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Approximate simulation of storm water runoff over pervious pavement

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ABSTRACT

The approximate simulation of storm water run-off over pervious pavement is carried out using both experimental method and numerical simulation. The slope and flow rate changeable flume and uniform porous media are used to approximately simulate the pervious pavement. A 3D computational fluid dynamics – discrete element method is used for numerical simulation of interaction between pervious pavement and fluid. The effects of variation of parameters, including inflow rate, infiltration outflow rate and slope on surface run-off are analysed. The average flow velocity within the surface run-off region and shear velocity increases with the increasing permeability of pervious pavement. The turbulent kinetic energy distribution along depth in the free-flow region is more uniform than empirical relationship for flow over impermeable surfaces. Equations for flow depth and velocity over pervious pavement have been deduced. The results of this study are helpful for the hydraulic design of pervious concrete pavement.

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Pervious pavement; storm water run-off; turbulent flow; approximate simulation; numerical simulation

1. Introduction

Pervious pavement also referred to as porous pavement, including pervious concrete pavement and OGFC (open graded friction course) pavement, has a large number of connected pores within the aggregate skeleton. The permeability is typically between 2 and 6 mm/s but can be as high as 10 mm/s (Tennis *et al.* [2004,](#page-13-0) Montes *et al*. [2005](#page-12-0)). The primary benefit offered by pervious pavement is the ability to transport large volumes of water through the material structure, thus reducing or eliminating problems associated with storm water run-off (Pratt *et al*. [1989, 1995,](#page-12-1) Newman *et al*. [2004,](#page-12-2) Collins *et al*. [2008](#page-12-3)). Other environmental benefits of pervious concrete pavement include the abilities to reduce tire–pavement interaction noise, and to limit the amount of organic and inorganic pollutants entering the groundwater (Kajio *et al*. [1998](#page-12-4), Pratt *et al*. [2002](#page-12-5), Neithalath [2004,](#page-12-6) Mulligan [2005](#page-12-7), Coupe and Nnadi [2007,](#page-12-8) Nnadi *et al*. [2014b](#page-12-9), [2015\)](#page-12-10).

The design of a pervious pavement must consider many factors. The stress response, permeability, mix design and conservation methods of pervious concrete have been systematically studied. Alam *et al*. [\(2012,](#page-12-11) [2013\)](#page-12-12) proposed a finite element model to simulate the stress and deformation behaviour of pervious concrete. Luck *et al*. ([2006](#page-12-13)) showed the good draining capability of pervious concrete. Based on the Carman–Kozeny equation, Montes and Haselbach [\(2006](#page-12-14)) established a quantitative relationship between porosity and hydraulic conductivity of pervious concrete. Schluter and Jefferies ([2002\)](#page-13-1) studied the 20-month-old porous pavement in Edinburgh, and the result showed that porous pavement performed excellent outflow behaviour. Several researchers have used different methods of measuring the permeability of pervious pavement in the lab and field, (Cooley and Brown [2000,](#page-12-15) Maupin [2000](#page-12-16), [2001,](#page-12-17) Prowell and Dudley [2002,](#page-13-2) Haselbach *et al*. [2006](#page-12-18), Williams [2007](#page-13-3), Kayhanian *et al*. [2012](#page-12-19)); majority of the field permeability measurements were performed using National Center for Asphalt Technology permeameter.

Experiments pointed out that the magnitude of storm water run-off has been greatly increased over impervious surfaces (Arnold and Gibbons [1996](#page-12-20)), and porous pavements can effectively reduce the run-off volumes (Rushton and Bahk [2001\)](#page-13-4). Leming *et al*. [\(2007](#page-12-21)) provides an overview of hydrologic design techniques to limit the total surface run-off with the benefits of storage capacity of pervious concrete pavement system during the storm. Various parameters used in hydrologic models must be estimated based on experience assumptions, while the assumptions get uncertainty and variability involved.

