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Presentation · May 2019

DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.25742.72007

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Fully resolved simulation of char particle combustion by IB-LBM

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Guilin, MAY 28, 2019





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1. Motivation

- Low carbon footprint technologies: Oxy-fuel combustion, Pressurized oxy-fuel combustion, chemical looping combustion.....
- Char combustion: core of coal combustion

Char combustion time: $t_{cc}=3\sim5$ s Volatile combustion time: $t_{vc}=0.01\sim0.1$ s

- Conventional simulation: 1-D model, particle point (PP) model
 - → large error
- FR-DNS: most accurate than 1-D model, build new closure laws for PP model



Coal combustion process



Most FR-DNS works based on incompressibility hypothesis or non-reactive flows

2 Numerical method

2.1 Assumptions and simplifications

- Burning process is quasi-steady,
- Particle porosity inside particle is neglected,
- Particle consists of carbon only,
- Gaseous environment only consists of N₂, O₂, CO, CO₂,
- Temperature gradient within particle is neglected,
- Water vapor is taken into account by having an effect on the CO oxidation reaction,
- Gas radiation is not taken into account

Chemical reactions only happen at or outside solid-gas interface

Makino, A, Toshikazu N, Katsuya K. Combustion rates of graphite rods in the forward stagnation field with high-temperature airflow. *Combustion and flame* 2003, 132(4): 743-753.

Luo K, Mao C, Fan J, et al. Fully resolved simulations of single char particle combustion using a ghost-cell immersed boundary method[J]. *AIChE Journal*, 2018, 64(7): 2851-2863.



2.2 CMDF-LBM for low-Mach reactive flows

- Heat produce/consumption
- Mass produce/consumption
- *dT* and dY is large around particle surface

Significant

density fluctuations (ρ_{max} - ρ_{min})/ ρ_{ave} > 50%

Conventional LBM model (Qian, He-Luo...) by incompressible hypothesis is improper $(\rho_{max}-\rho_{min})/\rho_{ave}<5\%$

 $\rho = P/c_s$

Reaction

• Most industrial flows occur at **low Mach number**: $Ma = \frac{u}{c_s} \ll 1$ Non-linear $Ma = \frac{u}{c_s} \ll 1$ Weakly compressible control equations $\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \rho u = 0$ Non-linear $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{\mu} \cdot \nabla u = -\nabla P + \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \nabla^2 u + f$ $\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + u \cdot \nabla T = \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \nabla^2 T + h$ $\frac{\partial Y_i}{\partial t} + u \cdot \nabla Y = \frac{1}{\text{Re}} S_c \nabla^2 Y_i + \omega_i$ $P = \rho RT$

2.2 CMDF-LBM for low-Mach reactive flows

- Coupled Multi distribution function (CMDF) method
- By Chapman-Enskog procedure, weakly compressible control equations can be derived from the followed evolving equations.

Fluid flow

$$f_{i}(\vec{x} + \vec{c}_{i}\Delta t, t + \Delta t) = f_{i}(\vec{x}, t) - \frac{1}{\tau_{u}}[f_{i}(\vec{x}, t) - f_{i}^{(eq)}(\vec{x}, t)] + \Delta tF_{i}(\vec{x}, t)$$

$$f_{i}^{(eq)} = \chi_{i} + \rho \omega_{i} \left(\frac{(\vec{c}_{i} \cdot u)}{c_{s}^{2}} + \frac{(\vec{c}_{i} \cdot u)^{2}}{2c_{s}^{4}} - \frac{|u|^{2}}{2c_{s}^{2}} \right)$$

$$\chi_{i} = \omega_{i}p/c_{s}^{2} \quad (i \neq 0)$$

$$\rho = \frac{p_{0}\overline{W}}{R_{g}T} \implies \rho = \rho_{0} \frac{T_{0}C_{0}}{TC_{mit}} = \rho_{0} \frac{T_{0}\sum Y_{i}/W_{i}}{T\sum Y_{i}/W_{i}}$$

$$Heat and mass transfer$$

$$f_{s,i}(\vec{x} + \vec{c}_{i}\Delta t, t + \Delta t) = g_{s,i}(\vec{x}, t) - \frac{1}{\tau_{T}}[g_{s,i}(\vec{x}, t) - g_{s,i}^{(eq)}(\vec{x}, t)] + \Delta tQ_{s,i}(\vec{x}, t) \quad (s = T, Y_{k})$$

$$g_{i}^{(eq)} = T\omega_{i} \left(1 + \frac{(\vec{c}_{i} \cdot u)}{c_{s}^{2}} + \frac{(\vec{c}_{i} \cdot u)^{2}}{2c_{s}^{4}} - \frac{|u|^{2}}{2c_{s}^{2}}\right)$$
Reaction source
$$T = \sum_{i} g_{T,i}$$

$$Y_{k} = \sum_{i} Y_{k,i}$$

$$Q_{i} = \omega_{i}(q_{r} + q_{iB})$$

2.3 BTDF-IBM for reactive gas-solid interaction

Boundary-Thickening based Direct forcing-immersed boundary method



(Jiang&Liu, J. Comput. Phys., 2019)

