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Investigation of transient wave behavior in water pipelines with blockages

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Abstract: Partial blockages commonly exist in water pipelines due to various physical, chemical and biological processes, including sediment, corrosion and biofilm. The formed blockages can result in low flowing capacity, additional energy loss and water quality deterioration during water conveyance process such as urban water supply and drainage systems. This paper presents an investigation on the interaction of transient pressure waves with pipe-wall roughness and blockages in water pipelines. The analytical expression of wave propagation in a pipeline with rough blockages is firstly derived by the multi-scale wave perturbation analysis for transient pipe flows. The analytical results and analysis demonstrate that the wave scattering (amplitude damping and phase shifting) is dependent on the relationship between the incident wavelength and the correlation length of roughness-blockage disorders in the pipeline. The relative importance of pipe-wall roughness friction and pipe blockage constriction to the wave scattering in terms of wave envelope attenuation and wave phase change is then investigated based on the analytically derived results. Two dimensionless parameters, which are functions of the properties of incident waves, pipe-wall roughness, blockage severity and range, and internal fluid conditions, are formulated to characterize such relevance and importance. For validation, the analytical results are compared with experimental data collected in this study based on a laboratory experimental test system designed for the former study. Finally, the key results and findings of this study are discussed for their applicability and implication to transient pipe flow modelling and pipeline condition assessment in practical applications.

Keywords: Water pipeline; Transient flow; Roughness; Blockage; Wave scattering;

Introduction

Waterhammer, which is also termed as fast transients, hydraulic transients or pressure surges in the literature, commonly exists in fluid piping system with its theory development and practice dated back to 1900s (Ghidaoui et al., 2005). Modelling and simulation of waterhammer phenomena is important to both the transient pipe system design (Wylie et al., 1993; Duan et al., 2010a; Chaudhry, 2014) and the pipeline condition assessment (Brunone, 1999; Duan et al., 2011a, 2012; Lee et al., 2013; Meniconi et al., 2013; Gong et al., 2014, 2016, 2018; Duan and Lee, 2016; Kim, 2016, 2020; Wang and Ghidaoui, 2018; Che et al., 2018, 2019; Ayati et al., 2019; Wang et al., 2019; Keramat et al., 2020; Zouari et al., 2019, 2020). To accurately represent and reproduce waterhammer results in a practical pipeline system, various factors have been considered and coupled into the waterhammer/transients models, such as the formulas and expressions for pipe-skin friction and fluid turbulence (Vardy and Brown, 1995; Brunone and Berni, 2010;), pipe-wall material visco-elasticity (Covas et al., 2005; Duan et al., 2010b; Meniconi et al., 2012; Guidara et al., 2018; Pan et al., 2020, 2021), fluid column separation (Bergant et al., 2006; Ramezani and Karney, 2017), fluid-structure interaction (Wiggert and Tijsseling, 2001; Bergant et al., 2006; Keramat et al., 2012; Zanganeh et al., 2020; Zouari et al., 2019), and air-fluid interaction (Wright et al., 2011; Zhou et al., 2013; Zhu et al., 2018). With the understanding and model development of physical mechanisms and process of transient pipe flows, substantial progress and improvements have been made for the waterhammer theory and practice (Wylie et al., 1993; Chaudhry, 2014; Ghidaoui et al., 2005). However, significant discrepancies between the model predictions and data measurements can still be commonly found in many practical applications under different conditions and such differences become especially significant in aged pipeline systems (McInnis and Karney, 1995; Ebacher et al., 2011;

Meniconi et al., 2015).