A limited number of studies related to the hydraulic phenomenon of storm water run-off over pervious pavement have been reported. Illgen *et al*. [\(2007](#page-12-22)) represented a broad database and developed an approach for modelling run-off and infiltration processes of permeable pavements. Nnadi *et al.* [\(2014a\)](#page-12-23) proposed an enhanced geotextile layer in permeable pavement to improve storm water infiltration. Sañudo-Fontaneda *et al*. [\(2014](#page-13-5)) analysed the infiltration performance of polymer-modified pervious surfaces and also quantified the infiltration capacity reduction due to clogging. However, additional research is needed on the effect of a permeable pavement on the turbulent run-off, the flow characteristics near the interface and the momentum transfer across the interface. Because these effects influence the depth and velocity of surface run-off, which will further influence sediment load carried by run-off.

Figure 1. Sketch of storm water run-off over pervious pavement.

In this article, the storm water run-off over pervious pavement is approximately simulated (Figure [1\)](#page-2-1). The effects of variation of parameters, including inflow rate, infiltration outflow rate and slope on surface run-off, are analysed using both experimental and numerical methods. The flume which can change slope and flow rate and uniform porous media are used to approximately simulate the pervious pavement. With this approximate experimental method, the parameters can be well controlled in a particular case study, and uncertainties which influence the results can be avoided. At the same time, numerical fluid–solid interaction method (ITASCA [2008](#page-12-24)) was used to obtain the flow velocity field inside the pervious pavement and mutually verify with the experimental velocity field in the free surface flow. The turbulent kinetic energy transfer across the interface is also quantitatively analysed by experiments and numerical simulation. The aim of this study was to provide a detailed view of how the storm water will actually be conveyed over pervious pavement, and to deduce equations for flow depth and velocity over pervious pavement, therefore the research results can promote the hydraulic design of pervious pavement.

2. Experimental set-up and procedure

2.1. Flume and porous pavement

A laboratory experiment was carried out in a circulating flume of 200 cm long, 3 cm wide and 8.5 cm deep. The flume is made up by Plexiglas entirely, which can provide a good view from both sides. It is based on a smooth marble surface and supported by an adjustable steel structure which gives the ability to change the slope with an electric motor. Water is pumped into a constant level tank, and then goes to the entrance of the flume. There are device sites at the entrance portion of the flume intend to reduce turbulences, bubbles, etc. because of the sudden change of section. This device is made up by an array of straws with a diameter of 5 mm and a length of 10 cm. A schematic diagram of the experiment system used in this study is shown in Figure [2.](#page-2-0)

The approximate model of the pervious concrete pavement system is installed at 100 cm from flume upstream end. Its structure is shown in Figure [3.](#page-3-0) A model porous pavement is made up by the aggregates of magnetic stainless steel balls. There are several advantages of this kind of balls, such as, they could be used to compose the porous media with different porosity without any

Figure 2. Experiment system scheme (**Q**: total flow rate, \mathbf{Q}_i : water flowing through the sample and \mathbf{Q}_i : water flowing over the sample).

Figure 3. Approximate model of the pervious concrete pavement system.

glue, so they could be disassembled and reused, the precision of diameter is very good and the magnetic force between the balls is big enough to protect the structure of porous media counter the flow. Spherical particles of equal size theoretically may be packed in five different ways (White and Walton, [1937](#page-13-6)). In our study, a cubic pack (with porosity of 47.64%) with 2010 pieces of 3-mm magnetic stainless steel balls is employed, and the size of porous pavement is 201 mm \times 30 mm \times 9 mm. The appearance of this thin porous medium can simulate the interface of fluid flow and upper part of pervious concrete pavement with a large number of pores, where the coupled phenomenon can take place such as turbulent kinetic energy penetrates from the surface flow to the upper part of pervious pavement. Under the porous pavement is a permeable layer in synthetic felt. The third layer is a plastic board with holes. There are pillars to support all these layers, and at the end of the void layer, a pipe is used to drain the infiltrated water outside of the flume. Outside of the study zone, plastic boards with a single layer of magnetic balls spread on it are used to level up the bottom of the flume to the same level of the porous pavement.

