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Citation for published version (APA):

Asmolov, E. S., Schmieschek, S. M. P., Harting, J. D. R., & Vinogradova, O. I. (2013). Flow past superhydrophobic surfaces with cosine variation in local slip length. *Physical Review E - Statistical, Nonlinear, and Soft Matter Physics*, 87(2), 023005-1/8. Article 023005. <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevE.87.023005>

DOI:

[10.1103/PhysRevE.87.023005](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevE.87.023005)

Document status and date:

Published: 01/01/2013

Document Version:

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of Record (includes final page, issue and volume numbers)

Please check the document version of this publication:

- A submitted manuscript is the version of the article upon submission and before peer-review. There can be important differences between the submitted version and the official published version of record. People interested in the research are advised to contact the author for the final version of the publication, or visit the DOI to the publisher's website.
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Flow past superhydrophobic surfaces with cosine variation in local slip length

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(Received 8 December 2012; published 13 February 2013)

Anisotropic superhydrophobic surfaces have the potential to greatly reduce drag and enhance mixing phenomena in microfluidic devices. Recent work has focused mostly on cases of superhydrophobic stripes. Here, we analyze a relevant situation of cosine variation of the local slip length. We derive approximate formulas for maximal (longitudinal) and minimal (transverse) directional effective slip lengths that are in good agreement with the exact numerical solution and lattice-Boltzmann simulations. Compared to the case of superhydrophobic stripes, the cosine texture can provide a very large effective slip. However, the difference between eigenvalues of the slip-length tensor is smaller, indicating that the flow is less anisotropic.

DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevE.87.023005](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevE.87.023005)

PACS number(s): 47.61.-k, 47.11.-j, 83.50.Rp

I. INTRODUCTION

Design and fabrication of textured superhydrophobic surfaces have received much attention in recent years. If the recessed regions of the texture are filled with gas (the Cassie state), roughness can produce remarkable liquid mobility, dramatically lowering the ability of drops to stick [1]. These surfaces are known to be self-cleaning and show low adhesive forces. In addition to the self-cleaning effect, they also exhibit drag reduction for fluid flow. Thus, they are of importance in the context of transport phenomena and fluid dynamics as well [2–4]. Many sea animals, e.g., sharks and other fish, are known to possess superhydrophobic skin [5]. Also many artificial textures have been designed to increase drag reduction efficiency [6].

The drag reduction is associated with the liquid slippage past solid surfaces. This slippage occurs at smooth hydrophobic surfaces and can be described by the boundary condition [2,7,8], $u_{\text{slip}} = b \partial u / \partial z$, where u_{slip} is the (tangential) slip velocity at the wall, $\partial u / \partial z$ is the local shear rate, and b is the slip length. A mechanism for hydrophobic slippage involves a lubricating gas layer of thickness δ with viscosity μ_g much smaller than that of the liquid μ [9], so that $b \simeq \delta(\mu/\mu_g - 1) \simeq 50\delta$ [9,10]. However, at smooth flat hydrophobic surfaces δ is small, so that b cannot exceed a few tens of nm [11–14]. In the case of superhydrophobic surfaces the situation can change dramatically, and slip lengths up to tens of μm may be obtained over a thick gas layer stabilized with a rough texture [15,16].

To quantify the flow past heterogeneous surfaces, it is convenient to apply the concept of an effective slip boundary condition at the imaginary smooth homogeneous, but generally anisotropic, surface [3,17]. Such an effective condition mimics the actual one along the true heterogeneous surface, and fully characterizes the real flow [18]. The quantitative understanding of the effective slip length of the superhydrophobic surface, \mathbf{b}_{eff} , is still challenging since the composite nature of the texture in addition to liquid-gas areas requires regions of lower

local slip (or no slip) in direct contact with the liquid. For an anisotropic texture, the effective slip generally depends on the direction of the flow and is a tensor, $\mathbf{b}_{\text{eff}} \equiv \{b_{ij}^{\text{eff}}\}$, represented by a symmetric, positive definite 2×2 matrix [19],

$$\mathbf{b}_{\text{eff}} = \mathbf{S}_\theta \begin{pmatrix} b_{\text{eff}}^{\parallel} & 0 \\ 0 & b_{\text{eff}}^{\perp} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{S}_{-\theta}, \quad (1)$$

diagonalized by a rotation

$$\mathbf{S}_\theta = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}.$$

Equation (1) allows us to calculate an effective slip in any direction given by an angle θ , provided the two eigenvalues of the slip-length tensor, $b_{\text{eff}}^{\parallel}$ ($\theta = 0$) and b_{eff}^{\perp} ($\theta = \pi/2$), are known. The concept of an effective slip length tensor is general and can be applied for an arbitrary channel thickness [20], being a global characteristic of a channel [3], so that the eigenvalues normally depend not only on the parameters of the heterogeneous surfaces, but also on the channel thickness. However, for a thick (compared to a texture period, L) channel in which we are interested here, they become a characteristics of a heterogeneous interface solely.

