

OIST SEMINAR

Date:March 17th, 2016 (Thu)Time:2:00 pm - 3:00 pmVenue:C209 seminar roomSpeaker:Professor Michael Schultz

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Quantifying Roughness Effects on Frictional Drag



Abstract

This talk reviews our experimental research in rough-wall-bounded turbulent flows that has spanned the past 15 years. The results show that, in general, roughness effects are confined to the inner layer. In accordance with Townsend's Reynolds number similarity hypothesis, the outer layer is insensitive to surface condition except in the role it plays in setting the length and velocity scales for the outer flow. The concept of similarity between smooth- and rough-wall flows is of great practical importance as most computational and analytical modeling tools rely on it either explicitly or implicitly in predicting flows over rough walls. Because of the observed similarity, the roughness function (ΔU^*), or shift in the log layer, is a useful way of characterizing the roughness effect on the mean flow and the frictional drag. In the fully rough regime, it is shown that the hydraulic roughness length scale is related to the root-mean-square height (k_{rms}) and skewness (*sk*) of the surface elevation probability density function. Roughness function behavior in the transitionally rough regime varies significantly between roughness types. Since no "universal" roughness function exists, no single roughness with a systematic variation in texture is ongoing in an effort to uncover surface parameters that lead to the variation in the frictional drag behavior witnessed in the transitionally rough regime. Recent results for ship hull roughness and marine fouling will also be discussed in this regard.

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