In addition to the accuracy improvement of physical models and numerical schemes (Ghidaoui et al., 2005), uncertainty and complexity can usually play important roles in affecting the applicability of such models in practical applications. For this inspection, some recent studies have attributed part of this profound difference to the wave scattering effect (i.e., wave amplitude damping and phase shifting). In complex pipe systems, wave scattering may be induced by the variations and irregularities of cross-sectional areas along pipelines (which is termed as rough blockages in this study), which usually cannot be represented by the roughness-induced friction only in these pipeline systems (Duan, 2017; Duan et al., 2017). An analytical expression has been derived in that study for the wave behaviors in pipelines with rough blockage induced by the irregular variations of pipe diameters. The multi-scale analysis method, which was widely used in other fields of hydrodynamics such as shallow water waves (Lu, 2008), water pipelines (Duan et al., 2014; Duan, 2017) and artery blood hammer (Mei and Jing, 2016), has been successfully applied to transient pipe flow systems. The results gained in that study demonstrated the important influence of wave scattering on the transient envelope attenuation (amplitude damping) and phase change (frequency shifting).

In practice, it is important to study the transient interactions of pressure waves and internal pipe conditions for understanding transient wave propagation process, thereby its utilization for pipeline diagnosis (e.g., Duan et al., 2011a, 2014, 2017; Meniconi et al., 2011, 2015; Kim 2016; Wang et al., 2019; Zouari et al., 2019, 2020), especially in the complex and aged pipeline systems, where the random and irregular variations of pipe diameters become more and more severe due to many unavoidable factors (Stephens, 2008; Ebacher et al., 2011) such as corrosion, bio-film, deposition, and complex connections of pipes and/or facilities with different sizes

shown in Fig. 1. For instance, the inspection of an aged water supply pipeline that was still in use revealed that over 50% of pipe cross-sectional area was blocked along that pipe section (Stephens, 2008; Duan et al., 2017; Gong et al., 2018). Such blockages may have significant hydraulic effect on the mainstream flow motions (and thus transient waves) along the pipeline, which is different from the traditional pipe-wall friction effect that induces energy dissipation only within the boundary layer. Consequently, an in-depth understanding of the interaction of transient waves and pipe-wall conditions (roughness and blockages) will be crucial to transient modelling and utilization for water supply system analysis.

Fig. 1 will be here.

In the previous studies (Duan, 2017; Duan et al., 2017), the assumptions of frictionless pipelines and inviscid pipe flows have been made for analytical derivations, in order to highlight and separate the effect of wave scattering from others such as friction and turbulence. Thereafter, numerical and experimental applications by different researchers have shown the consistent results with the previously derived analytical results in terms of the importance of wave scattering in transient pipe flow systems (Wu and Fricke, 1990; Duan et al., 2011b; Lee et al., 2015; Meniconi et al., 2015; Duan et al., 2017). Numerical simulations in these studies have also demonstrated that the wave behaviors in such disordered pipelines cannot be represented by the friction and turbulence models only. On the basis of these previous studies, it is necessary to further understand and analyze the physical mechanism of wave scattering effect induced by the pipe-wall disorders and its importance and relevance to pipe roughness-blockage factors, which is the scope of this study.

This paper aims to examine the relative importance and influence of wave scattering resulted from pipe roughness and blockage factors to the transient wave behaviors. The multi-scale analytical method is adopted in this study to obtain a comprehensive perspective of wave scattering analysis in the transient pipe flow system with rough blockages along the pipeline. As continuous and preliminary study, two situations of transient laminar and small-amplitude turbulent flows are considered in this paper, because they have become increasingly important to the transient-based pipe diagnosis and condition analysis (Brunone, 1999; Duan et al., 2011a; Lee et al., 2013; Gong et al., 2014; Meniconi et al., 2015; Kim, 2016; Ayati et al., 2019; Zanganeh et al., 2020). The obtained results are then used to analyze and discuss the influence and relevance of wave-roughness-blockage interaction to the transient modelling and analysis at the end of this paper. Finally, the analytical results are validated by the experimental data collected in this study from the laboratory experimental pipeline system that was designed for the former study (Duan et al., 2017).

Models and Method of Investigation

The wave equation used for analytical analysis in this study is firstly described based on the classic transient flow models by considering the pipe-wall friction effect. Meanwhile, the multi-scale wave perturbation method that is used for the analytical derivation is presented in this section for clarification.

