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APPROXIMATIONS OF SURFACE ROUGHNESS EFFECTS FOR AIRBLAST CALCULATIONS

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19 ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse if necessary and identify by block number) A brief description of roughness effects on a boundary layer is given. The effects of the amount of areal roughness coverage on the law of the wall are summarized. The concept of hydrodynamically equivalent rough surfaces is discussed. The issue of non-uniform roughness element size is addressed. Some comments are offered relative to roughness scaling.				
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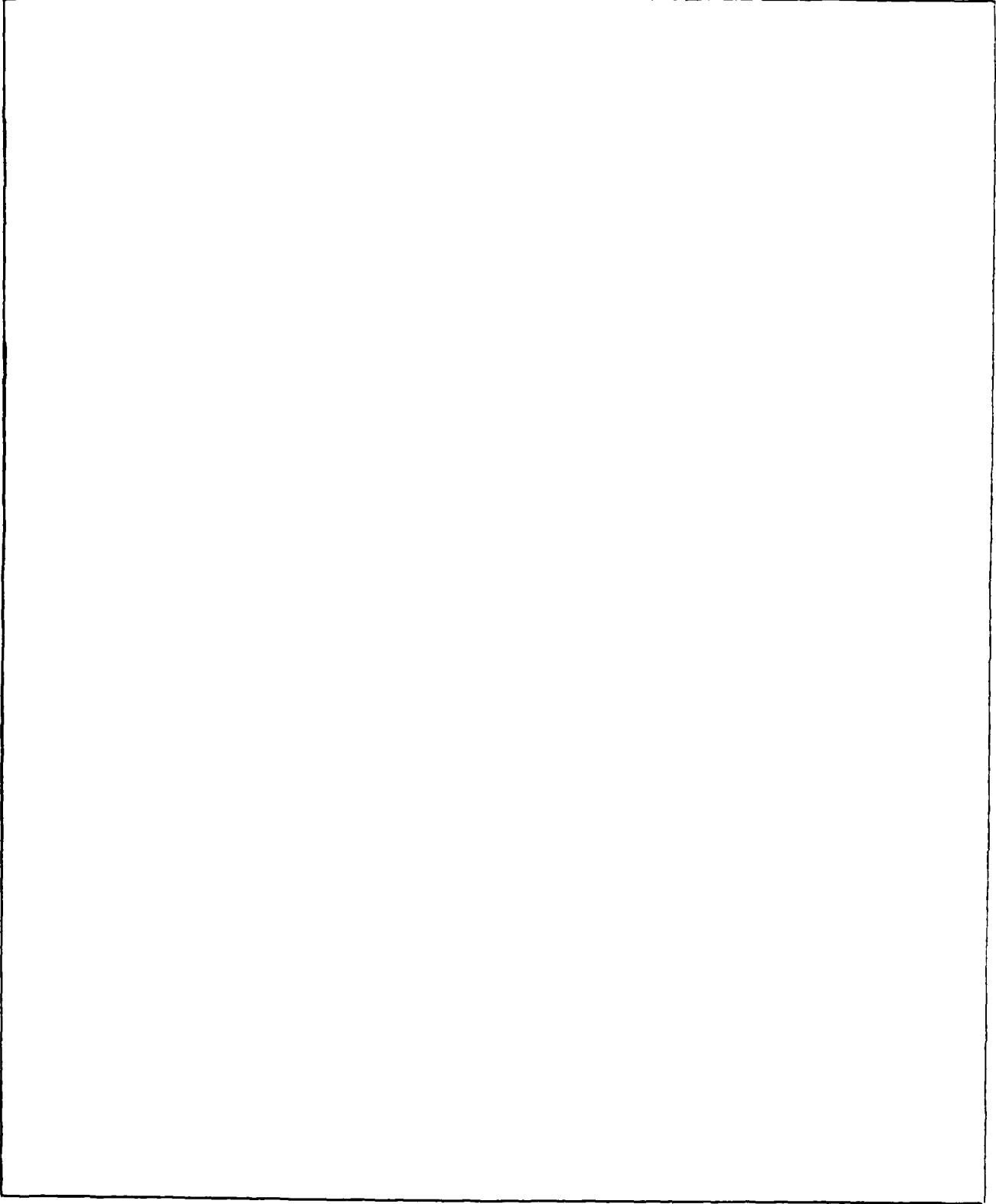
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CONVERSION TABLE

