $n$  is the number of point in the sample design set and  $k$  is the number of inputs of the experiment; the  $n \times k$  matrix containing all the inputs is indicated with  $\mathbf{X}$  and the  $n \times 1$  vector containing all the responses is indicated as  $\mathbf{Y}$ .

The Kriging response for a new input point  $\boldsymbol{\chi}$  is given by the linear *predictor*:

$$\hat{y} = \hat{f}(\boldsymbol{\chi}) = \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i(\boldsymbol{\chi}) f(\mathbf{x}_i) = \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i(\boldsymbol{\chi}) y_i \quad (5.7)$$

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<sup>3</sup> $y_i$  is always a scalar because even in case of multiple output for an experiment run they are supposed to be uncorrelated. It means that if we had  $p$  elements in each  $\mathbf{y}_i$  will have to build  $p$  metamodels

$\hat{y}$  is considered to be a new realization of the random Gaussian process that has generated the set of responses  $\mathbf{Y}$ . The weights  $\lambda_i$  are the solution of a linear system obtained by minimizing the variance of the error between the predictor and the random process. The best *linear unbiased predictor* BLUP is obtained finding the weights  $\lambda_i$  that minimize:

$$MSE[\hat{y}(\chi)] = E \left[ (\hat{f}(\chi) - f(\chi))^2 \right] = E \left[ (\boldsymbol{\lambda}^T(\chi) \mathbf{Y} - y(\chi))^2 \right] \quad (5.8)$$

under the unbiasedness condition:

$$E \left[ \hat{f}(\chi) - f(\chi) \right] = E \left[ \boldsymbol{\lambda}^T(\chi) \mathbf{Y} - y(\chi) \right] = 0 \quad (5.9)$$

this relation means that the predictor and the Gaussian process have the same mean value for every new point  $\chi$ .

The equation (5.9) is further developed yielding:

$$E \left[ \hat{f}(\chi) - f(\chi) \right] = \boldsymbol{\lambda}^T \chi E [f(\mathbf{X})] - E [f(\chi)] = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(\chi) \mu(\mathbf{x}_i) - \mu(\chi) = 0 \quad (5.10)$$

where  $\mu(\chi)$  is the mean value of the true function at the point  $\chi$ , instead  $\mu(\mathbf{x}_i)$  is the mean of all the realizations collected for the database.

Different types of Kriging approximation exist accordingly on how  $\mu(\chi)$  is evaluated:

- **simple Kriging** assume that the trend has null value:  $\mu(\chi) = 0$
- **ordinary Kriging** assume that the trend is an unknown constant:  $\mu(\chi) = \mu$
- **universal Kriging** assume that the trend is the solution of a generalized *least squares model* in which is possible to decide the order  $(n_\beta)$ <sup>4</sup> of the chosen base:  $\mu(\chi) = \mathbf{g}^T(\chi) \boldsymbol{\beta}$  Where  $\mathbf{g}(\chi)$  is the base evaluation at the point  $\chi$  and the vector  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$  contains the  $n_\beta$  coefficients of the model.

The unbiased condition (5.10) can be so rewritten, without loss of generality, as:

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda}^T(\chi) \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{X}) \boldsymbol{\beta} - \mathbf{g}^T(\chi) \boldsymbol{\beta} = 0 \implies \boldsymbol{\lambda}^T(\chi) \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{g}^T(\chi) \quad (5.11)$$

where  $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{X})$  is the  $n \times n_\beta$  matrix containing the evaluation of the least squared basis functions at all points in  $\mathbf{X}$

---

<sup>4</sup>It means that, for example, taking  $n_\beta = 2$  the least squared model is quadratic

Also the relation (5.8) can be manipulated:

$$\begin{aligned}
E \left[ (\hat{f}(\boldsymbol{\chi}) - f(\boldsymbol{\chi}))^2 \right] &= var(\hat{f}(\boldsymbol{\chi}) - f(\boldsymbol{\chi})) \\
&= var(\hat{f}(\boldsymbol{\chi})) + var(f(\boldsymbol{\chi})) - 2 cov(\hat{f}(\boldsymbol{\chi}), f(\boldsymbol{\chi})) \\
&= var\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(\boldsymbol{\chi}) f(\mathbf{x}_i)\right) + var(f(\boldsymbol{\chi})) - 2 cov\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(\boldsymbol{\chi}) f(\mathbf{x}_i), f(\boldsymbol{\chi})\right) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_i(\boldsymbol{\chi}) \lambda_j(\boldsymbol{\chi}) cov(f(\mathbf{x}_i), f(\mathbf{x}_j)) + var(f(\boldsymbol{\chi})) \\
&\quad - 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(\boldsymbol{\chi}) cov(f(\mathbf{x}_i), f(\boldsymbol{\chi})) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_i(\boldsymbol{\chi}) \lambda_j(\boldsymbol{\chi}) cov(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) + var(f(\boldsymbol{\chi})) \\
&\quad - 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(\boldsymbol{\chi}) cov(\mathbf{x}_i, \boldsymbol{\chi}) \tag{5.12}
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbf{c} = cov(\mathbf{X}, \boldsymbol{\chi})$  is the vector containing the estimated covariance between each point in the input set  $\mathbf{X}$  and the point  $\boldsymbol{\chi}$  for which we search the estimator. Similarly,  $\mathbf{C}_{ij} = cov(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)$  represents the elements in the  $n \times n$  matrix containing the correlation estimates between each point in  $\mathbf{X}$ .

