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## Magnetic field effects on  $O_2/Ar$  liquid flow through a platinum micro-channel via dissipative particle molecular dynamics approach



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### article info abstract

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In this computational work, we describe atomic behavior of Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  fluids in Pt micro-channel with external magnetic field. Our Dissipative Particle Dynamics (DPD) simulation results show the poiseuille flow for these structures with/without external magnetic field. These DPD simulations done with LAMMPS (Large scale Atomic/Molecular Massively Parallel Simulator) package. Numerically, maximum value for density of Ar/O<sub>2</sub> particles in platinum micro-channels is 0.042/0.043. Further, maximum ratio of these particles velocity reach to 0.104/0.097. This maximum value occur in middle region of micro-channel. Temperature of various fluid particles varies with similar behavior and reach to maximum value in 390/489 simulated bins of DPD box. Finally, we expected these computational results can be used for optimize the industrial process such as mass and heat transfer. © 2021 Elsevier B.V. All rights reserved.

#### 1. Introduction

In physics, a fluid is a substance that continually deforms (flows) under an applied external force which implemented with outer sources such as electric or magnetic field. The behavior of fluids at the microscale can differ from macro-scale. In recent years, researches done to describes how these structures behaviors change, and how they can be worked around, or exploited for new uses [\[1](#page-6-0)–5]. In practical cases, fluid particles controlling is an important process for using of this atomic structures to industrial applications. Micro-channels is one promising methods which used in fluid control and heat transfer procedures. Micro-channel in micro-technology is a channel with a hydraulic diameter below 1 mm size [\[6,7\]](#page-6-0). Technically, micro-fluids designing one of the excellent methods to fluids controlling. Micro-fluid designing refers to the behavior, precise control, and manipulation of fluids that are geometrically constrained to a small scale at which surface forces dominate volumetric forces [\[8\]](#page-6-0). Historically, Micro-fluid designing emerged in the beginning of the 1980s and is used in the development of inkjet printheads, DNA chips, lab-on-a-chip technology, micro-propulsion, and micro-thermal technologies [[9](#page-6-0)]. Computational methods is one of the various approaches to particles (such as atoms and molecules) study [\[10](#page-6-0)–14]. Computational methods described fluids behavior appropriately [\[15](#page-6-0)–20]. Dissipative particle dynamics (DPD) method, is a computer simulation for study of micro-scale phenomena [\[21](#page-6-0)–23].

Coarse graining modeling used in this approach which leads to an inter particle force implementing for various structures [\[24](#page-6-0)–26]. Theoretically, Fokker–Planck equation solved in DPD simulations which this process cause to predict the continuum phenomena by using this method. In previous work, this computational method has been used for study of various fluids. In previous works, DPD method used successfully for fluid study. Xu et al. [\[27](#page-7-0)] showed the DPD method widely used in predicting the channel flow containing various soft matter systems. The general aspect and basic formulations of DPD are introduced in this work, and different boundary conditions are presented for wallbounded flows. In addition, the models based on DPD developed to simulate flow-induced transport through fluidic channels for some typical soft matter systems are discussed, including red blood cells, vesicles, polymers, and bio-macromolecules. Abu-Nada et al. [\[28](#page-7-0)] introduce a two-component DPD model to investigate heat transfer enhancement in natural convection using  $Al_2O_3$ -water nano-fluid. This DPD model used two different types of particles to represent the base fluid particles and the nanoparticles. This work results revealed that for the case of low Rayleigh numbers some enhancements were observed using low volume fraction of nanoparticles, however further increase in volume fraction of nanoparticles caused a deterioration in heat transfer. Tong et al. [[29](#page-7-0)] used extended energy-conserving dissipative particle dynamics (eDPD) to investigate the macromolecule behaviors as well as the flow of macromolecular suspension confined in a micro-channel under thermal gradient. The results show that the thermal gradient effect on the macromolecular suspension flow is significant, and the macromolecules are more prone to reach an extended stretching state as the

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<span id="page-1-0"></span>

Fig. 1.  $Ar/O<sub>2</sub>$  fluid and Pt micro-channel arrangement in our computational work: a) without external magnetic field and b) with external magnetic field.

temperature becomes higher. Mai-Duy et al. [[30](#page-7-0)] calculated the viscosity of the solvent phase is typically estimated by a DPD approach, where the fluid is subjected to a flow process, and the local stress and shear rate tensors. Results show that, the obtained values in this study (shear stress/shear rate) can be used in calculating the particulate fluid rheology appropriately. In this work we use DPD simulations to simulate atomic behavior of Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  fluids in Pt micro-channel in presence of external magnetic field.