Conversion factors for U.S. Customary to metric (SI) units of measurement

MULTIPLY $\longrightarrow$ BY $\longrightarrow$ TO GET
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angstrom	1.000 000 X E -10	meters (m)
atmosphere (normal)	1 013 25 X E +2	kilo pascal (kPa)
bar	1 000 000 X E +2	kilo pascal (kPa)
barn	1 000 000 X E -28	meter ² (m ²)
British thermal unit (thermochemical)	1 054 350 X E +3	joule (J)
calorie (thermochemical)	4 184 000	joule (J)
cal (thermochemical)/cm ²	4 184 000 X E -2	mega joule/m ² (MJ/m ²)
curie	3 700 000 X E +1	*giga becquerel (GBq)
degree (angle)	1 745 329 X E -2	radian (rad)
degree Fahrenheit	$t_F = (t_C + 459.67)/1.8$	degree kelvin (K)
electron volt	1 602 19 X E -19	joule (J)
erg	1 000 000 X E -7	joule (J)
erg/second	1 000 000 X E -7	watt (W)
foot	3 048 000 X E -1	meter (m)
foot-pound-force	1 355 818	joule (J)
gallon (U.S. liquid)	3 785 412 X E -3	meter ³ (m ³)
inch	2 540 000 X E -2	meter (m)
jerk	1 000 000 X E +9	joule (J)
joule/kilogram (J/kg) (radiation dose absorbed)	1 000 000	Gray (Gy)
kilotons	4 183	terajoules
kip (1000 lbf)	4 448 222 X E +3	newton (N)
kip/inch ² (ksi)	6 894 757 X E +3	kilo pascal (kPa)
ktop	1 000 000 X E +2	newton-second/m ² (N-s/m ²)
micron	1 000 000 X E -6	meter (m)
mil	2 540 000 X E -5	meter (m)
mile (international)	1 609 344 X E +3	meter (m)
ounce	2 834 952 X E -2	kilogram (kg)
pound-force (lbf avoirdupois)	4 448 222	newton (N)
pound-force/inch	1 129 948 X E -1	newton-meter (N-m)
pound-force/inch	1 751 268 X E +2	newton/meter (N/m)
pound-force/foot ²	4 788 026 X E -2	kilo pascal (kPa)
pound-force/inch ² (psi)	6 894 757	kilo pascal (kPa)
pound-mass (lbm avoirdupois)	4 535 924 X E -1	kilogram (kg)
pound-mass-foot ² (moment of inertia)	4 214 011 X E -2	kilogram-meter ² (kg-m ²)
pound-mass/foot ³	1 601 846 X E +1	kilogram/meter ³ (kg/m ³)
rad (radiation dose absorbed)	1 000 000 X E -2	*Gray (Gy)
roentgen	2 579 760 X E -4	coulomb/kilogram (C/kg)
shake	1 000 000 X E -8	second (s)
slug	1 459 390 X E +1	kilogram (kg)
torr (mm Hg, 0°C)	1 333 22 X E -1	kilo pascal (kPa)

*The Becquerel (Bq) is the SI unit of radioactivity, 1 Bq = 1 event/s
 **The Gray (Gy) is the SI unit of absorbed radiation

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SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION

Recent computational experience has indicated that flow interactions with a surface can materially alter precursor structure formation in a non-ideal airblast. The near-surface precursor flow includes a "jet" that interacts with and exchanges momentum with the surface boundary layer. The transition between the off-surface jet flow and the flow in the boundary layer is smooth; the demarcation between the two regions is indistinct. Momentum lost to the ground through surface shear is diffused by turbulence through the boundary layer into the jet without interruption. The jet velocity is reduced and the jet pressure increased due to this effect. The rate at which work is transmitted to the precursor toe is diminished, resulting in a reduction in the overall precursor length.