Transient flow model

The one-dimensional (1D) transient wave model for slightly compressible and unsteady flows in pipes is adopted in this study for the investigation, and the continuity and momentum equations

135 can be expressed as follows (Ghidaoui et al., 2005; Chaudhry, 2014):

$$136 \quad \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} + \frac{A}{\rho a^2} \frac{\partial P}{\partial t} = 0, \quad (1)$$

$$137 \quad \frac{\partial Q}{\partial t} + \frac{A}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} + \frac{\pi D}{\rho} \tau_w = 0, \quad (2)$$

138 where Q = flowrate; A = pipe cross-sectional area; a = wave speed; D = pipe diameter; ρ = fluid
 139 density; P = pressure; x, t = spatial and temporal coordinates; and τ_w = wall shear stress, and can
 140 usually be expressed by the Darcy–Weisbach formula as,

$$141 \quad \tau_w = \frac{\rho f |Q|}{8A^2} Q, \quad (3)$$

142 in which f = the Darcy friction factor. Considering that transient perturbations are given by $Q =$
 143 $Q_0 + q$ and $P = P_0 + p$, with Q_0, P_0 = initial steady-state flowrate and pressure, and q, p = transient
 144 parts of flowrate and pressure, the governing equations (1) and (2) becomes:

$$145 \quad \frac{\partial q}{\partial x} + \frac{A}{\rho a^2} \frac{\partial p}{\partial t} = 0, \quad (4)$$

$$146 \quad \frac{\partial q}{\partial t} + \frac{A}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \frac{\pi D}{\rho} \tau_w^p = 0, \quad (5)$$

147 where $\tau_w = \tau_{w0} + \tau_w^p$, with τ_{w0}, τ_w^p being average (steady) and perturbing (transient) components
 148 of wall shear stress. Particularly:

149 (1) For laminar flow regime: $f = \frac{64}{\mathbf{Re}_0}$ with $\mathbf{Re}_0 = \frac{Q_0 D}{A_0 \nu}$ is initial Reynolds number and ν

150 is kinematic viscosity. Under this condition, Eq. (5) becomes,

$$151 \quad \frac{\partial q}{\partial t} + \frac{A}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \frac{8\pi \nu}{A} q = 0. \quad (6)$$

152 (2) For turbulent flow regime: f is a function of pipe size, pipe-wall roughness, and flow

condition (\mathbf{Re}_0), which can be usually determined by the empirical Colebrook–White equation (Wylie et al., 1993; Ghidaoui et al., 2005; Chaudhry, 2014). Assuming small-amplitude transient flows with $Q = Q_0 \gg q$, Eq. (2) can be simplified as,

$$\frac{\partial q}{\partial t} + \frac{A}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \frac{f|Q|}{DA} q = 0. \quad (7)$$

Combining Eq. (4) and Eq. (6) or Eq. (7), by eliminating one of the variables (e.g., q here), gives a general form of the wave equation for describing both transient laminar flows and small-amplitude transient turbulent flows as,

$$A \left(\frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial t^2} \right) - a^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(A \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \right) = \pm Ka \frac{\partial p}{\partial x}, \quad (8)$$

where K is friction coefficient, with $K = 8\pi\nu$ for transient laminar flow case, and $K = 0.25\pi\nu/\mathbf{Re}_0$ for small-magnitude transient turbulent flows; the signs “ \pm ” denote the directions of base flow (towards upstream and downstream respectively) as indicated in Eq. (3). In this study, “ $-$ ” is taken in Eq. (8) for example in the following analytical derivations (i.e., base flow is from upstream to downstream), and the similar analysis for the “ $+$ ” case (i.e., base flow from downstream to upstream) can be obtained by the same derivation procedure. Meanwhile, the small-amplitude transient turbulent flow case is considered in this study since it has been very important to the transient-based applications for pipe condition assessment such as leakage and blockage detection (Meniconi et al., 2011; Lee et al., 2013; Gong et al., 2014, 2018; Wang et al., 2019; Zouari et al., 2020).