Fig. 2. Temperature fluctuation of  $O_2/Ar$  fluid in Pt micro-channel as a function of time steps.



Fig. 3. Total energy variation of  $Ar/O<sub>2</sub>$  fluid in Pt micro-channel as a function of time steps.

#### 2. Computational method

In this computational work, we use DPD method to describe the  $Ar/O<sub>2</sub>$  atomic behavior in presence of time dependent external magnetic field. Historically, this method propose for the first time by Hoogerbrugge and Koelman [\[31,32\]](#page-7-0). They suggested an effective method for designing micro-channels in the laminar and fully developed flow. Later, espanol improved this computational approach to ensure the appropriate equilibrium state [[33](#page-7-0)]. Today, various DPD approaches with optimized computational complexity and good control of transport properties are released [[34\]](#page-7-0). Technically, DPD is a coarsegrained version of molecular dynamics and emerged as a simple yet potentially powerful alternative for mesoscopic simulations. In this method, each DPD particle represents a cluster of actual molecules of the flow field. Each particle interacts with surrounding particles through a set of distance and velocity dependent forces within a certain cutoff radius. In this method, sum of the forces applied to the particle "I" is shown by following relation [[31](#page-7-0)–34]:

$$
F_i = \sum_{j \neq i} \left( F_{ij}^C + F_{ij}^D + F_{ij}^R \right) \tag{1}
$$

where,  $F_{ij}^C$  is a conservative force,  $F_{ij}^D$  is a dissipative force and  $F_{ij}^R$  is a random force, respectively. All used parameters in the force equation are dimensionless. These interaction forces defined as below [\[31,32](#page-7-0)]:

$$
F^{C} = A\omega(r) \tag{2}
$$

$$
F^{D} = -\gamma \omega^{2}(r) \left( \mathbf{r}_{ij} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{ij} \right)
$$
 (3)

$$
F^{R} = \sigma \omega(r)\alpha (\Delta t)^{-1/2}
$$
 (4)

$$
\omega(r) = 1 - r/r_c \tag{5}
$$

Table 1

Total energy temperature and value of  $Ar/O<sub>2</sub>$  fluid in Pt micro-channel after 2,500,000 time step.

Fluid Type	Temperature (Unit Less)	Total Energy (Unit Less)
Ar particles	299.98	$-551$
$O2$ particles	300.05	$-690$

<span id="page-2-0"></span>

Fig. 4. RDF of a)Ar and b) $O_2$  fluid in Pt micro-channel in final step of DPD simulation.

in these equations,  $r_{ii}$  is a unit vector in direction  $(r_i - r_i)$ ,  $v_{ii}$  is the vector difference in velocities of the two atoms  $(v_i - v_i)$ ,  $\alpha$  is a Gaussian random number with zero mean and unit variance, Δt is the simulation time step, and  $\omega$  is a weighting parameter ( $0 < \omega < 1$ ). Further,  $\sigma$  is set equal to  $(2K_bT\gamma)^{1/2}$ , where  $K_b$  is the Boltzmann constant and T is the temperature parameter. After determining particles interaction, DPD simulation process was fulfilled.

Further, as described by Español and Warren [\[22](#page-6-0)], the coefficients and the weight functions are predicted as,

$$
w^D(r) = \left[w^R(r)\right]^2\tag{6}
$$

$$
\gamma = \frac{\sigma^2}{2k_B T} \tag{7}
$$

As required by the fluctuation-dissipation theorem. Moreover  $k_B$  is the Boltzmann constant. All of the interaction energies are expressed in units of  $k_BT$ , which is usually assigned a value of unity. One simple, straightforward and commonly used choice is,

$$
w^{D}(r) = \left[w^{R}(r)\right]^{2} = \left(1 - \frac{r}{r_{c}}\right)^{s} r < r_{c}
$$
\n<sup>(8)</sup>

where  $r_c$  is the cut-off distance of the dissipative and random force. In DPD formulation, it usually takes the same value as the cut-off distance of the conservative force, but can vary to modify the dynamic properties in DPD simulation. The time integration algorithm is very important in DPD simulations. In order to achieve this aim, modified version of the velocity-Verlet algorithm is common,

$$
r_i(t + \Delta t) = r_i(t) + \Delta t v_i(t) + \frac{1}{2} (\Delta t)^2 f_i(t)
$$
\n(9)

$$
v_i(t + \Delta t) + \lambda \Delta t f_i(t) \tag{10}
$$

$$
f_i(t + \Delta t) = f_i(r_i(t + \Delta t), v_i(t + \Delta t))
$$
\n(11)

$$
v_i(t + \Delta t) = v_i(t) + \frac{1}{2}\Delta t (f_i(t) + f_i(t + \Delta t))
$$
\n(12)