The detailed character of the surface affects both the extent of airflow momentum loss and the concomitant turbulent diffusivity within the boundary flow. The collective surface conditions that control these effects establish its "roughness". Four properties of the surface appear to have first-order effects. These are: (1) the type of surface irregularities (depressions or protuberances), (2) the size of the irregularities, (3) the fractional amount of surface covered by irregularities, and (4) the geometry of the irregularities.

The effects of depression type (d-type) roughness differ somewhat from those of protuberance-type (k-type) roughness (Reference 1). However, d-type roughness is considered to be of lesser immediate interest and will not be considered further in this discussion.

The contributions to surface roughness arise predominantly from fixed surface protrusions. In desert terrains, fixed surface protrusions may include shrubs, trees, rocks, and ground clods. Loose, lightweight material such as non-fixed pebbles, vegetative debris, and dust cannot support significant shear. These materials

tend to be lofted into the boundary layer and diffused upward by turbulence. Momentum is exchanged between lofted material and the air, but there is essentially no loss of momentum to the ground, as with fixed protrusions.

A real surface may comprise an essentially continuous distribution of protrusion heights. Nevertheless, it is useful to discuss the isolated effects of groups of these protrusions possessing grossly equivalent geometry and size. In such groups, individual members are referred to as "roughness elements". Typical, simplified roughness element models include surface-attached spheres, hemispheres, cones, and cylinders.

Elements that are shorter than a specific minimum vertical size, dependent only on flow conditions, do not contribute measurably to roughness effects. If all roughness elements on a given surface fall below this height, the surface is said to be "hydraulically smooth".

The steady-state, clean-flow (no dust), turbulent boundary layer of a flow over a hydraulically smooth surface consists of four distinctive regions. The innermost of these regions contacts the surface and extends vertically to about 0.1% of the overall boundary-layer thickness. The flow in this "sublayer" is essentially laminar and the velocity increases linearly with height from zero at the surface. Turbulence kinetic energy grows rapidly above the laminar sublayer in a second region referred to as the "buffer" layer. This growth levels off at about 1-2% of the boundary layer thickness, which marks the beginning of the third, "log-law" layer. The turbulence energy is nearly constant throughout the log-law region which extends to about 10% of the boundary layer thickness. Flow conditions in the log-law region are well behaved. Turbulence production and dissipation are in a state of near equilibrium which is reflected by a relatively slow variation in turbulence kinetic energy. The velocity increases logarithmically with height.

The laminar sublayer and buffer layer taken together are often referred to as the "viscous sublayer". The viscous sublayer and the log-law region together comprise the "inner layer" of the boundary layer flow. The remaining 90% of the boundary layer comprises the "outer region". In simple flat-plate flow, turbulence energy drops off in the outer region while the turbulence length scale increases.

The four-layer smooth-wall boundary flow structure begins to be disrupted when surface roughness elements protrude above the laminar sublayer into the buffer region. The extent of this disruption increases with further increases in roughness element size. Turbulence near the surface is enhanced and small turbulent eddies penetrate into the laminar sublayer. When the roughness elements are large enough as to extend into the log-law region, a viscous sublayer is completely absent. The inner layer then consists only of a log-law region, and the surface is said to be "fully rough".

A criterion widely used to distinguish a hydraulically smooth surface is

$$y_R \lesssim 5 \frac{\nu}{u_\tau} \quad , \quad (1)$$

where y_R is the roughness element height, ν is the kinematic viscosity of the flow, and u_τ is the "shear" or "friction" velocity, $u_\tau \equiv (\tau_w/\rho_w)^{1/2}$ (in which τ_w is the surface shear stress and ρ_w is the fluid density at the wall). On the other hand, the surface can be considered fully rough when

$$y_R \gtrsim 70 \frac{\nu}{u_\tau} \quad . \quad (2)$$

These criteria cannot easily be applied, unfortunately, unless an estimate (or measurement) of the surface shear is available. For some purposes, a satisfactory estimate for this purpose can be taken by reference to an approximately comparable flat plate flow. In a simple incompressible flow over a flat plate, the skin friction coefficient, $C_f = \tau_w/(0.5\rho u_\infty^2)$ can be found from the Schoenherr formula,