In the case of an anisotropic isolated surface (or a thick channel limit) with a scalar local slip $b(y)$, varying in only one direction, the transverse component of the slip-length tensor was proven to be equal to half of the longitudinal one with a twice as large local slip, $2b(y)$ [21],

$$b_{\text{eff}}^{\perp} [b(y)/L] = \frac{b_{\text{eff}}^{\parallel} [2b(y)/L]}{2}. \quad (2)$$

A remarkable corollary of this relation is that the flow along any direction of the one-dimensional surface can be easily determined, once the longitudinal component of the effective slip tensor is found from the known spatially nonuniform scalar slip.

One-dimensional superhydrophobic surfaces are very important for a class of phenomena that involves “transverse” hydrodynamic couplings, where an applied pressure gradient or shear rate in one direction generates flow in a different direction, with a nonzero perpendicular component. This can be used to mix adjacent streams, control the dispersion of plugs, and position streams within the cross section of the channel [22]. Such grooved surfaces can be prepared by modern etching and lithographic methods [6].

Most of the prior work focused on a flat, periodic, striped superhydrophobic surface, which corresponds to patterns of rectangular grooves. The flow past such stripes was tackled theoretically [3,23–27], and several numerical approaches have also been used either at the molecular scale, using molecular dynamics [28], or at larger mesoscopic scales using finite-element methods [29,30], lattice-Boltzmann [20], and dissipative particle dynamics [31] simulations. For a pattern composed of no-slip ($b = 0$) and perfect-slip ($b = \infty$) stripes, the expression for the eigenvalues of the effective slip-length tensor takes its maximum possible value and reads [23,32]

$$b_{\text{ideal}}^{\parallel} = 2b_{\text{ideal}}^{\perp} = -\frac{L}{\pi} \ln \left[\sec \left(\frac{\pi(1-\phi)}{2} \right) \right], \quad (3)$$

where ϕ is the fraction of the no-slip interface. In the limit of vanishing solid fraction, it therefore predicts $b_{\text{ideal}}^{\parallel}$ and b_{ideal}^{\perp} to depend only logarithmically on ϕ and scale as $-L \ln \phi$. At a qualitative level, this result means that the effective slip lengths essentially saturate at the value fixed by the period of the roughness. In the case of stripes, the perturbation of a piecewise constant local slip has a steplike jump on the heterogeneity boundary, which leads to a singularity both in pressure and velocity gradient [21] by introducing an additional mechanism for dissipation. It is natural to assume that an anisotropic one-dimensional texture with a continuous local slip could potentially lead to a larger effective tensorial slip.

In this paper, we address the issue of the effective slip of flat surfaces with cosine variation in the local slip length, which corresponds to modulated hydrophobic grooved surfaces with a trapped gas layer (the Cassie state), as shown in Fig. 1.

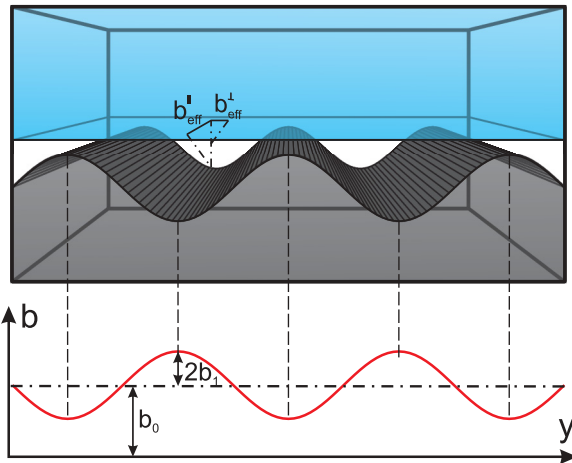


FIG. 1. (Color online) Sketch of the superhydrophobic surface with a cosine relief, and its equivalent representation in terms of flow boundary conditions.

Flows over hydrophilic surfaces (the Wenzel state) with cosine surface relief of small amplitude have been studied by a number of authors [22,33–36]. Previous studies of similar grooves in the Cassie state have investigated only small variations in local slip length [33,37]. We are unaware of any previous work that has studied the most interesting case of finite and large variations in the amplitude of a local cosine slip.

II. THEORY

Consider a shear flow over a textured flat slipping plate, characterized by a slip length $b(y)$, spatially varying in one direction and the texture varying over a period L (as shown in Fig. 1). We use a Cartesian coordinate system (x, y, z) with the origin at the wall. The z axis is perpendicular to the plate. Our analysis is based on the limit of a thick channel or a single interface, so that the velocity profile sufficiently far above the surface, at a large height compared to L , may be considered as a linear shear flow. All variables are nondimensionalized using the texture period L as the characteristic length, the shear rate of the undisturbed flow G , and the fluid viscosity μ .