As one can see from Figure [3](#page-3-0), this experimental set-up is an approximate simulation of a tiny part taken from the real storm water run-off over pervious pavement (as shown in Figure [1\)](#page-2-1), although some details are idealised and the influence of precipitation on this tiny surface are also ignored. The purpose of employing this approximate model of the pervious pavement instead using a real pervious concrete block is to avoid the randomness of complex pore structure of pervious concrete specimens. Even specimens with the same porosity, the inside pore networks and surface characteristics could be randomly different, also in reality, there are a few unconnected pores in the specimen (Alam and Haselbach [2014](#page-12-25)). All these uncertainties can have important influences on the results.

To control the total flow rate in the flume and the infiltration flow rate through the porous pavement, an electronic balance and a tank were placed at the end of the flume. The water will be received entirely by this tank during the measurement and the electronic balance placed under this tank connected with computer can give a mass change record of the tank every second, so the volume flow rate *Q* in unit of l/min is then calculated. The repeatability of the electronic balance is 0.01 g. The high precision is the primary advantage of this measure method.

2.2. Measure of the flow velocity field by a particle image velocimetry (PIV) system

After the flow in the model became steady and established, a PIV system made by Dantec dynamics was used to measure the instantaneous two-dimensional velocity fields. A PIV system typically consists of a laser with sheet optics, one digital camera, and a computer with a timer unit to control the system and store the data. An acquisition corresponding to 100 double-frame images is employed, the interval time between every capture is 1000 μs and the time between the two frames of a double-frame is 500 μs. The size of the particles is about 50 μm.

An example of a double-frame image for PIV computation (flow condition: inflow rate $Q = 6$ l/min and slope $S_o = 0.0105$) is given in Figure [4](#page-3-1).

*2.3***.** *Experimental procedure*

- (1) The slope of flume is adjusted by a motor.
- (2) Turn on the pump and fill constant level tank with water, use the regulation valve and electronic balance to adjust the inflow rate and the infiltration outflow rate.
- (3) After the flow is steady, the flow velocity field is measured with a PIV system.
- (4) Change the parameters, such as slope, inflow rate, and infiltration outflow rate, etc. and repeat the steps (1) – (3) .

2.4. Test cases

Three parameters have been studied in this work: slope, inflow rate and infiltration outflow rate. Totally, 28 cases were studied by both experiments and numerical simulations. The porosity of the porous pavement remains fixed to the value of 0.476 for all cases.

- (1) A range of four slopes (S_0) were chosen for testing and they were: 0.0035, 0.0105, 0.0175 and 0.0244.
- (2) Four inflow rates (*Q*) were chosen for testing: 3.20, 4.50, 6.00 and 6.80 l/min. They can create velocities between 0.2 and 0.5 m/s, and the storm water run-off velocity usually lies within the range.
- (3) Four infiltration outflow rate (Q_1) were chosen for testing: 0, 5, 6.7 and 10% of the inflow rate (*Q*). As Darcy's law indicated, the change of infiltration outflow rate using valve is equivalent to the change of permeability of pervious pavement. The permeability between 0.0004 and 0.002 m/s can be obtained with the chosen values, and permeability of pervious concrete pavement typically lies within the range.

3. Numerical simulation

The computational fluid dynamics (CFD)–discrete element method (DEM) is used to obtain the flow velocity field inside the pervious pavement and mutually verify with the experimental velocity field in the free surface flow for each case.

In the CFD–DEM model (ITASCA [2008\)](#page-12-24), the flow in the whole flow region is calculated from the continuity and the Navier-Stokes equations with a porosity term and an additional body force term to account for the presence of particles in the fluid, which are given by

$$
\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\Phi \vec{u}) = 0 \tag{1}
$$

$$
\frac{\partial(\rho\Phi\vec{u})}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho\Phi\vec{u}\vec{u}) = -\nabla p + \mu \nabla^2(\Phi\vec{u}) - \vec{f}_b + \rho \Phi\vec{g}
$$
\n(2)

where ρ is the density of the fluid, Φ is porosity, \vec{u} is the fluid velocity, *p* is the fluid pressure, μ is the dynamic viscosity of the fluid, \vec{f}_b is the body force per unit volume, $\vec{f}_b = \sum_{i=1}^{n_v} \vec{f}_{fluid,i}$ where $\vec{f}_{fluid,i}$ is the total force applied by the fluid on the particle i , n_{ν} is the number of particles per unit volume and \vec{g} is the gravitational acceleration. The porosity and body force in these fluid elements are determined by the DEM.