$$C_f^{1/2} [1.80 \ln(Re_x C_f) + 1.7] = 1 , \quad (3)$$

where Re_x is the Reynolds number based on the distance from the leading edge of the plate, $Re_x = u_E X / \nu$, and u_E is the velocity external to the boundary layer. A useful direct relation between u_τ and C_f is

$$\frac{u_\tau}{u_E} = (C_f/2)^{1/2} . \quad (4)$$

SECTION 2

EFFECT OF AREAL COVERAGE

The remainder of the present discussion will consider only the fully rough condition. For this case, the velocity profile of a simple, incompressible, non-separating boundary layer, up to about 10% of the boundary layer thickness, is well represented by the rough-wall Clauser "wall function",

$$\frac{u}{u_\tau} = \frac{1}{\kappa} \ln\left(\frac{y}{y_R}\right) + C' . \quad (5)$$

Here $\kappa = 0.41$ (Von Karman's constant) is fixed and universal, but the value of C' varies with the roughness element geometry and area coverage.

Figure 1 is a plot of C' as a function of fractional area coverage,

$$f_R \equiv A_R/A , \quad (6)$$

where A_R is the horizontal projected surface area covered by roughness within area A . Data points on this figure were derived from Reference 2. The data points shown individually on this plot are for three-dimensional roughness elements as opposed to two-dimensional elements such as transverse rods.

Smaller values of C' reflect greater ground shear on surfaces having roughness elements of equal height y_R . This is true regardless of changes in the geometry of the elements, if the exterior flowfield is held fixed. The data for spherical roughness elements show that C' is not a monotonic function of f_R . A minimum occurs at 20-25% (depending on which curvefit is used). The data for other three-dimensional roughness elements is insufficient on Figure 1 to exhibit a minimum. However, the curvefit by Dvorak (Reference 3), which was fit through data for both two- and three-dimensional roughness