The dimensionless fluid velocity is sought in the form

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{U} + \mathbf{u}_{\text{slip}} + \mathbf{u}_1(x, y, z),$$

where $\mathbf{U} = z\mathbf{e}_l$, $l = x, y$ is the undisturbed linear shear flow, and \mathbf{e}_l are the unit vectors parallel to the plate. The perturbation of the flow, which is caused by the presence of the texture, involves a constant slip velocity $\mathbf{u}_{\text{slip}} = (u_{\text{slip}}, v_{\text{slip}}, 0)$ and a varying part $\mathbf{u}_1 = (u, v, w)$ of the velocity field. A periodic velocity \mathbf{u}_1 should decay at infinity and has zero average:

$$\int_0^1 \mathbf{u}_1 dy = 0. \quad (4)$$

At a small Reynolds number $\text{Re} = GL^2/\nu$, \mathbf{u}_1 satisfies the dimensionless Stokes equations,

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}_1 = 0, \quad \nabla p - \Delta \mathbf{u}_1 = \mathbf{0}. \quad (5)$$

The boundary conditions at the wall and at infinity are defined in the usual way as

$$z = 0: \quad \mathbf{u}_{\text{slip}} + \mathbf{u}_{1\tau} - \beta(y) \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_{1\tau}}{\partial z} = \beta(y) \mathbf{e}_l, \quad (6)$$

$$w = 0, \quad (7)$$

$$z \rightarrow \infty: \quad \mathbf{u}_1 = \mathbf{0}, \quad (8)$$

where $\mathbf{u}_{1\tau} = (u, v, 0)$ is the velocity along the wall and $\beta = b/L$ is the normalized local slip length. The eigenvalues of the effective slip-length tensor can be obtained as the components of \mathbf{u}_{slip} :

$$b_{\text{eff}}^{\parallel} = Lu_{\text{slip}}, \quad b_{\text{eff}}^{\perp} = Lv_{\text{slip}}. \quad (9)$$

III. COSINE SLIP LENGTH

In this section, we consider a one-dimensional periodic texture with the local slip length

$$\beta = \beta_0 + 2\beta_1 \cos(2\pi y). \quad (10)$$

The coefficients should satisfy $\beta_0 \geq 2\beta_1 \geq 0$ in order to obey $\beta(y) \geq 0$ for any y .

The disturbance velocity field is presented in terms of Fourier series as

$$\mathbf{u}_1 = \sum_{n=-\infty, n \neq 0}^{\infty} \mathbf{u}^*(n, z) \exp(i2\pi n y), \quad \mathbf{u}^* = (u^*, v^*, w^*). \quad (11)$$

A general solution of the Stokes equations for the flow in the longitudinal direction (i.e., along the “fast” axis of greatest forward slip, $\theta = 0$), $\mathbf{U} = z\mathbf{e}_x$ decaying at infinity, reads [21]

$$u^* = X_n \exp(-2\pi|n|z), \quad v^* = w^* = 0. \quad (12)$$

For the flow in the transverse direction (along the “slow” axis of least forward slip, $\theta = \pi/2$), $\mathbf{U} = z\mathbf{e}_y$ is given by

$$u^* = 0, \quad v^* = Y_n \exp(-2\pi|n|z)(1 - 2\pi n z), \quad (13)$$

$$w^* = -i2\pi n Y_n z \exp(-2\pi|n|z). \quad (14)$$

The Fourier coefficients X_n and Y_n are then determined from the Navier slip boundary condition (6).

A. Longitudinal configuration

Since the local slip length is an even function of y , the solution (11) is also an even function. This requires $X_n = X_{-n}$, so it is sufficient to evaluate X_n for $n \geq 0$. The Navier slip boundary condition (6) can be written, following [21], in terms of Fourier coefficients as a linear system,

$$u_{\text{slip}} = \beta_0 - 2e_1 X_1, \quad (15)$$

$$d_1 X_1 + e_2 X_2 = \beta_1, \quad (16)$$

$$n > 1: \quad e_{n-1} X_{n-1} + d_n X_n + e_{n+1} X_{n+1} = 0, \quad (17)$$

$$d_n = 1 + 2\pi n \beta_0, \quad e_n = 2\pi n \beta_1. \quad (18)$$

A three-diagonal infinite linear system (15)–(17) should be solved numerically to find the unknown X_n by truncating the system.

In the limit of large slip, $\beta_0 > 2\beta_1 \gg 1$, the asymptotic solution to (15)–(17) can also be constructed. To the leading order in β_0^{-1} , the first term in (18) can be neglected compared to the second one, and the system (16) and (17) is rewritten for new variables $t_n = 2\pi n X_n$ as

$$t_1 + \lambda t_2 = \lambda, \quad (19)$$

$$n > 1: \quad \lambda t_{n-1} + t_n + \lambda t_{n+1} = 0, \quad (20)$$

where $\lambda = \beta_1/\beta_0 < 1/2$. The solution of the last system is a geometric progression, $t_{n+1} = q^n t_1$, with

$$q = \frac{-\lambda^{-1} + \sqrt{\lambda^{-2} - 4}}{2}, \quad t_1 = \frac{\lambda}{1 + q\lambda} = \frac{\beta_1}{\beta_0 + q\beta_1}.$$