The equations of motion for particles with an additional force term to account for interaction with the fluid are expressed as:

$$
m\frac{\partial \vec{u}_p}{\partial t} = \vec{f}_{\text{mech},i} + \vec{f}_{\text{fluid},i} + m\vec{g}
$$
 (3)

$$
\frac{\partial \vec{\omega}}{\partial t} = \frac{\vec{M}}{I} \tag{4}
$$

where \vec{u}_p is the particle velocity, *m* is the particle mass, $\vec{f}_{\text{mech},i}$ is the sum of additional forces acting on the particle, \vec{g} is the gravitational acceleration, $\vec{\omega}$ is the particle angular velocity, *I* is the moment of inertia and \vec{M} is the moment acting on the particle. $\vec{f}_{\text{fluid},p}$ the total force applied by the fluid on the particle *i* is

made up of two parts: the drag force and a force due to the fluid pressure gradient, other particle-fluid forces, such as lift force can be ignored in this study:

$$
\vec{f}_{\text{fluid},i} = \vec{f}_{\text{drag},i} + \frac{3}{4}\pi r^3 \nabla p \tag{5}
$$

$$
\vec{f}_{\text{drag},i} = \left(0.63 + \frac{4.8}{\sqrt{Re_{p,i}}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\rho \pi r_i^2 |\vec{u} - \vec{u}_{p,i}| \left(\vec{u} - \vec{u}_{p,i}\right)\right) \Phi^{-\chi}
$$
(6)

where Φ[−]*^χ* term is an empirical factor to account for the local porosity. This correction term makes the force applicable to both fixed and fluidised porosity systems and for a large range of Reynolds numbers (Di Felice [1994](#page-12-26), Xu and Yu [1997\)](#page-13-7).

The particle Reynolds number, *Re p* is:

$$
Re_{p,i} = \frac{d_{s,i}\rho|\vec{u} - \vec{u}_{p,i}|}{\mu}
$$
 (7)

The empirical coefficient *χ* is defined as:

$$
\chi = 3.7 - 0.65 \exp\left[-\frac{(1.5 - \log_{10} Re_{p,i})^2}{2}\right]
$$
 (8)

DEM and CFD coupling is numerically achieved as follows: Equations [\(1\)](#page-4-0) and [\(2](#page-4-1)) are solved with the CFD code (i.e. CCFD), and Equations [\(3](#page-4-2)) and [\(4\)](#page-4-3) are solved with the DEM code (i.e. PFC3D). The porosity and the body force are determined in DEM and divided by volume in CFD. The fluid velocity and fluid pressure in every element are determined by CFD and send to DEM in each coupling data exchange. The volume of fluid method is used for tracking the position of the free surface.

Figure [5](#page-5-0) shows the computational domain investigated here. The rectangular flume is partially filled with a layer of a porous pavement. A free surface flow passes longitudinally from left to right.

The computational domain has dimensions equal to 0.30 m (length) \times 0.025 m (height) \times 0.03 m (width), and the solution is based on a hexahedral mesh with mesh size of 1 mm \times 0.5 mm \times 1 mm. Fixed solid particles with a diameter of 3 mm are used as aggregates to assemble the pervious pavement. The thickness of the pervious pavement is 9 mm. The inlet flow depth is 8 mm. The computational time-step for CFD is chosen as 2.5×10^{-4} s, and the time-step for DEM is 5.0×10^{-5} s.

Figure 5. Sketch of computational domain with boundary conditions in a 2D view.