It is also worthy of noting that: (i) the convective inertia term in the momentum Eq. (2) has been neglected due to the very small March number ($\mathbf{M}=a/V \ll 1$) for water hammer flows (Ghidaoui et al., 2005; Mei and Jing, 2016); (ii) the linearization of turbulent friction in Eq. (7) is valid for the small-amplitude transient flows, which has been evidenced in the previous study

(Duan et al., 2018); and (iii) the source term on the right-hand side of Eq. (8) is the main difference from the frictionless pipeline case investigated in previous studies (Duan et al., 2011b; Duan, 2017; Gong et al., 2018; ; Zouari et al., 2019), but the form of Eq. (8) has a great difference from the cases for other fields of hydrodynamics such as shallow water wave and pure acoustic waves where the method of multi-scale analysis has also been applied to perform the analytical analysis (Wu and Fricke, 1990; Colton et al., 2000; Lu, 2008).

Multi-scale wave analysis

Multi-scale analysis has been widely developed and applied in solving wave perturbation and scattering problems (Colton et al., 2000), such as shallow water waves (Lu, 2008), acoustic waves (Wu and Fricke, 1990), and pipe transient waves (Duan, 2017; Duan et al., 2017). The principle and procedure of multi-scale analysis is to (1) introduce different scale variables (fast-slow and/or large-small) for an independent variable in the original system; (2) treat these multi-scale variables independently to eliminate the secular terms in the system equations; and (3) solve equations for all scale variables (usually one by one) under solvability conditions. For the wave equation (8) of transient pipe flows focused in this study, it has,

(i) independent variables:

$$x = x; x_1 = \varepsilon x; x_2 = \varepsilon^2 x \dots; \text{ and } t = t; t_1 = \varepsilon t; t_2 = \varepsilon^2 t \dots; \quad (9)$$

(ii) dependent variable:

$$p = p_0(x, x_1, x_2, t, t_1, t_2) + \varepsilon p_1(x, x_1, x_2, t, t_1, t_2) + \varepsilon^2 p_2(x, x_1, x_2, t, t_1, t_2) + \dots, \quad (10)$$

where ε is scaling variable, and subscripts “0, 1, 2...” represent the order of multiple scales. As a result, it has,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \varepsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} + \varepsilon^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} + \dots; \text{ and } \frac{\partial}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \varepsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial t_1} + \varepsilon^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial t_2} + \dots . \quad (11)$$

In pipe fluid transients, multi-scale wave analysis becomes relevant and significant for both physical understanding and practical applications. Specifically, transient wave propagation in the pipeline system is affected by many factors, such as pipe skin friction and turbulence, junctions, pipe faults, pipe material deformation, and system boundaries. The influences of these factors result in different wave behaviors, that is, multiple reflections and transmissions in different scales of time and space, so that the responses of the transient system will consist of waves in different scales of space and time. In this study, only the pipe-wall roughness and internal blockages along the pipeline are considered for analysis, which therefore induces three scales of wave propagation in the pipeline. In detail, the transient waves in single pipelines (described by the governing equation (8)) can be divided into following three scales: main wave streams (incident wave) with an order of $\varepsilon^0 = 1$, the reflected waves by pipe blockages with an order of ε , and the smoothed waves by pipe-wall roughness with an order of ε^2 . As a result, the first three terms of the right-hand side of the above Eqs. (10) and (11) are included with a truncation of $O(\varepsilon^2)$ for high-order terms (i.e., order > 2) in the following derivations.

Analytical Derivation and Results Analysis

The analytical derivation is performed by the multi-scale wave perturbation method. In this section, the main assumptions applied for the derivations are firstly provided, followed by the key results and analysis for wave scattering effect in pipelines.