Possible estimation for the two covariance matrixies are listed in the next section.

The derivative of the relation (5.12) with respect to  $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$  is posed equal to zero in order to minimize the Kriging error, yielding the final relation:

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda}^T(\boldsymbol{\chi}) \mathbf{C} = \mathbf{c} \tag{5.13}$$

Introducing the Lagrangian multiplier  $\phi$  for the unbiased constraint it is possible to build the partitioned matrix for the Kriging metamodel:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{G}^T \\ \mathbf{G} & \mathbf{C} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \phi \\ \boldsymbol{\lambda} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{g} \\ \mathbf{c} \end{pmatrix} \tag{5.14}$$

Then by inverting the partitioned matrix the Kriging predictor can be written as:

$$\hat{y}(\boldsymbol{\chi}) = \mathbf{g}^T(\boldsymbol{\chi}) \boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{c}^T(\boldsymbol{\chi}) \mathbf{R}^{-1} (\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{G} \boldsymbol{\beta}) \tag{5.15}$$

The first term  $\mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\chi})^T \boldsymbol{\beta}$  is usually called *trend function* and the second term is the *Gaussian error model*. As a matter of fact  $(\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{G} \boldsymbol{\beta})$  is the known vector of differences between the true outputs and the trend function at all the points  $\mathbf{X}$  in the database.

One of the Kriging metamodel benefits is that the model is exact at the data points. However, if it is known that the experiment realization used in the database present some reliability issue and/or have noise<sup>5</sup>, there is a technique that permits to take into account these effect. Adding a *nugget* ( $\eta$ ) to all entries on the covariance matrix  $\mathbf{C}^* = \mathbf{C} + \eta\mathbf{I}$  the metamodel is no more exact at the data points. The same technique is used to increase the conditioning number of the portioned system when dealing with numerical problems.

### Covariance matrix choice

In order to give some indication on the choice of the proper covariance function let us first introduce the *semivariogram* concept. The semivariogram  $\gamma$  between two generic points, in the design space  $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2$ , is defined as:

$$\gamma(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \frac{1}{2}E[(f(\mathbf{x}_1) - \mu(\mathbf{x}_1) - f(\mathbf{x}_2) + \mu(\mathbf{x}_2))^2] \quad (5.16)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{2}var(f(\mathbf{x}_1) - f(\mathbf{x}_2)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}var(f(\mathbf{x}_1)) + \frac{1}{2}var(f(\mathbf{x}_2)) - cov(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) \end{aligned} \quad (5.17)$$

The semivariogram for each datapoint in the database can be directly computed from the equation (5.16) and afterwards the relation (5.17) can be used to fit the semivariogram data with the covariance function.

Lets us clarify the last statements with an example. We chose to replicate the example present in Cavazzuti [38] in which the author propose an experiment that depend on two variables  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  and 10 realization. The experiment database is shown in figure 5.11.

The semivariogram functions, as a function of the Euclidian distance between the two points  $h_{ij} = |\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j|$ , has been computed using the equation (5.16) and is represented in figure 5.12 on the left. The points in the semivariogram are then averaged over a distance step whose width is equal to 0.25 and the points are shown on the right of figure 5.12. The correlation function should be chosen to be the best fit for the averaged semivariogram. This means that in theory, depending on the dataset, one could formulate its own covariance model.