4. Results and discussion

4.1. Flow regimes

The flow of water is described by several complementary characterisations: steady and unsteady, uniform and non-uniform, laminar and turbulent, and supercritical and subcritical. Figure [6](#page-6-0) shows the Reynolds number (*Re*) and Froude number (*Fr*) of the run-offs, these values are taken after the flow is steady. Because the maximum downward infiltration velocity is less than 1% of the mean run-off flow velocity, so the flow can be considered as uniform flow. *Fr* is between 0.9 and 1.6, while *Re* is between 4000 and 9000. Therefore, the run-offs are nearcritical (i.e. $0.7 < Fr < 1.5$) or supercritical turbulent flows, i.e. the inertial force is dominant comparing with gravity force and viscous force in these surface run-offs.

4.2. Velocity distributions above and within the porous pavement

4.2.1. Influence of slope

Figure [7](#page-7-0) presents the corresponding variation of the computed and measured velocity profiles for different slopes, in different infiltration conditions. There are small differences in velocities between computed and measured data, but that is in the range of tolerance. Evidently, the greater slope causes a higher flow velocity around the fluid/pavement interface and within fluid region, and the increases of infiltration outflow also cause relative higher flow velocity.

Measurements of the velocity within the pervious pavement cannot be easily performed by experiments, but the numerical simulation has the advantage that the velocity inside the porous medium could be known as well. Results show that the velocity profiles of different cases become separated from 1.5 mm (radius of aggregate) beneath the pervious pavement surface; this is because the pore size becomes larger from that position. In the deeper part of the pervious pavement, the seepage flow velocity is negligible compared with surface flow.

From Figure [7](#page-7-0), the variation of flow depth with different slopes and infiltration outflow rates can also be found. As expected, both experimental and simulation flow depth lowered with higher slope. With the same slope flow depth slightly decreases when the infiltration outflow rate *Q*¹ increases.

So during pervious pavement design, the flatter slope $(S_{\circ} \leq 0.0175)$ should be used, which can effectively reduce the storm water run-off velocity. Smaller surface layer porosity of pervious pavement is also useful to reduce run-off velocity.

4.2.2. Influence of flow rate

Figure [8](#page-8-0) shows the corresponding variation of velocity profiles for different flow rates. Either experimental or simulation velocities significantly augment with higher inlet flow rates. The variation tendency of flow depth with different inflow rates can also be found from these figures, depth goes up when inflow rate increases.

4.3. Shear velocity

The shear velocity is used to measure shear stress and velocity gradient near the boundary, a large shear velocity U_* implies large shear stress and large velocity gradient, and hence larger shear velocity will increase sediment load carried by the run-off.

Generally, there are four methods to estimate the shear velocity: Reynolds stress, logarithmic law, parabolic law and a global approach.

The simplest one, derived for steady uniform flow in wide channels, estimates U_* as:

$$
U_* = \sqrt{g \frac{D_H}{4} S_o} \tag{9}
$$

where *g* is the gravitational acceleration, D_H is the hydraulic diameter and *S_o* is the slope of the channel bed (for uniform flow the slope of the channel bed, the friction slope and the water-surface slope are all equal). In the case of steady nonuniform flow, the energy slope replaces S_o . In this study, the infiltration outflow rate would influence the energy slope. So accurate estimation of U_* by this method is difficult, therefore, *U_{*}* must be estimated with other methods.

The logarithmic law method is based on the velocity distribution in the region within $y/d < 0.6$ (where *y* is the distance to the bottom and *d* is the flow depth), can be described by the logarithmic law:

$$
\frac{u}{U_*} = \frac{1}{\kappa} \ln \left(\frac{y}{k_s} \right) + C \tag{10}
$$

where κ is the von Karman constant (equal to 0.41) and C is a constant. Einstein and El-Samni ([1949](#page-12-27)) proposed a modified logarithmic law for the flow over a surface with large roughness:

$$
\frac{u}{U_*} = \frac{1}{\kappa} \ln \left(\frac{y + y_0}{k_s} \right) + C \tag{11}
$$

where y_0 is the distance of the theoretical wall below the top of the spheres whose diameter is k_s , (Figure [9\)](#page-8-1), they chose a value of $y_0 = 0.2k_s$.