Important assumptions for analytical derivation

The important assumptions made in this study for the analytical derivations mainly include:

- (1) All the results gained in this study are based on Eq. (8), which is valid for the transient laminar flows (i.e., $\text{Re}_0 < 2000$) and small-amplitude transient turbulent flows (i.e., $q \ll Q_0$) (Lee et al., 2013; Duan et al., 2018);
- (2) The convective inertia in the momentum Eq. (2) has been neglected due to the very small *Mach* number ($\text{M} = a/V \ll 0$, with $a \sim 1000$ m/s and $V \sim 1$ m/s) for water hammer waves in pressurized water pipelines such as metallic and concrete materials (Ghidaoui et al., 2005);
- (3) The variation of pipe cross-sectional area due to rough blockages along the pipeline, as shown in Fig. 2, is represented by the following function (Duan, 2017; Duan et al., 2011b; 2017):

$$A(x) = A_0(1 + \varepsilon \zeta(x)), \quad (12)$$

in which: $\zeta(x)$ characterizes the irregular variation of pipe cross-sectional area, which has zero mean; A_0 is the pipe cross-sectional area for uniform pipeline;

- (4) Relatively small transient perturbations from incident waves and pipe area disorders (blockage) compared to original steady (pre-transient) state, and therefore, $|\zeta(x)| \ll 1$ in Eq. (12).

Fig. 2 will be here

Key results of analytical derivation

Based on the above-mentioned assumptions, applying multi-scale analysis method of Eq. (9) through Eq. (11) to the transient wave equation (8) and neglecting high-order terms (i.e., order $>$

242 2) provides the derivative results of pressure wave perturbation as follows,

$$243 \quad \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial p_0}{\partial x} + \varepsilon \left(\frac{\partial p_1}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial p_0}{\partial x_1} \right) + \varepsilon^2 \left(\frac{\partial p_2}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial p_1}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial p_0}{\partial x_2} \right), \quad (13)$$

$$244 \quad \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial^2 p_0}{\partial t^2} + \varepsilon \left(\frac{\partial^2 p_1}{\partial t^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 p_0}{\partial t \partial t_1} \right) + \varepsilon^2 \left(\frac{\partial^2 p_2}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^2 p_0}{\partial t_1^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 p_1}{\partial t \partial t_1} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 p_0}{\partial t \partial t_2} \right). \quad (14)$$

245 Then substituting Eq. (12) through Eq. (14) into Eq. (8), and again neglecting the high-order
246 terms, the final results in different scales are obtained as follows:

247 Zero-order (ε^0):

$$248 \quad \frac{\partial^2 p_0}{\partial t^2} - a^2 \frac{\partial^2 p_0}{\partial x^2} + \frac{Ka}{A_0} \frac{\partial p_0}{\partial x} = 0; \quad (15)$$

249 First-order (ε^1):

$$250 \quad \left(\frac{\partial^2 p_1}{\partial t^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 p_0}{\partial t \partial t_1} + \zeta(x) \frac{\partial^2 p_0}{\partial t^2} \right) \\ = a^2 \left(\frac{\partial^2 p_1}{\partial x^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 p_0}{\partial x \partial x_1} + \frac{\partial \zeta(x)}{\partial x} \frac{\partial p_0}{\partial x} + \zeta(x) \frac{\partial^2 p_0}{\partial x^2} \right) - \frac{Ka}{A_0} \left(\frac{\partial p_1}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial p_0}{\partial x_1} \right); \quad (16)$$