In this work our DPD simulations done by using Large Scale Atomic Molecular Massively Simulator (LAMMPS) [\[35](#page-7-0)–37]. [Fig. 1a](#page-1-0) show the schematic of Ar fluid and Pt micro-channel arrangement in first step of DPD simulations. Further, [Fig. 1b](#page-1-0) represent the external magnetic field implementing to simulation systems. Technically, these graphical representations produced with OVITO software [\[38](#page-7-0)]. Computationally, our coarse graining models studied in 3 main Stages:

#### 2.1. Step A) Equilibration of  $Ar/O<sub>2</sub>$  fluid and Pt Micro-Channel Structures

In this stage,  $Ar/O<sub>2</sub>$  fluid and Pt micro-channel were simulated in  $1000 \times 350 \times 1000$  box.  $T = 300$  value choose as initial temperature in simulated mixtures. After this procedure, consistency of simulated structures reported by temperature and total energy calculation.

#### 2.2. Step B) Atomic behavior of Fluid and Micro-Channel

In the second stage, by inserting external force to Ar or  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles and poiseuille flow of Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles the profiles of velocity, temperature and density of simulated fluid, were reported.



Fig. 5. Profiles of density of Ar and  $O_2$  particles in Pt micro-channel after 1,000,000 time steps.

<span id="page-3-0"></span>

Fig. 6. Profile of Velocity of Ar and  $O_2$  particles in Pt micro-channel after 1,000,000 time steps.

#### 2.3. Step C) External magnetic field effect on  $O_2$ /Ar particles behavior

In the final stage, by inserting external magnetic field, profiles of velocity, density and temperature variations of simulated particles were reported. The dynamic behavior of the simulated fluids in microchannel was also expressed.

#### 3. Results and discussion

3.1. Equilibration of  $Ar/O<sub>2</sub>$  and Pt Micro-Channel structures for the validation

In the first step of our DPD simulations, the consistency of simulated structures by temperature and total energy calculations, reported. In this study,  $T = 300$  selected for initial temperature value for Pt microchannel and  $Ar/O<sub>2</sub>$  fluid. As depicted in [Fig. 2,](#page-1-0) this initial condition detectable after 2,500,000 time steps. From this calculation we can say, the mobility of simulated structures converge to constant value and temperature fluctuation vanishes by simulation time steps goes on. [Fig. 3](#page-1-0) show the total energy variation in simulated structures (fluid and micro-channel particles). This physical parameter equal to sum of potential and kinetic energies of particles. Our simulations show the total energy of  $O_2$  and Ar fluids in Pt micro-channel converge to  $-690$ and − 652, respectively. Physically, the negative value of total energy show the atomic consistency of them. This behavior arises from attraction force between various structures. [Table 1](#page-1-0) shows the total energy of  $O<sub>2</sub>$  and Ar fluids after 2,500,000 time steps. These numerical results show  $O_2$  particles has larger value (magnitude) rather Ar fluid. By increment of total energy of simulated particles, the consistency of particles increases and so  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles in Pt micro-channel has the best consistency between simulated structures with DPD approach.

#### Table 2

The maximum amount of temperature, density and velocity and profiles of Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles in Pt micro-channel after 1,000,000 time steps.





Fig. 7. Profile of temperature of Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles in Pt micro-channel after 1,000,000 time steps.

Finally, the Radial Distribution Function (RDF) of simulated structures reported to verify our simulation method. In statistical mechanics, the RDF in a system of particles, describes how density varies as a function of distance from a reference particle. [Fig. 4](#page-2-0) shows this physical parameter of Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles. This calculated parameter for these particles correspond to previous report [\[39,40\]](#page-7-0). Physically, these calculated results show the validity of our DPD simulations which arises from appropriate atomic modeling and inter-particle force implementing in simulation box.