Velocity profiles against ln*y* are plotted in Figures 10–12 to derive shear velocity U_* . In this study, the value of U_* is estimated from the slope of fitted line of velocity profiles to the

Figure 8. Flow velocity profiles above and within the porous region for different inflow rates, with different infiltration rates. (a) Measured data; (b) Simulated data.

Figure 9. The position of y_0 .

logarithmic law proposed by Einstein and El-Samni ([1949](#page-12-27)). As the figures show that the modified logarithmic law proposed by Einstein and El-Samni ([1949](#page-12-27)) is a convenient and accurate method to calculate shear velocity.

As shown in figures, shear velocity increases as inflow rate, slope and infiltration outflow rate increase.

4.4. Turbulent kinetic energy above and within the pervious pavement

The prediction of sediment load transport by storm water run-off depends on the turbulence model used in the bottom boundary layer over the pavement. Elliot and Trowsdale [\(2007](#page-12-30)) compared ten existing storm water models. Kim and Sansalone [\(2008\)](#page-12-31) examined the particle size distributions of solid sediments transported by rainfall run-off, and provided a mass balance analysis to ensure representative event-based results.

The mechanism of turbulence is complicated. In the turbulent bottom boundary layer, the turbulent mixing motion

Figure 10. Velocity profiles against $\ln y$ for different inflow rates (slope $S_{\circ} = 0.0105$, without infiltration outflow). (a) Experimental results; (b) Computed results.

is responsible for an exchange of momentum, and it enhances the transfer of mass. In this article, the turbulent kinetic energy above and within the pervious pavement is studied numerically. Turbulence kinetic energy (*k*) is the mean kinetic energy per unit mass associated with eddies in turbulent flow. It can be quantified by the mean of the turbulence normal stresses.

Figure [13](#page-11-0) presents the effect of slope on the normalised turbulent kinetic energy k^+ ($= k/U_*^2$). Figure [14](#page-12-28) shows the normalised turbulent kinetic energy *k*+ profiles of the fully developed flow for inflow rate *Q* varying from 3.2 to 6.8 l/min, with the infiltration outflow rate Q_i varying from 0 to 10% Q for each inflow rate, and the slope is fixed to 0.0105.

After normalisation, little differences can be found. The value of k^+ increases rapidly in the y direction and reach to the maximum value in the region around the interface of free flow and pervious pavement, and then it decreases slowly in the surface flow region.

It is shown that the k^+ distribution in the free-flow region is more uniform than empirical relationship for flow over impermeable surfaces developed by Nezu and Nakagawa ([1993\)](#page-12-29), *k*+ = 4.78exp(−2*y*/*d*). The empirical relationship for the range of these simulations is $k^+ = 2.97 \exp(-2y/d)$. This is due to the penetration of turbulence to the upper part of pervious pavement in significant levels. Therefore, pervious pavement reduces the run-off turbulence in the bottom boundary layer, reduces the skin friction coefficient and hence increases the flow velocity.

Figure 11 Velocity profiles against ln*y* for different slopes (inflow rate *Q* = 6.0 l/min, without infiltration outflow). (a) Experimental results; (b) Computed results.

4.5. Equations for flow depth and velocity

Storm water run-off on pervious concrete pavement surface and in partially infiltrated underground can be described mathematically by equations combining the shallow water equations for the surface flow and the Darcy's law for infiltration flow.

$$
\frac{\partial q}{l} + \frac{\partial d}{t} = I \cos \theta - \frac{q_1}{l}
$$
 (12)

$$
q = \frac{1}{n} S_o^{1/2} d^{5/3}
$$
 (13)

$$
q_1 = kJl \tag{14}
$$

where *q* is the flow rate per unit width; *l* is the length of pervious pavement; *t* is time; *I* is the rainfall intensity; *θ* is the angle between the pervious pavement and the horizontal; q_1 is the infiltration flow rate per unit width; *n* is the Manning coefficient; *k* is the permeability of pervious pavement; *J* is the hydraulic gradient. The first equation is the equation of continuity, the second the momentum equation and the third the Darcy's law.