Therefore, the final expression for the slip length, $b_{\text{eff}}^{\parallel} = L u_{\text{slip}}$, in view of (15), takes the following form at $\beta_0 > 2\beta_1 \gg 1$:

$$b_{\text{eff}}^{\parallel} = \sqrt{b_0^2 - 4b_1^2}. \quad (21)$$

The asymptotic solution for the velocity field can also be derived from Eqs. (11) and (12). The normal component of velocity gradient can be written as

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = -2t_1 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} q^{n-1} \text{Re} \{ \exp[2\pi n (iy - z)] \}. \quad (22)$$

The factor 2 is due to the contribution of $n < 0$. The sum in (22) is also a geometric progression, so that

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = -\frac{2t_1 \exp(-2\pi z) [\cos(2\pi y) - q \exp(-2\pi z)]}{s}, \quad (23)$$

$$s = 1 - 2q \cos(2\pi y) \exp(-2\pi z) + q^2 \exp(-4\pi z).$$

The last equation can be integrated over z to give

$$u = -\frac{t_1}{2\pi q} \ln s. \quad (24)$$

B. Transverse configuration

It was found in [21] that the velocity components for the transverse configuration can be expressed in terms of the longitudinal one calculated for a twice as large local slip, $u_2 = u[2\beta(y)]$:

$$v_{\text{slip}} = \frac{u_{\text{slip},2}}{2}, \quad (25)$$

$$v = \frac{1}{2} \left(u_2 + z \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial z} \right), \quad (26)$$

$$w = -\frac{z}{2} \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial y}. \quad (27)$$

Using (9) and (25), we derive

$$b_{\text{eff}}^{\perp} = b_{\text{eff}}^{\parallel} = \sqrt{b_0^2 - 4b_1^2}. \quad (28)$$

Thus, the flow becomes isotropic at large b_0 . One can demonstrate that the conclusion about the isotropy of the slip-length tensor in such a situation of a large local slip is general and valid for any textures (see Appendix A).

The values λ, q, t_1 remain the same for a twice as large local slip length since they depend on the ratio β_1/β_0 only. As a result, we obtain

$$u_2 = u = -\frac{t_1}{2\pi} \ln s, \quad v = -\frac{t_1}{4\pi q} \ln s - \frac{z t_1 \exp(-2\pi z) [\cos(2\pi y) - q \exp(-2\pi z)]}{s}, \quad (29)$$

$$w = \frac{z t_1 \exp(-2\pi z) \sin(2\pi y)}{s}. \quad (30)$$

IV. SIMULATION METHOD

For the modeling of fluid flow in a system of two parallel plates, we employ the lattice-Boltzmann (LB) method [38]. Lattice-Boltzmann methods are derived by a phase-space discretization of the kinetic Boltzmann equation,

$$\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{r}} \right] f(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{v}, t) = \Omega, \quad (31)$$

which expresses the dynamics of the single-particle probability density $f(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{v}, t)$. Therein, \mathbf{r} is the position, \mathbf{v} is the velocity, and t is the time. The left-hand side models the propagation of

particles in phase space, while the collision operator Ω on the right-hand side accounts for particle interactions.

Constructing the lattice-Boltzmann equation, the time t , the position \mathbf{r} , and the velocity \mathbf{v} are discretized. This discrete variant of Eq. (31),

$$f_k(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{c}_k, t + 1) - f_k(\mathbf{r}, t) = \Omega_k, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, B, \quad (32)$$

describes the kinetics in discrete time (Δt) and space units (Δx). We employ a widely used three-dimensional lattice with $B = 18$ discrete nonzero velocities (D3Q19) which is chosen to carry sufficient symmetry to allow for a second-order accurate solution of the Navier-Stokes equations. Here, for Ω , we choose the Bhatnagar-Gross-Krook (BGK) collision operator [39]

$$\Omega_k = -\frac{1}{\tau} [f_k(\mathbf{r}, t) - f_k^{\text{eq}}(\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}, t), \rho(\mathbf{r}, t))], \quad (33)$$

which assumes relaxation on a linear time scale τ toward a discretized local Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution f_k^{eq} . The kinematic viscosity $\nu = \frac{2\tau-1}{6}$ of the fluid is related to the relaxation time scale. In this study, it is kept constant at $\tau = 1.0$.

Stochastic moments of f can be related to physical properties of the modeled fluid. Here, conserved quantities, such as the fluid density $\rho(\mathbf{r}, t) = \rho_0 \sum_k f_k(\mathbf{r}, t)$ and momentum $\rho(\mathbf{r}, t)\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \rho_0 \sum_k \mathbf{c}_k f_k(\mathbf{r}, t)$, with ρ_0 being a reference density, are of special interest.