#### 3.2. Atomic behavior of fluid and Micro-Channel structures

After equilibrium process, external force inserted to  $Ar/O<sub>2</sub>$  particles inside Pt micro-channel. After this procedure, the density, velocity and temperature profiles of fluid particles reported. For calculation of these physical quantities in our DPD simulations, we divided microchannel to 183 bins in x direction and report the time averaging rate of temperature, density and velocity and. The density profile of  $Ar/O<sub>2</sub>$ fluid indicate that, particles interacted with the Pt atoms (micro-channel wall) by attraction force. Comparatively,  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles attracted with larger force rather to Ar particles in Pt micro-channel. This behavior cause the maximum value of density profile reach to 0.042 and 0.043 for  $O<sub>2</sub>$  and Ar particles, respectively. Numerically, this maximum density rate detectable in 24/25 bin for  $O_2/Ar$  fluid. [Fig. 5](#page-2-0) show the density profile of Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles in Pt micro-channel after 1,000,000 time steps. From this figure can be deduced that, the  $Ar/O<sub>2</sub>$  atoms absorbed by micro-channel walls and this phenomenon reduced in middle region of simulation box and particles move freely in this region. So, DPD

|--|--|

Total energy of Ar/O<sub>2</sub> fluid in Pt micro-channel by inserting magnetic field as a function of amplitude and frequency of external field.



<span id="page-4-0"></span>

Fig. 8. Profiles of density of Ar particles in Pt micro-channel in presence of external magnetic field (various amplitudes).

simulations estimate poiseuille flow for Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles in metallic micro-channel. This atomic calculations is Compatible with previous studies and validates our simulation method settings such as atomic modeling and interaction forces [[41](#page-7-0)–51].

The velocity and temperature variations in various region of simulation box are determinant parameters in DPD simulations. In this step of our study, velocity and temperature profiles of Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles reported. These profiles show the particles dynamical manner inside me-tallic micro-channel s. [Fig. 6](#page-3-0) shows the velocity of Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles after 1,000,000 time steps. From this simulation result, we conclude the DPD approach estimate poiseuille flow for these particles in presence of external constant force.

This atomic behavior occurs because of attraction force across Pt atoms and fluid particles. In simulation box, the velocity of fluid particles in vicinity of micro-channel walls has minimum rate. Further, in



Fig. 9. Profiles of density of  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles in Pt micro-channel in presence of external magnetic field (various amplitudes).



Fig. 10. Profiles of velocity of Ar particles in Pt micro-channel in presence of external magnetic field (various amplitudes).

middle region this physical parameter reach to maximum value. This dynamical behavior arises from 2 main factors:

- 1) Attraction force reach to minimum value from the Pt walls in middle region.
- 2) External force reach to maximum value in middle region.

Numerically, the maximum value of Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  fluid particles occur in 83 bin of simulation box with 0.076 and 0.084, respectively. [Table 2](#page-3-0) show the maximum value of Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles velocity in Pt microchannel. Temperature fluctuation of fluid particles similar to velocity profile. [Fig. 7](#page-3-0) shows profile of temperature of Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles in Pt micro-channel s after 1,000,000 time step. As illustrated in this figure, the poiseuille flow has a quadratic temperature profile. Numerically, maximum Ar and  $O_2$  particles temperature reach to 355 and 426, respectively. These maximum values of fluid particles detectable in 88 bin. In comparison, O<sub>2</sub> particles temperature has bigger value rather to Ar fluid which this behavior arises from atomic weight of these structures. We can say that, Ar particles with lesser atomic mass, accelerate with larger ratio in the presence of a constant external force. In



Fig. 11. Profiles of velocity of O2 particles in Pt micro-channel in presence of external magnetic field (various amplitudes).



Fig. 12. Profiles of temperature of Ar particles in Pt micro-channel in presence of external magnetic field (various amplitudes).



Fig. 13. Profiles of temperature of O2 particles in Pt micro-channel in presence of external magnetic field (various amplitudes).

[Table 2](#page-3-0), the maximum values of density, velocity and temperature for Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  fluids reported after 1,000,000 time step.

### 3.3. External magnetic field effect on  $O_2$ /Ar particles behavior

Table 4

In this section of DPD simulations, we implemented external magnetic field as below equation for the first time [\[52](#page-7-0)–65]:  $B=B_0 \sin(\omega t)$  (13).

This equation varies by simulation time steps.  $B_0$  is field magnitude and  $\omega$  is the frequency of this external parameter. In our DPD simulation, these physical parameters set to below values:

• 
$$
B_0 = 1, 2, \text{ and } 5
$$

• 
$$
\omega
$$
 = 0.1, 0.2, and 0.5

As reported before, atomic consistency of simulated Ar  $/O<sub>2</sub>$  in Pt micro-channels reported by temperature and total energy variations as a function of simulation time steps. Our DPD simulations show the temperature of simulated structures converge to 300 after 2,500,000 time steps. Further, total energy value of simulated particles in presence of Ar/O<sub>2</sub> particles as fluid in Pt micro-channel reach to −553/−692 in presence of  $B = 1 \times \sin(0.1 \times t)$ . This atomic behavior of structures show the consistency of them in presence of external magnetic field. The total energy variation as a function of external magnetic field magnitude and frequency variation reported in [Table 3](#page-3-0). From these calculations we conclude, external magnetic field, don't disrupted atomic structures and stable phase of Ar and O<sub>2</sub> particles in Pt micro-channel detectable after 2,500,000 time step.