2.4 Major reactions of carbon combustion

Heterogeneous reactions

- $2C+O_2 \rightarrow 2CO$ (R1)
- $C+CO_2 \rightarrow 2CO$ (R2)

Surface mass produce and consumption



Homogeneous reaction

$$CO+0.5O_2 \rightarrow 2CO_2 \quad (R3)$$

Source term
$$q_{Y,i} = \frac{1}{\rho} R_3 M_i \qquad (1/s)$$
$$q_T = \frac{1}{\rho c_n} R_3 \Delta h_3 \qquad (K/s)$$

Reaction	Reaction rate		Arrhenius formula	Reaction heat Δh, (KJ/mol)
R_1	<i>K</i> ₁ [O2]	mol/(m ² .s)	K ₁ =1.97x10 ⁷ e ^(-23815/T)	221
R_2	<i>K</i> ₂ [CO2]	mol/(m ³ .s)	K ₂ =1.291x10 ⁵ e ^(-22976/T)	-173
R_3	K ₃ [CO] [O2] ^{0.5}	mol/(m ³ .s)	K ₂ =1.3x10 ⁸ e ^(-15094/T)	283

Summary of the present IB-LBM method



Density is updated from the equation of state:

$\rho = \frac{p_0 \overline{W}}{RT} = \frac{\rho_0 T_0 \sum Y_{0,i} / W_i}{T \sum Y_i / W_i}$

Present IB-LBM method are fully coupled for gas-solid combustion.

2.5 Computation Setup

• Hot air flow past an reactive char particle with constant surface temperature.



Makino, A, Toshikazu N, Katsuya K. Combustion rates of graphite rods in the forward stagnation field with high-temperature airflow. *Combustion and flame* 2003, 132(4): 743-753.





Conventional

Present(improved)

Flow past single cylinder (Re=40)

References	Re = 1	Re = 40		Re = 200		
	CD	CD	Lw	CD	CL	St
Tritton [55]	10.92	1.62	-	-	-	-
Choi et al. [56]	-	1.52	2.25	1.36 ± 0.048	± 0.64	0.191
Le et al. [57]	-	1.58	2.59	1.38 ± 0.040	± 0.676	0.192
Park et al. [31]	12.00	1.54	-	1.35 ± 0.04	± 0.65	0.192
Kang & Hassan [16]	-	1.597	2.525	-	-	-
Wu & Shu [20]	-	1.565	2.31	1.349	-	0.193
DF	11.266	1.556	2.42	1.39 ± 0.047	± 0.720	0.198
IVC	11.278	1.551	2.40	1.360 ± 0.044	± 0.670	0.192
RKPM	11.277	1.551	2.40	1.364 ± 0.042	± 0.699	0.195
MDF ($NF = 20$)	11.279	1.551	2.40	1.364 ± 0.042	± 0.699	0.193
Present BTDF	11.277	1.551	2.40	1.364 ± 0.042	± 0.699	0.195

Note: C_D and C_L for Re = 200 are defined as $a \pm b$ with a mean value of a and a maximum deviation of b.

Non-slip boundary condition is satisfied.



DKT of two particles sedimentation



Rayleigh-Taylor instability of 504 particles

• Validation of char particle combustion



Simulation results agree well with previous experiments and simulations.

- Variables around burning particle surface
- > Large density fluctuations exist ($(\rho/\rho_0)_{max}$ > 0.65) around particle surface due to non-uniform distribution of species concentration and temperature.
- > High particle surface temperature T_s causes high density fluctuations ρ/ρ_0 .



Large density gradient and fluctuations can be simulated.

• Distributions of variables along particle surface



Distributions of reaction rates around particle surface



Distributions of mass fractions around particle surface

• Distributions of variables along particle centerline



The actual distributions of species concentrations are much more complex than that obtained by conventional single film model (SFM) or double film model (DFM).

• Drag force first increase and then decrease



4. Conclusions

- A new fully coupled IB-LBM method for gas-solid combustion has been presented.
- Three flame modes and large density fluctuations are simulated successfully.
- Char combustion is dominated by oxidation reaction to reduction reaction as particle temperature increases.
- Spatial distributions of species concentrations are much more complex than traditional single film model (SFM) and double film model (DFM).
- Drag force first increases and then decrease as the CO flame gradually detached.
- Future work: different inlet velocity, different inlet oxygen concentration, moving particle.....

Thanks !