What is done in practice is that some parametric families of correlation function has been proposed in literature, for example the *power exponential* correlation function reads:

$$c(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) = \sigma^2 \exp\left(-\sum_{k=1}^K \theta_k |x_{i,k} - x_{j,k}|^\nu\right) \quad (5.18)$$

The kriging predictor surfaces can show different behaviors for different selections of the above three parameters ( $\sigma$ ,  $\nu$  and  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ ) and their setting is thus crucial. The coefficient  $\sigma$

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<sup>5</sup>common in experimental data

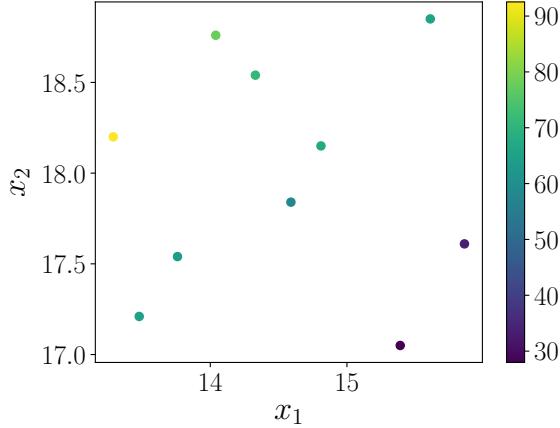


Figure 5.11: Experiment data points for the 10 realizations available. The color map represent the output realizations  $\mathbf{Y}$  of the experiment  $f(\mathbf{X})$ .

is an amplitude parameter for the correlation function. It determine variation of function  $\hat{f}$  from its mean. Small value of  $\sigma$  characterizes functions that stay close to their mean value, larger values allow more variation. It basically control the gradient steepness around the data points. The exponent  $\nu$  of the model has similar affects. The vector  $\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\theta_{x_1}, \theta_{x_2})$  is a length scale parameter for the distance  $|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j|$ , describes how smooth a function is. Small length scale values mean that function values can change quickly generating narrow bumps near the data points. Large values characterize functions that change only slowly but it will make the surface explode outside the convex hull described by the data points. It is possible to specify different length scales in different directions, in this manner the metamodel can include anisotropic effect for each variable of the experiment. This model has been fitted in the previous semivariogram choosing  $\nu = 2$ ,  $\theta = 1.895$  and  $\sigma = 38.44$  and it is depicted in the right figure 5.12 using a red line. Is possible to see that this model fit well the data points for this experiment.

Another popular model for the covariance function is the *Matérn model*<sup>6</sup> that reads:

$$c(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) = \sigma^2 \frac{2^{1-\nu}}{\Gamma(\nu)} \sum_{j=1}^k \left[ \left( \frac{\sqrt{2}\nu|x_{i,k} - x_{j,k}|}{\theta_k} \right)^\nu \mathcal{K}_\nu \left( \frac{\sqrt{2}\nu|x_{i,k} - x_{j,k}|}{\theta_k} \right) \right] \quad (5.19)$$

where  $\mathcal{K}_\nu(\cdot)$  is a modified Bessel function and  $\Gamma(\cdot)$  is the gamma function. The parameters that can be used to tune the metamodel are the amplitude parameter  $\sigma$ , the exponent  $\nu$  and the scale vector  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  with the same meaning as in the previous correlation function.

To summarize, when choosing the correlation it should be kept in mind:

- to well approximate the trend of the averaged semivariogram

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<sup>6</sup>the one used in chapter 4

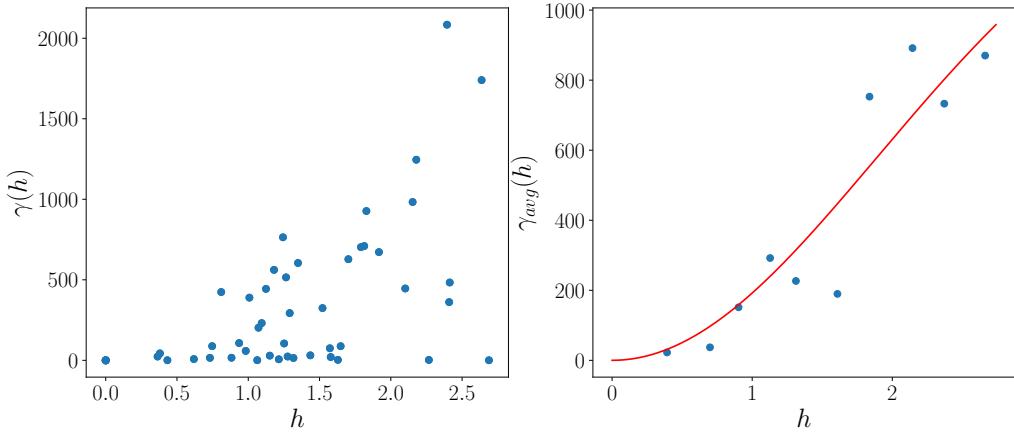


Figure 5.12: Left: Semivariogram versus the Euclidian distance computed for each data point against all the other. Right: The blue dots represent the same semivariogram on the left but averaged over a step of distance equal to 0.25. The red line correspond to the semivariogram computed using the relation (5.17) with the covariance model *power exponential* with parameters  $\nu = 2$ ,  $\theta = 1.895$  and  $\sigma = 38.44$ .