Slip over hydrophobic surfaces is commonly modeled by the introduction of a phenomenological repulsive force [40–44]. The magnitude of interactions between different fluid components and surfaces, as determined by simulation parameters, allows us to specify arbitrary contact angles [40,45–47]. Other approaches include boundary conditions taking into account specular reflections [48–50] or diffuse scattering [51–53]. The strategy applied for this work employs a second-order accurate on-site fixed velocity boundary condition to simulate wall slippage. Here, the velocity at the boundary is set proportional to the local stress imposed by the flow field as well as a slip-length parameter adjusting the stress response. For details on the implementation, we refer the reader to [54,55]. Local slip lengths are calculated according to Eq. (10). Varying slip patterns are applied to the x - y plane at $z = 0$. Periodic boundary conditions are employed in the x and y directions, thus reducing the simulation domain to a pseudo-two-dimensional system. By exploiting the periodic boundaries, only one single period needs to be resolved. The Couette flow is driven by applying a constant velocity of $v = 0.1$ (in lattice units) in the x - y plane at $z = z_{\text{max}}$.

The resolution of the simulated system is given by the lattice constant

$$\Delta x = \frac{H}{\mathcal{N}}, \quad (34)$$

where \mathcal{N} is the number of discretization points used to resolve the height of the channel. As we consider thick channels, we choose a height-to-periodicity ratio of $H/L = 10$.

The number of time steps required to reach a steady state depends on the velocity of the flow as determined by the driving acceleration as well as the amplitude and period of the slip variation. We find that in order to reduce the deviation

from theoretical predicted values below 5%, a domain size of $96 \times 1 \times 960 \Delta x^3$ is required. For this geometrical setup, with a shear rate on the order of $\dot{\gamma} = 1 \times 10^{-4}$ (in lattice units), a simulation time on the order of 10 million time steps is needed to reach the steady state. We compare the theoretical predictions by measurements of b_{eff} obtained from velocity profiles. The profile of the linear shear velocity is fit by a linear function in the region far from the surface pattern. From this fit, the effective slip lengths and shear rate are determined.

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this section, we present the LB simulation results and compare them with predictions of the continuous theory.

We start by varying the amplitude of cosine perturbations of the slip length, b_1 , at fixed $b_0 = 1$. Figure 2 plots simulation data for $b_{\text{eff}}^{\parallel}$ and b_{eff}^{\perp} as a function of b_1/b_0 . These results show that the largest possible value of b_{eff}/b_0 is attained when $b_1 = 0$, i.e., for a smooth hydrophobic surface with $b(y) = b_0$. In this situation, the effective slip is (obviously) isotropic and equal to the area-averaged slip b_0 . When increasing the amplitude b_1 , there is a small anisotropy of the flow, and the eigenvalues of the slip-length tensor decrease. Therefore, in the presence of a cosine variation in slip length, the effective slip always becomes smaller than average. This conclusion is consistent with earlier observations made for different textures [3,56]. To obtain theoretical values, the linear system, Eqs. (15)–(17), has been solved numerically by using the IMSL-DLSLTR routine. We see that the agreement is excellent for all b_1/b_0 , indicating that our asymptotic theory is extremely accurate, and confirming the relation (25) between the longitudinal and transverse slip lengths. Also included in Fig. 2 is the curve calculated with asymptotic formula (28) obtained in the limit of large b_0 . Note that this formula is surprisingly accurate even in the case of finite b_0 , except for the texture with $b_1/b_0 = 1/2$ (no-slip point at $y = 1/2$).

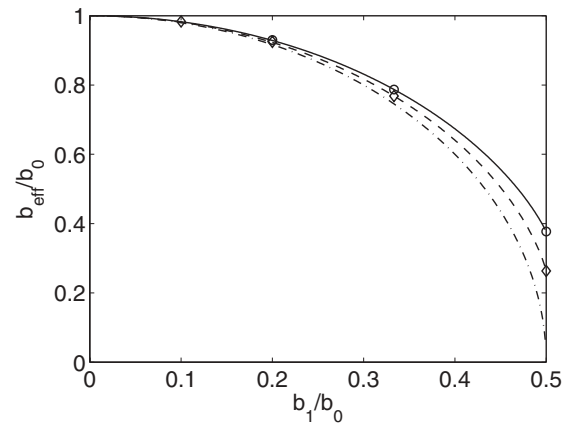


FIG. 2. Eigenvalues of the effective slip-length tensor as a function of b_1 simulated at fixed $b_0 = 1$ (symbols). The longitudinal effective slip length, $b_{\text{eff}}^{\parallel}$, is shown by circles, and the transverse effective slip, b_{eff}^{\perp} , is presented by diamonds. Solid and dashed curves denote the corresponding theoretical values obtained by numerical Fourier-series solutions. The asymptotic (isotropic) solution, Eq. (28), expected in the limit $b_0 \gg L$ is shown by the dash-dotted line.