The change of flow depth and velocity of surface run-off during a storm event is the most important parameter

concerned by pervious pavement designers and operators. Therefore, Equations (12) – (14) can be rewritten as follows:

$$
d_1 = [nS_o^{-1/2}(q_0 - kl)]^{3/5}
$$
 (15)

$$
u_1 = n^{-3/5} S_o^{3/10} (q_0 - kl)^{2/5}
$$
 (16)

where d_1 and u_1 are the downstream flow depth and velocity of surface run-off flow over a pervious pavement with length of *l*, slope of S _o, Manning coefficient *n* and permeability of k ; q_0 is the inflow rate per unit width of upstream boundary. With Equations ([15](#page-9-0)) and [\(16](#page-9-1)), the change of depth and velocity over pervious pavement can be calculated conveniently. Note that the calculations are sensitive upon the choice of Manning coefficient, experimental investigations should be performed to estimate for each flow condition. In this study, $0.008 < n < 0.014$. With the estimated Manning coefficient, flow depths and velocities are calculated using Equations [\(15\)](#page-9-0) and [\(16\)](#page-9-1). Figure [15](#page-12-32) shows that the results obtained from equations fit well with measured data.

5. Conclusions

The approximate simulation of storm water run-off over pervious pavement is carried out using both experimental method and numerical simulation. The flume which can change slope and flow rate and uniform porous media is used to approximately simulate the pervious pavement. Meanwhile, a numerical method was conducted using the CFD–DEM two-way coupling method to obtain the flow velocity field inside the pervious pavement. Surface turbulent run-off over pervious pavement has been studied for slope S_0 varied from 0.0035 to 0.0244, inflow rate *Q* varied from 3.2 to 6.8 l/ min and infiltration outflow rate varied from 0 to 10% of the inflow rate. The following conclusions can be derived:

- (1) The flow depth increases with increasing inflow rate and it decreases with increasing slope; simultaneously, the average flow velocity within the free-fluid region increases with increasing slope and inflow rate. The increases of infiltration outflow reduce the flow depth and cause relative higher flow velocity. Thus, the flatter slope can effectively reduce the storm water run-off velocity. Smaller surface layer porosity of pervious pavement is also useful to reduce run-off velocity.
- (2) The shear velocity increases as slope and inflow rate increase.
- (3) The normalised turbulent kinetic energy *k*+ distribution in the surface run-off region is more uniform than empirical relationship for flow over impermeable surfaces. This is due to the penetration of turbulence to the upper part of pervious pavement in significant levels.

The approximate experimental method gives an idea of presenting the hydraulic phenomena taking place around the interface. Additional research based on this approximate simulation would be beneficial in creating an optimal design methodology. Influences of porosity of pervious concrete and higher slopes will be further investigated using pervious concrete specimens.

Figure 12. Velocity profiles against ln *y* for different infiltration outflow rates (inflow rate *Q* = 6.0 l/min, slope *So* = 0.0105). (a) Experimental results; (b) Computed results.

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Figure 13. Variation of k/U above and within pervious road for different slopes. (a) inflow rate $Q = 6$ l/min, no infiltration outflow rate; (b) inflow rate $Q = 6$ l/min, infiltration outflow rate \bm{Q}_1 = 0.3 l/min; (c) inflow rate \bm{Q} = 6 l/min, infiltration outflow rate \bm{Q}_1 = 0.4 l/min; (d) inflow rate \bm{Q} = 6 l/min, infiltration outflow rate \bm{Q}_1 = 0.6 l/min.

Figure 14. Variation of k/U_*^2 above and within pervious road for different inflow rates. (a) no infiltration outflow rate; (b) infiltration outflow rate $\mathbf{Q}_1 = 5\% \mathbf{Q}$; (c) infiltration outflow rate $\mathbf{Q}_{\text{\tiny{l}}}$ = 6.7% \mathbf{Q} ; (d) infiltration outflow rate $\mathbf{Q}_{\text{\tiny{l}}}$ = 10% $\mathbf{Q}.$

Figure 15. Verification of equations for flow depth and velocity. (a) flow depth; (b) flow velocity.

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