251 Second-order (ε^2):

$$252 \quad \left(\frac{\partial^2 p_2}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^2 p_0}{\partial t_1^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 p_1}{\partial t \partial t_1} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 p_0}{\partial t \partial t_2} + \zeta(x) \left(\frac{\partial^2 p_1}{\partial t^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 p_0}{\partial t \partial t_1} \right) \right) \\ = a^2 \left(\frac{\partial^2 p_2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 p_0}{\partial x_1^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 p_1}{\partial x \partial x_1} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 p_0}{\partial x \partial x_2} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{\partial \zeta(x)}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial p_1}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial p_0}{\partial x_1} \right) + \zeta(x) \left(\frac{\partial^2 p_1}{\partial x^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 p_0}{\partial x \partial x_1} \right) \right) - \frac{Ka}{A_0} \left(\frac{\partial p_2}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial p_1}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial p_0}{\partial x_2} \right). \quad (17)$$

253 To solve different scale equations above, it is practical and feasible to start the solution
254 process from the zero-order Eq. (15), with assuming its solution form,

$$255 \quad p_0 = W e^{ikx - i\omega t}, \quad (18)$$

256 where W = wave amplitude; k and ω = wave number and frequency. Combining Eq. (13) and Eq.

257 (18) gives,

258
$$\omega = \pm K_\omega ak, \quad (19)$$

259 with $K_\omega = \sqrt{1 + i \frac{K}{A_0 a k}}$ indicating the friction effects (K) to the mainstream wave propagation.

260 Thereafter, the solution of first-order Eq. (16) can be obtained by considering Eq. (18) and

261 Eq. (19) and applying the Green's function theorem (Lu, 2008), as,

262
$$p_1 = -\frac{kW}{2\beta} e^{-i\omega x} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{\alpha(x-\xi)} e^{i\beta|x-\xi|} e^{ik\xi} \left(\frac{\partial \zeta(\xi)}{\partial \xi} + \frac{K}{A_0 a} \zeta(\xi) \right) d\xi. \quad (20)$$

263 Based on the zero- and first-order solutions, the solvability of the second-order Eq. (17) is

264 obtained for the expression of wave amplitude evolution as follows,

265
$$\left(\begin{aligned} & \frac{(1 + K_\omega^2) a^2 k}{2\omega} \frac{\partial W}{\partial x_2} + \frac{\partial W}{\partial t_2} \\ & - a^2 \frac{k^2 W}{4\omega\beta} \left[\int_{-\infty}^x \left(C_{x'\xi'} + \frac{K}{A_0 a} C_{x'\xi} \right) d\xi + \left(1 - 2\frac{\beta}{k} \right) \int_x^{+\infty} e^{-i2\beta\delta} \left(C_{x'\xi'} + \frac{K}{A_0 a} C_{x'\xi} \right) d\xi \right] \\ & - \frac{ik^3 W}{4\omega\beta} \left[\int_{-\infty}^x \left(C_{x\xi'} + \frac{K}{A_0 a} C_{x\xi} \right) d\xi + \left(1 - 2\frac{\beta}{k} \right) \int_x^{+\infty} e^{-i2\beta\delta} \left(C_{x\xi'} + \frac{K}{A_0 a} C_{x\xi} \right) d\xi \right] \\ & + \frac{ikW\omega}{4\beta} \left[\int_{-\infty}^x \left(C_{x\xi'} + \frac{K}{A_0 a} C_{x\xi} \right) d\xi + \int_x^{+\infty} e^{-i2\beta\delta} \left(C_{x\xi'} + \frac{K}{A_0 a} C_{x\xi} \right) d\xi \right] \end{aligned} \right) = 0. \quad (21)$$

266 with the coefficient symbols defined by,

267
$$C_{x\xi} = \sigma^2 \gamma(\delta), \quad C_{x\xi'} = \sigma^2 \frac{d\gamma(\delta)}{d\delta}, \quad C_{xx'} = \sigma^2 \frac{d\gamma(\delta)}{d\delta}(0), \quad C_{x'x'} = -\sigma^2 \frac{d^2\gamma(\delta)}{d\delta^2}. \quad (22)$$

268 where $\sigma^2 = \sigma^2(x, \xi)$ = ensemble averaged magnitude of pipe area disorders relative to the mean