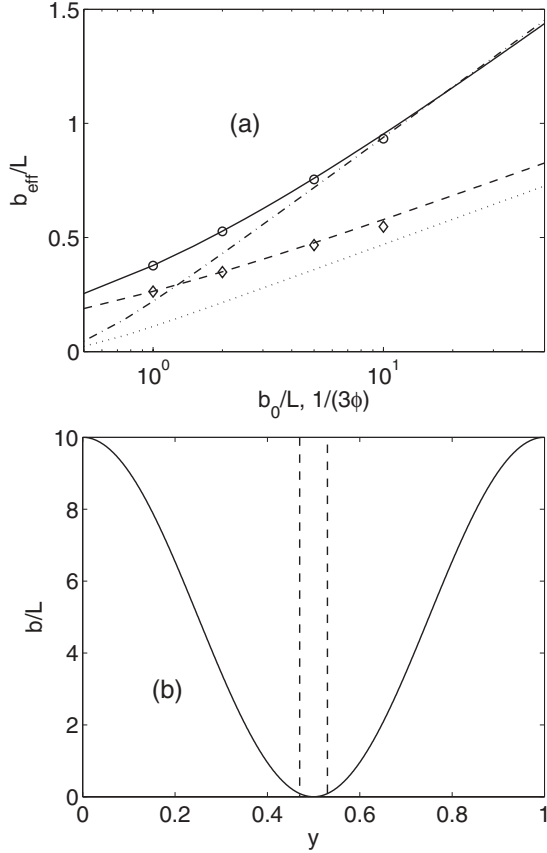


FIG. 3. (a) Effective slip lengths computed for $b_1/b_0 = 0.5$, which correspond to a texture with no-slip lines, vs average slip. The notations are the same as in Fig. 2. Dash-dotted and dotted lines show the effective lengths for longitudinal and transverse stripes as a function of $1/(3\phi)$ calculated with Eq. (3). (b) The cosine profile of the local slip length with $b_0/L = 5$, $b_1/b_0 = 0.5$ (solid curve), and the stripe profile with $\phi = 0.06$ (dashed line) with the same longitudinal effective slip lengths.

Figure 3(a) shows the simulation data for effective slip lengths as a function of an average slip, b_0/L , for a texture with the no-slip point ($b_1/b_0 = 1/2$). Also included are theoretical (Fourier series) curves. The fits are quite good for b_0/L up to 10, but at a larger average slip there is some discrepancy. The simulation results for $b_{\text{eff}}^{\parallel}$ and b_{eff}^{\perp} give smaller values than predicted by the theory. A possible explanation for this discrepancy is that the major contribution to the shear stress at large b_0/L and $b_1/b_0 = 1/2$ comes from a very small region near the no-slip point (as we discuss below). The discretization error of the LB simulation becomes maximal in this region, and is particularly pronounced for the velocity gradients of systems with large effective slip. While we observe deviations around the no-slip extremal value, the curves converge fast when stepping away from it, and the excellent agreement of the measured effective slip suggests that the influence of discretization errors on the mean flow is negligible at the resolution used. The asymptotic formula, Eq. (28), predicts $b_{\text{eff}} = 0$. This likely indicates that in this situation it is necessary to construct the second-order term of expansions for eigenvalues. At relatively large b_0/L , the effective slip

lengths can be well fitted as

$$\begin{aligned} b_{\text{eff}}^{\parallel}/L &\simeq 0.1871 + 0.3175 \ln(b_0/L + 1.166), \\ b_{\text{eff}}^{\perp}/L &\simeq 0.2036 + 0.1588 \ln(b_0/L + 0.583). \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

In other words, they scale as $\ln(b_0/L)$ at large b_0/L .

Since the effective slip lengths for a texture decorated with perfect-slip stripes, Eq. (3), also show a logarithmic growth (with ϕ), in order to compare these two one-dimensional anisotropic textures the theoretical curve for stripes is included in Fig. 3(a). It can be seen that in the limit of large average slip, the asymptotic curves for longitudinal effective slip for stripes and a cosine texture nearly coincide. This means that both textures generate the same forward flow in the longitudinal direction. Simple estimates suggest $b_{\text{eff}}^{\parallel}(\beta_0) \simeq b_{\text{ideal}}^{\parallel}[1/(3\beta_0)]$. Perhaps the most interesting and important aspect of this observation is that, from the point of view of the longitudinal effective slip, the “wide” cosine texture with $\beta_0 = 5$ taken for our numerical example is equivalent to the patterns of stripes with the extremely low fraction of no-slip regions, $\phi = 0.06$ [see Fig. 3(b)]. These results may guide the design of superhydrophobic surfaces for large forward flows in microfluidic devices. Note, however, that in the situation when longitudinal slip for both textures is similar, the cosine texture shows a larger effective slip in