- that the scale parameter  $\theta$  highly changes the presence of spurious minima and maxima in the metamodel. The others parameters  $\nu$ ,  $\sigma$  and  $\eta$  control the gradient and the exactness of the model around the data points.

Some examples of the response surface built with the above parameters are presented in the next section, along with the actual implementation.

### Implementation example

An example of the implementation of Kriging algorithm is presented in the following. To build the model we use the open source library openTURNS (Baudin et al. [13]) using its Python application programming interface<sup>7</sup>. This interface has been chosen because it is very expressive even to non programmers. The code is shown in the listing below where each line is commented and is self explanatory. From line 1 through 22 the experiment database is created, in line 24 the trend function model is set constant but line 26 and 28 show how to set linear and quadratic least square trends. The covariance model is set in line 31, and from line 35 to 42 the algorithm metamodel tree is built and executed. At the end is possible to get a callable function on the desired new point, line 44-47.

---

```

1 import numpy as np # import the generic vector library
2 import openturns as ot # import the openTURNS library

```

---

<sup>7</sup>although the crunching number computation is performed under the hood with C++

```

3
4      # define the k input variables as a n dimensional array
5      x1 = np.array([14.04, 14.33, 15.39, 13.76, 14.59,
6                           13.48, 15.86, 15.61, 13.29, 14.81])
7      x2 = np.array([18.76, 18.54, 17.05, 17.54, 17.84,
8                           17.21, 17.61, 18.85, 18.20, 18.15])
9
10     # transform the inputs as a n by k array
11     x = np.column_stack((x1, x2))
12
13     # define the outputs as a n by 1 array
14     y = np.array([[10],[2],[4],[-2],[9],[3],[0], [-1]])
15
16     # transform the array in OT samples
17     X = ot.Sample(x)
18     Y = ot.Sample(y)
19
20     # explicit define the number of input i.e the k number
21     dimension = len(x[0])
22
23     # define the constant trend function
24     basis = ot.ConstantBasisFactory(dimension).build()
25     # or the linear trend
26     # basis = ot.LinearBasisFactory(dimension).build()
27     # or the quadratic trend
28     # basis = ot.QuadraticBasisFactory(dimension).build()
29
30     # select the covariance model squared exponential (sigma, theta)
31     covarianceModel = ot.SquaredExponential([38.44], [1.895])
32     # or define the Matern model
33     # covarianceModel = ot.MaternModel()
34
35     algo = ot.KrigingAlgorithm(X, Y, covarianceModel, basis) # build the metamodel
36
37     # eta = 0.2
38     # algo.setNoise([eta]*len(y)) # set the optional nugget
39
40     algo.run() # run the metamodel tree computation
41     result = algo.getResult() # return a container for the results
42     metamodel = result.getMetaModel() # get a callable function
43

```

```
44      # set the new point to compute
45      chi = np.array([13, 17])
46      # get the metamodel prediction for the point chi
47      y_chi = np.array(metamodel(chi))
```

---

It is possible to pass directly a vector of new points to the function `metamodel` in line 44. Figures 5.13, 5.14 and 5.15 show some metamodel surfaces with different parameters setup.

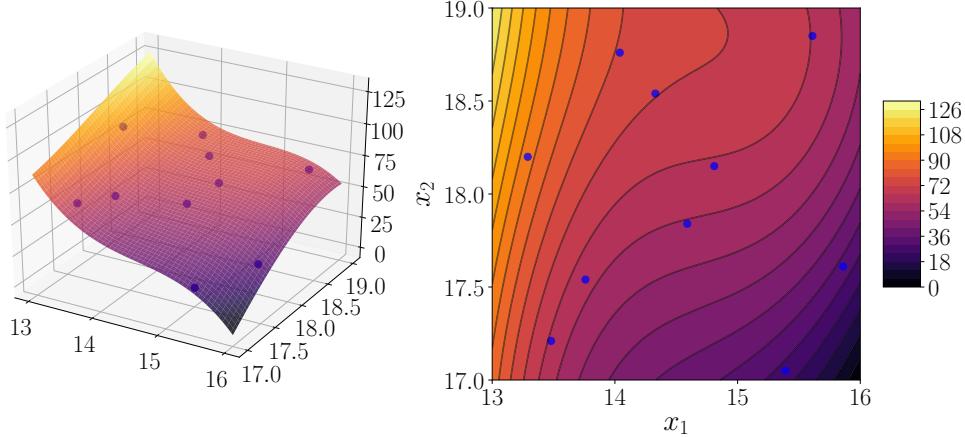


Figure 5.13: Kriging metamodel surface for using a constant trend function and the *power exponential* covariance model with parameters  $\nu = 2$ ,  $\theta = 1.895$  and  $\sigma = 38.44$