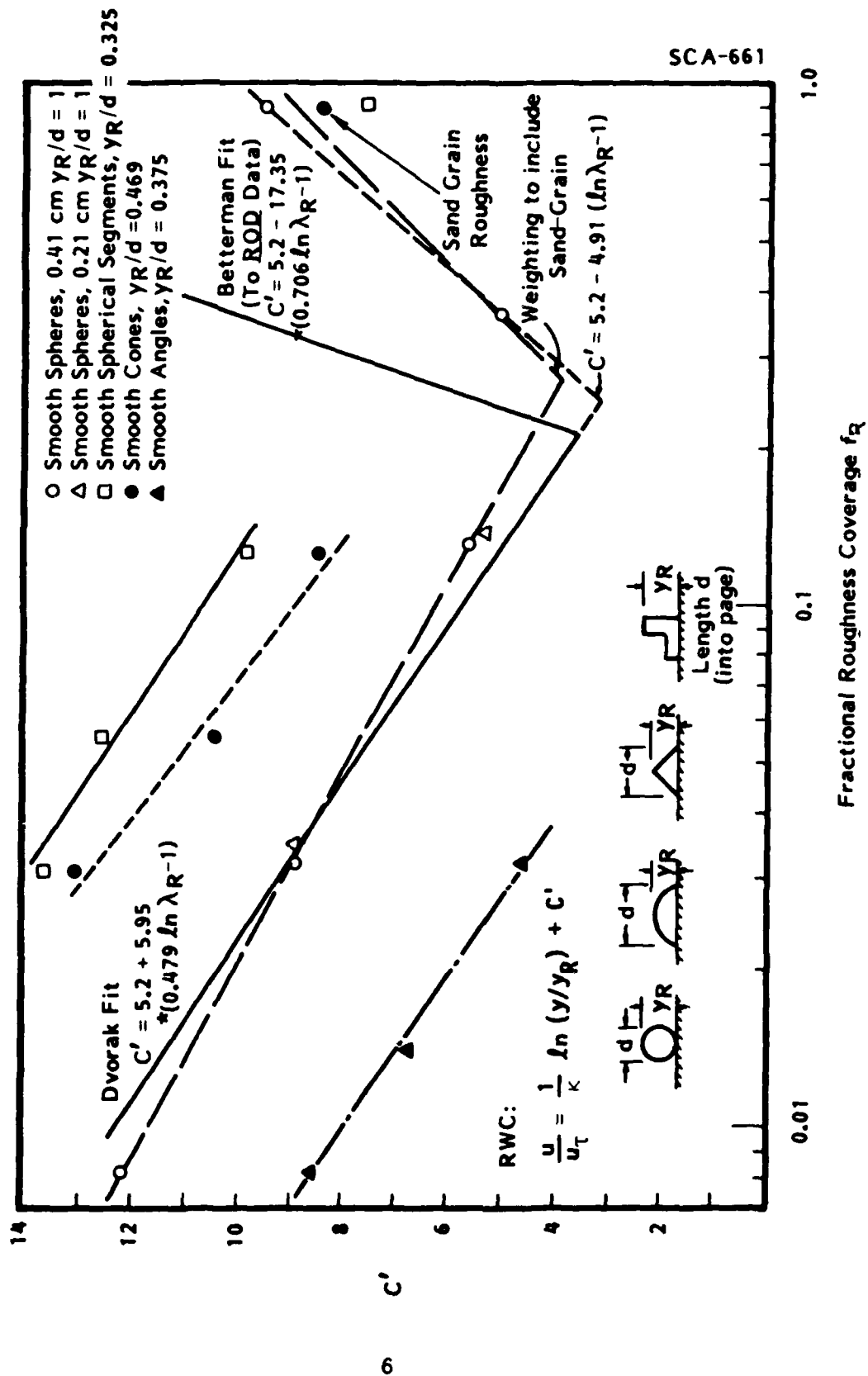


Figure 1. Clauser Log-Law constant C' vs. fractional roughness coverage, $f_R = A_R/A$. (A_R = area covered by roughness, A = total area; $\lambda_R \equiv 1/f_R$ is "roughness density").

elements, and that by Betterman (Reference 4) for strictly two-dimensional elements are also shown on the figure. The collective data to which these curves were fit suggest that a minimum value of C' exists for all roughness geometries, but that the value of the minimum may change according to the geometry.

The drag on a single roughness element is a function of its vertical projected area, or "lateral area", A_L , while the amount of surface covered by one element is a function of its horizontal projected area, A_R' . For example, a vertical cylinder of diameter d and height h has a lateral area of $A_L = dh$ and a specific surface area of $A_R' = \pi d^2/4$. It is not surprising that the values of C' are smaller for those roughness element geometries which have larger values of A_L/A_R' . For the surface-tangent spheres on Figure 1, $A_L/A_R' = 1$. By comparison, the conical elements ($y_R/d = 0.469$) have $A_L/A_R' = 0.299$, and the angles (neglecting their horizontal part, and assuming the thickness of the vertical part to be $d/5$), have $A_L/A_R' = 1.88$.

As the number of roughness elements per unit area (that is, the fractional coverage) increases, the drag coefficient associated with the individual elements initially remains constant. However, when the spacing between elements is reduced to several element heights, flow interactions between elements cause the velocity in their vicinity to decrease. The drag coefficient based on the exterior flow velocity then abruptly falls off. This effect has been investigated in some detail by Marshall (Reference 5), and helps to explain the characteristic shape of the C' vs. f_R curves in Figure 1. When f_R is small, the drag coefficient of individual elements is at its highest level and does not change appreciably with moderate increases in f_R . Hence a larger number of roughness elements simply transmits a larger total force to the surface. This is reflected by a steady decrease in C' with increasing f_R . Above the coverage at which the element drag coefficient begins to decline, increases in the number of elements is offset by decreases in the drag per element. The total force transmitted to the surface drops off with further increases in f_R , and the value of C' increases.