By inserting external magnetic field, the poissue flow of  $Ar/O<sub>2</sub>$  particles can be seen. From [Figs. 8 and 9,](#page-4-0) we see density value reach to maximum value in initial and final bins of simulated structures. Further, density profile fluctuate with mean value in middle region of simulation box which this behavior arises from external parameters (external force and external magnetic field). Numerically, the maximum density of simulated fluids reach to 0.042 and 0.043 for Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles. So, we can say this atomic parameter increases 71% and 73% for simulated fluids (Ar and O<sub>2</sub>, respectively). Velocity profile of simulated particles get bigger value by magnetic field implementing in simulation box. For  $B_0 = 1$  and  $\omega = 0.1$  values, the maximum rate of particles velocity reach to  $0.104/0.108$  for Ar/O<sub>2</sub> fluid (see [Figs. 10 and 11\)](#page-4-0). This maximum value of calculated quantity occur in middle bins of simulation box. In comparison,  $O<sub>2</sub>$  fluid reach larger atomic velocity which these atomic manner arises from charge distribution and lesser atomic mass of this element. As depicted in Figs. 12 and 13, by velocity increasing in simulated structures, temperature value increases, too. In 88 bin of simulated fluids with Ar and  $O_2$  particles, the maximum ratio of temperatures detected with 390 and 489 values (for  $B_0 = 1$ ). Numerically, by amplitude of external magnetic field increasing, the density (maximum value), velocity and temperature profiles increased. The maximum rate of these physical quantities in presence of external magnetic field with  $(B<sub>0</sub> =$ 1, 2, and 5) reported in Table 4.

Frequency  $(\omega)$  of external magnetic field variation show the similar effect which described for amplitude study with less intensity. By increasing ω form 0.1 to 0.5 values, the maximum rate of density profile reach to 0.042 and 0.043 for Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  fluids. This atomic behavior show that, distracting force implemented to fluid particles and distribution of theses structure increases in vicinity of micro-channel walls. By this particle distribution, free space for fluid particles increases and Ar/ O2 fluid movement by larger velocity in middle of micro-channel. [Table 5](#page-6-0) show the maximum ratio of Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles velocity reach to 0.095 and 0.101 values, respectively. This maximum ratio, detected in middle bins of simulation box. Further, temperature profile of simulated structures follow of similar behavior and maximum ratio of this physical quantity reach to 374 and 452 values for Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles





#### <span id="page-6-0"></span>Table 5

The maximum rate of  $O_2/Ar$  fluid density, velocity and temperature profiles in Pt micro-channel s as a function of external magnetic field by various frequencies.

![](_page_6_Picture_689.jpeg)

by external magnetic field with  $\omega = 0.5$ , respectively. By these calculated results, we conclude frequency variation of external magnetic field don't disturbed the fluid behavior and can be used in industrial applications for heat and mass transfer procedures.

#### 4. Conclusion

In this work, we use dissipative particle dynamics (DPD) simulations to describe the external magnetic field (time dependent) effects on behavior of Ar and  $O_2$  particles in Pt micro-channel. In our calculations, magnetic field with various magnitude and frequencies implemented to simulation box in perpendicular to fluid direction. Our DPD simulations results show that, this external field is an important parameter to Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles behavior. Numerically, our calculated results from DPD computational process as follow:

- A. The temperature of simulated structures equilibrated in 300 value by implementing of external magnetic field.
- B. The potential energy of simulated structures reach to −552/−690 value for  $Ar/O<sub>2</sub>$  particles by implementing of external magnetic field.
- C. By external magnetic field inserting to Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  particles, the maximum value of these structures density reach to 0.042 and 0.043 value.
- D. Maximum rate of velocity profile calculated for  $Ar/O<sub>2</sub>$  particles by  $B_0 = 5$  and  $w = 0.5$  magnetic field with 0.104/0.108 values.
- E. Temperature of simulated fluid particles reach to 390 and 489 for Ar and  $O<sub>2</sub>$  fluids by implementing of external magnetic field in DPD simulations.

Finally, these results of our DPD study with LAMMPS package show that, one can be used external magnetic field in various industrial process such as mass and heat transfer procedures to increase their efficiency.

#### Declaration of Competing Interest

There is no conflict of interest.

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