It is possible to see that changing the parameters of the Kriging metamodel can change the shape of the response function, and some very bad choice of the parameters can lead to very exotic shapes like in figure 5.15. In any case it is possible to test the robustness of an certain setup using an error estimate like the one proposed in chapter 4. In practical applications the choice of the optimal parameters is usually left to the experience of the user.

### Final remarks

Further detail on either theoretical and computational aspects can be found in Cavazzuti [38], Adams et al. [2], Sacks et al. [136] and Baudin et al. [13]. The above code snippet is public, in the GitHub repository of the author at the address: [https://github.com/appanacca/kriging\\_book.git](https://github.com/appanacca/kriging_book.git). The OpenTRUNS library implementation is available at the previous repository link. In addition an equivalent ordinary Kriging implementation, starting from scratch, can be downloaded. More generally whenever a reduced order model has to be build with a not extremely large amount of data the Kriging metamodeling should be a solution to investigate seriously.

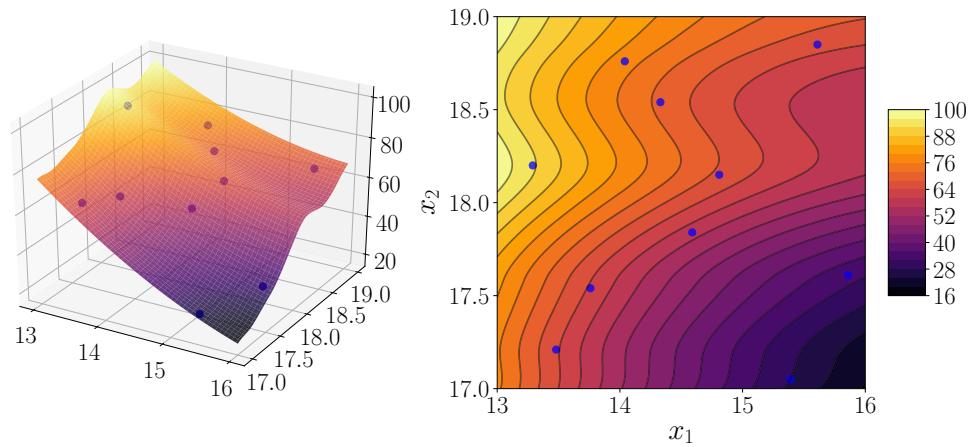


Figure 5.14: Kriging metamodel surface for using a quadratic trend function and the *Matern* covariance model with parameters  $\nu = 1.5$ ,  $\theta = 10$  and  $\sigma = 1$

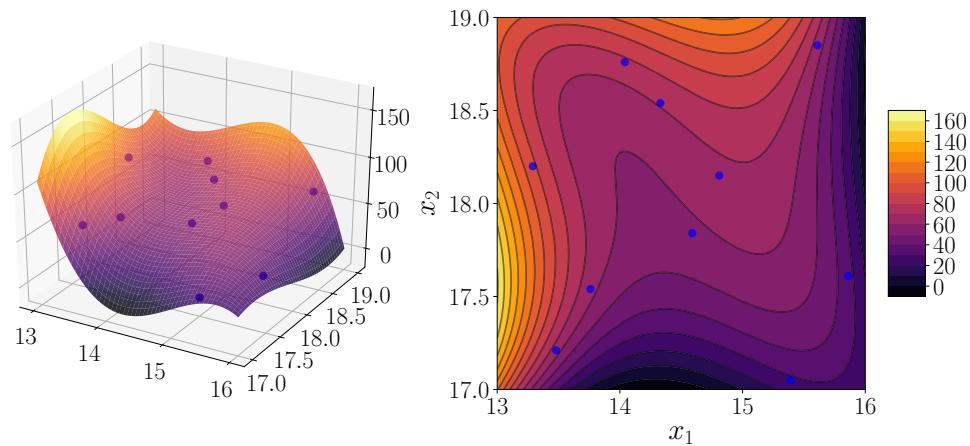


Figure 5.15: Kriging metamodel surface for using a linear trend function and the *power exponential* covariance model with parameters  $\nu = 2$ ,  $\theta = 0.8$  and  $\sigma = 10$

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