It is of interest to note that in Marshall's experiments, only the amount of coverage and not the distribution of roughness elements on the surface appeared to influence the results. That is, regular arrays and randomly distributed elements produced equivalent effects in these experiments. Most of the tests were carried out with cylindrical roughness elements of varying A_L/A_R (varying d/h), although some experiments were conducted with hemispheres. Another qualification to note is that Marshall's tests, in common with all other experiments referenced in this paper, were carried out in the low subsonic regime.

SECTION 3 EQUIVALENT SURFACE ROUGHNESS

Due to the character of the C' vs. f_R (and geometry) curves, the relative roughness effects of different surfaces cannot be compared in terms of a single, directly measurable quantity. A classical basis for comparison is in terms of "equivalent sand-grain roughness size", K_S . This is the diameter of fixed sand-like elements, packed on a surface such that $f_{RS} = 0.91$ (and $C' = 8.5$), which would yield the same wall shear as that on a specimen surface with a particular roughness element geometry, height, and coverage. If the value of K_S is known for the specimen surface, the Clauser wall function, Eqn. (5), would be written as

$$\frac{u}{u_\tau} = \frac{1}{\kappa} \ln\left(\frac{y}{K_S}\right) + 8.5 \quad (7)$$

In this way, K_S becomes a measure of "roughness scale".

An alternative, equivalent procedure is to rewrite Eqn. (5) in the form

$$\frac{u}{u_\tau} = \frac{1}{\kappa} \ln\left(\frac{y}{Z_0}\right) \quad (8)$$

where roughness scale Z_0 is related to C' and y_R through

$$Z_0 = y_R \text{ EXP } (-\kappa C') \quad (9)$$

Both Eqn. (7) and Eqn. (8) appear in the literature.

Surfaces with equal values of K_S or with equal values of Z_0 are hydrodynamically equivalent in terms of roughness effects. Choosing Eqn. (8) as the basis for present comparisons, the Dvorak fit, along with the two-point fit on Figure 1 (for surface-tangent spheres, above $f_R = 0.247$), becomes

$$Z_0 = \begin{cases} 1.36 y_R f_R^{1.17} & , f_R \leq 0.247 \\ 0.0158 y_R f_R^{-2.01} & , f_R > 0.247 \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

For example, the value of C' for a surface covered by 2 cm. dia. rocks ($y_R = 2$ cm) over 21% of the surface area ($f_R = 0.21$), is $C' \approx 3.65$. The value of C' for a terrain covered by 100 cm dia., dense spherical shrubs ($y_R = 100$ cm) over 0.74% of the surface area ($f_R = 0.0074$) is $C' = 6.67$. Both of these conditions correspond to $Z_0 = 0.438$ cm in Eqn. (8). In terms of hydrodynamic roughness effects, the two surfaces are equivalent.

The example cited is significant because it illustrates that a terrain in which the surface appears to be relatively smooth but is vegetated with small, dense shrubs scattered over about 1% of the ground area is hydrodynamically as rough as if the surface were "heavily covered" with rocks. The separation between 2 cm dia. spherical "rocks", corresponding to an areal surface coverage of 21%, is only about 4.2 cm in a uniform hexagonal array.

In order to characterize a surface for boundary layer calculations, only the value of Z_0 (or K_s) is needed. However, Eqn (10) applies approximately only for spherical roughness elements and then only at relatively low Mach and Reynolds numbers. It appears that the effects of higher flow speeds on the values of Z_0 have not been investigated experimentally. Flow regime effects seem almost certain to influence Z_0 through the impact of Mach and Reynolds numbers on the drag coefficients of individual roughness elements. Without detailed experimental or calculated information of this kind, it is difficult to estimate appropriate values for Z_0 from field measurements, in a given terrain, of y_R , f_R and roughness element geometry.