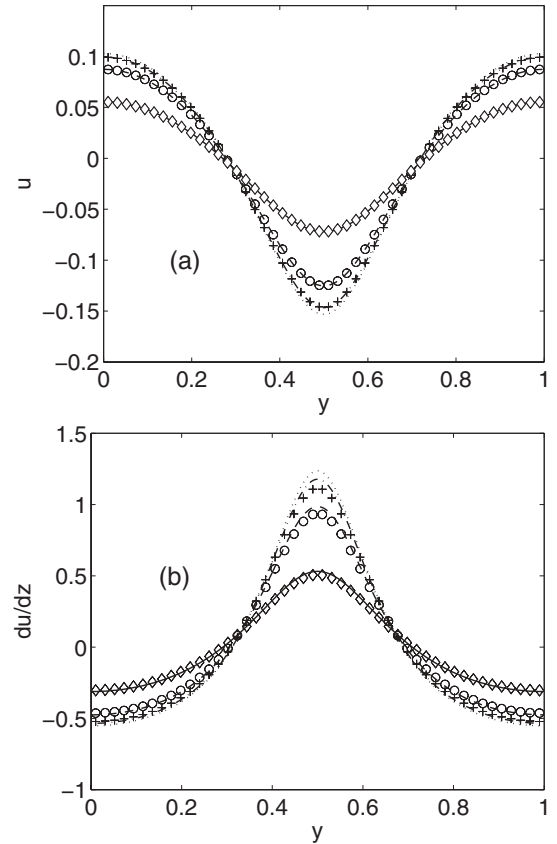


FIG. 4. (a) The velocities and (b) the normal velocity gradients along the wall for the textures with $b_1/b_0 = 1/3$, $b_0/L = 0.2$ (solid curve, diamonds), $b_0/L = 1$ (dashed curve, circles), and $b_0/L = 5$ (dash-dotted line, crosses). Dotted curves show predictions of asymptotic formulas, Eqs. (24) and (23).

the slowest (transverse) direction, as seen in Fig. 3(a). This means that $b_{\text{eff}}^{\parallel}/b_{\text{eff}}^{\perp} < b_{\text{ideal}}^{\parallel}/b_{\text{ideal}}^{\perp} = 2$, so that textures with the cosine variation in the local slip length generate a less anisotropic flow compared to a perfect stripe geometry. For this reason, it is not so evident *a priori* whether cosine textures could be as efficient as stripes in producing large secondary flows transverse to the direction of shear. The optimization of transverse hydrodynamic phenomena in the case of cosine modulation of the texture will be considered elsewhere.

The flow direction is associated with hydrodynamic pressures in the film, which is related to the heterogeneous slippage at the wall. Figure 4 shows the profiles of the velocity and of the normal velocity gradient along the wall for different β_0 and $\beta_1/\beta_0 > 1/2$. The velocity dependence $u(x, y, 0)$ is smooth, and $\frac{\partial u}{\partial z}(x, y, 0)$ is finite for any β_0 and β_1 , unlike the striped textures with piecewise-constant β [21]. Asymptotic predictions (24) and (23) are in good agreement with numerical results and simulation data.

Similar theoretical and simulation results, but obtained for a texture with no-slip point, $\beta_1/\beta_0 = 1/2$, are shown in Fig. 5. In this situation, we find that $\partial u/\partial z(1/2) = 2\pi\beta_0$ for all β_0 .

Finally, we want to stress that a very small region near the no-slip point gives a main contribution to the shear stress at large b_0/L . For the major portion of the texture far from this region, we have $\partial u/\partial z \simeq -1$, so that the total shear stress is zero, and this part of the texture is shear-free. Since the maximum values of the normal velocity gradients grow

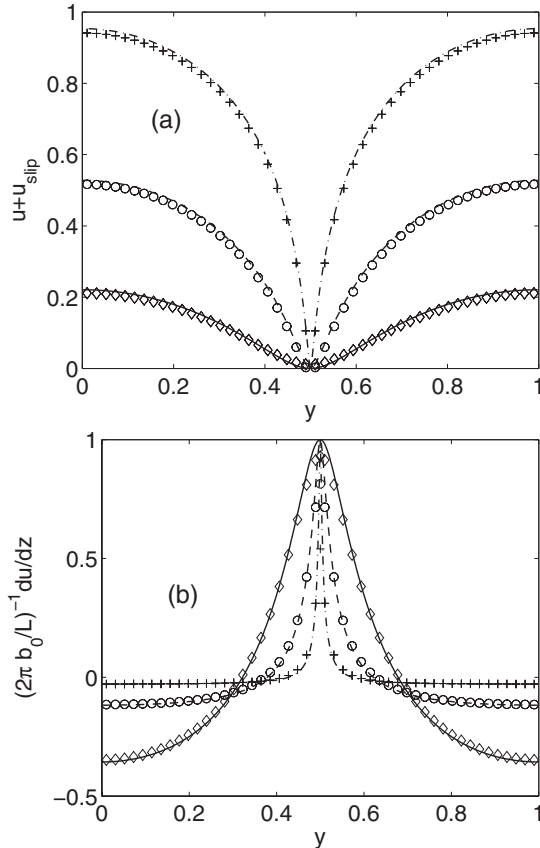


FIG. 5. (a) The velocities and (b) the normal velocity gradients along the wall for the no-slip textures ($b_1/b_0 = 1/2$). Other notations are the same as in Fig. 4.