SECTION 4

DISTRIBUTED ROUGHNESS SIZES

An additional complication arises when roughness elements of different sizes and geometries are present. This is, of course, the case for all real surfaces, although the effects of one group of roughness elements may dominate. As an example, a hypothetical desert surface is offered in Table 1. On this hypothetical surface, loose dust has not been included. This is because the magnitude of shear that loose dust can sustain (before its movement is initiated) is very small compared to the shear transmitted by larger, fixed roughness elements. The hypothetical surface includes roughness elements spanning four orders of magnitude. All are assumed to be spherical. The majority of the surface (80% by area) is covered by fixed, small "sand grains". Nevertheless, the major contributors to roughness are "medium rocks" and "small shrubs", each of which covers only 1% of the surface. It would probably be satisfactory for engineering calculations to use $Z_0 = 0.622$ cm. in Eqn. (8) for this surface (or perhaps a slightly smaller value).

It is worth emphasizing that Z_0 bears little direct relation to the physical size of roughness elements. The actual height of the elements is y_R , while Z_0 is a characteristic roughness scale that accounts for element size, geometry, and areal coverage.

It may be possible to establish the value of Z_0 for a given terrain without a detailed survey like that given in Table 1. An example of this appears in Reference 6. The velocity profile of an atmospheric wind-induced boundary layer was measured (at the GMX area of the Nevada Test Site). The measurements were made using a pitot-static rake of appropriate height. From the velocity profile it was possible to establish a characteristic roughness scale.

Table 1. Distribution of roughness scale Z_o for hypothetical desert surface. Values for Z_o assume spherical roughness elements of diameter y_R and fractional areal coverage f_R .

ROUGHNESS ELEMENT TYPE	y_R (cm)	f_R	Z_o (cm)
Small sand grains	0.02	0.80	0.000495
Large sand grains	0.2	0.16	0.0319
Small rocks	2.0	0.02	0.0280
Medium rocks	10.	0.01	0.0622
Small, dense shrubs	100.	0.01	0.622

While this straightforward procedure is relatively convenient, it is certainly not clear that the roughness scale determined from such measurements can be applied unmodified to the boundary layer of a high-speed, transient flow. It would accordingly seem worthwhile to investigate the possibility for establishing procedures from which the correct scale associated with a high-speed flow could be inferred from the value determined through low-speed wind measurements.

As an alternative, it may prove feasible to establish Z_0 for a specific terrain directly from boundary layer profiles measured during an airblast event. The smallest scale at which measurements of this kind would be meaningful is uncertain, but an estimate might be $R_0 \gg y_R$, where R_0 is a characteristic airblast radius for a surface burst,

$$R_0 = \left(\frac{E_0}{2\pi P_1} \right)^{1/3}, \quad (11)$$

in which E_0 is the explosion energy and P_1 is initial ambient pressure.* For example, with $R_0 = 20y_R$, $P_1 = 0.1$ MPa, and $y_R = 1$ m, the smallest explosion energy would be $E_0 = 5.02 \times 10^9$ J. This suggests that a 0.0024 KT (or 2.4T) surface burst might reasonably suffice for a measurement of Z_0 .

* At the ground range for which $R = R_0$, the overpressure is $\Delta P \doteq 1.4 P_1$.

SECTION 5

ROUGHNESS SCALING

Finally, it is noted that the characteristic roughness Z_0 is a fixed property of the terrain and, perhaps, of the flow regime (Mach and Reynolds numbers). As such, the value of Z_0 for a particular surface does not change as the airblast scale is changed; i.e., in this sense Z_0 does not "scale". However, for some assessments of airblasts at different scales, it is of interest to hold the global effects of surface roughness constant. In order for the overall effects of roughness to remain unchanged as the airblast scale is changed, it is necessary to allow Z_0 to vary. Experimentally, this would require tests to be conducted over surfaces with different Z_0 as E_0 is changed. It can be shown that the appropriate scaling for equal roughness effects is $Z_{02}/Z_{01} = (E_{02}/E_{01})^{1/3}$. (That is, "cube-root" scaling is valid.) For example, to simulate the roughness effects of the hypothetical desert surface in Table 1 at 1:27,000 yield scale (1:30 length scale), 1% of the test surface should be covered with fixed spheres, 3.3 cm. in diameter. Experiments at this scale are within the capability of existing confined-flow airblast simulators.

SECTION 6
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