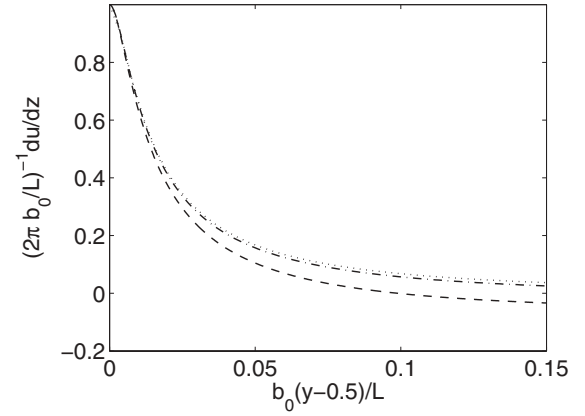


FIG. 6. The normal velocity gradients for the no-slip textures with large amplitudes of slip-length variation, $b_0/L = 1$ (dashed curve), $b_0/L = 5$ (dash-dotted curve), and $b_0/L = 20$ (dotted curve), as functions of stretched coordinates.

like b_0/L , one can expect that a length scale of this small region is $L^2/b_0 \ll L$, or, equivalently, the curvature radius, $r = (d^2b/dy^2)^{-1} = L^2/(4\pi^2b_0) \ll L$, at the no-slip point. The validity of this assumption is justified in Fig. 6, where the gradients for several values of b_0/L versus stretched coordinates, $b_0(y-0.5)/L$, are presented. The curves are very close for $b_0/L \geq 5$. Therefore, the normal gradient distribution and the dimensionless effective slip length in this case are controlled by the ratio r/L only. These conclusions can be extended to any $b(y)$ characterized by a small radius $r = (d^2b/dy^2)^{-1} \ll L$ near the no-slip point and by a large slope, of the order of $L/r \gg 1$ or larger, far from it.

VI. CONCLUSION

We have investigated shear flow past a superhydrophobic surface with a cosine variation of the local slip length, and we have evaluated the resulting effective slippage and the flow velocity. We have found that the cosine texture can provide a very large effective (forward) slip, but it generates a smaller transverse velocity to the main (forward) flow than discrete stripes considered earlier. Our approximate formulas for longitudinal and transversal directional effective slip lengths are validated by means of lattice-Boltzmann simulations. Excellent quantitative agreement is found for the effective slippage as well as for the flow field. Slight deviations of the observed velocity gradient close to the no-slip extremal value can be explained by discretization errors.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This research was partly supported by the Russian Academy of Science (RAS) through its priority program “Assembly and Investigation of Macromolecular Structures of New Generations,” by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO/STW VIDI), and by the German Science Foundation (DFG) through its priority program “Micro- and nanofluidics.” We acknowledge computing resources from the Jülich Supercomputing Center and the Scientific Supercomputing Center Karlsruhe.

APPENDIX: EFFECTIVE SLIP FOR A FLOW PAST STRONGLY SLIPPING ANISOTROPIC PATTERNS

In this appendix, we give some simple arguments showing that the flow becomes isotropic in the case of large local slip, $\beta_{\min} = \min[\beta(y)] \gg 1$. In this situation for arbitrary local slip length $\beta(y)$, the leading-order \mathbf{b}_{eff} can be obtained directly from the local slip boundary condition, Eq. (6), without the need to solve the Stokes equations. Indeed, if $\beta \gg 1$, Eq. (6) requires that the velocity at the surface is large,

$$|\mathbf{u}_{\text{slip}} + \mathbf{u}_{1\tau}(x, y, 0)| \sim \beta_{\min} \gg 1,$$

but the normal gradient is finite, $|\partial \mathbf{u}_{1\tau}(x, y, 0)/\partial z| \sim 1$. This can be fulfilled only if $|\mathbf{u}_{\text{slip}}| \sim \beta_{\min} \gg 1$, $|\mathbf{u}_{1\tau}| \sim 1$. One can then divide Eq. (6) by β to obtain

$$z = 0 : \quad \frac{\mathbf{u}_{\text{slip}}}{\beta(y)} - \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_{1\tau}}{\partial z} - \mathbf{e}_l = O(\beta_{\min}^{-1}).$$

Finally, by averaging the last equation over the texture periods, and by using Eqs. (4) and (9), we can easily derive an expression for a leading-order effective slip:

$$b_{\text{eff}}^{\perp} \simeq b_{\text{eff}}^{\parallel} \simeq L \left[\int_0^1 \frac{dy}{\beta(y)} \right]^{-1}. \quad (\text{A1})$$

It can be verified that our result, Eq. (28), is consistent with (A1). Note that the expression

$$b_{\text{eff}}^{\parallel} \simeq b_{\text{eff}}^{\perp} \simeq \left(\frac{\phi}{b_0} + \frac{1-\phi}{b_1} \right)^{-1}, \quad (\text{A2})$$

which has been obtained for stripes with $b_0, b_1 \gg L$ [30] and is similar to the addition rule for resistors in parallel, also satisfies Eq. (A1).

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