269 value as given in Eq. (12); $\gamma(\delta)$ = the correlation coefficient and it is assumed that $\gamma(\delta) = e^{-\theta|\delta|}$

270 in this study, with θ being spatial correlation factor of pipe disorders and $\delta = x - \xi$ being spatial

271 distance. Consequently, combining Eq. (18) through Eq. (22), the solution of Eq. (21) has the

following form,

$$W = W_0 e^{-\psi X} e^{i\phi Y}, \quad (23)$$

and,

$$\psi = \frac{k\theta\sigma^2}{\theta^2 + 4k^2} + \alpha; \quad \phi = \frac{k\theta\sigma^2}{2\theta^2 + 8k^2} - \frac{\alpha^2 k}{2\theta}, \quad (24)$$

where ψ and ϕ are dimensionless factors representing for wave envelope attenuation and wave phase change respectively; X = characteristic distance for wave propagation relative to incident wave length (k); Y = characteristic phase for wave propagation relative to pipe disorder correlation length (θ); $\alpha = K/2A_0\omega$ is friction-related dimensionless damping factor; and other symbols refer to previous definitions in this paper.

Results Analysis

Based on the derived result of Eq. (24), it is necessary to compare the individual contributions of wave scattering by pipe blockage and wave smoothing by pipe-wall roughness to transient wave modifications (amplitude attenuation and phase change). Particularly, two following special cases can be derived (with subscripts “ws” and “fr” indicating wave scattering by blockage and wave smoothing by roughness, respectively):

- (1) For the case of frictionless pipeline or inviscid flow, i.e., $K = 0$ and $\alpha = 0$, it provides the result of wave modification by wave scattering effect of pipe blockages only, as

$$\psi_{ws} = \frac{k\theta\sigma^2}{\theta^2 + 4k^2}; \quad \phi_{ws} = \frac{k\theta\sigma^2}{2\theta^2 + 8k^2}. \quad (25)$$

This result indicates clearly the wave scattering effect attains to a maximum as $\theta/k = 2$, which is consistent with the previous result in Duan et al. (2011b, 2017).

(2) Regarding the case of the uniform pipeline without disorders, i.e., $\sigma^2 \rightarrow 0$ and $\theta \rightarrow +\infty$, it gives the result of wave modification by the friction effect of pipe-wall roughness only, as

$$\psi_{fr} = \alpha; \phi_{fr} = -\frac{\alpha^2 k}{2\theta}. \quad (26)$$

Therefore, with the existence of wave scattering effects by both pipe blockage and roughness, their relative importance can be described approximately by the following dimensionless parameters for the wave amplitude attenuation and phase change respectively,

$$G_{amp} = \left| \frac{\psi_{fr}}{\psi_{ws}} \right| = \frac{\alpha}{\sigma^2} \frac{\theta^2 + 4k^2}{\theta k}; \quad G_{pha} = \left| \frac{\phi_{fr}}{\phi_{ws}} \right| = \frac{\alpha^2}{\sigma^2} \frac{k}{\theta} \frac{\theta^2 + 4k^2}{\theta k}. \quad (27)$$

The above analytical results indicate the different modification results and mechanisms of wave scattering effects on the transient wave propagation in the pipeline. Specifically, it is shown that the wave scattering by blockage reflections is highly related to the properties of the pipe disorders and incident waves (σ^2 , θ and k), while that by pipe-wall roughness relies mainly on the properties of the fluid and pipe-wall conditions (α). As a result, it can be easily concluded that the relative importance of these two effects depends on the conditions of internal fluid, pipe-wall material and incident waves, with its quantification expressed in Eq. (27). In fact, this result is useful to quantify and examine numerically the influence ranges of these two different effects to transient wave propagation and behaviors, with the perspective to understand their relevance to the transient modelling and analysis under different conditions in practice.

For instance, considering a typical pipeline for urban water supply and drainage systems, the dimensionless parameter α in Eq. (24) and Eq. (27) can be further rewritten as,

$$\alpha = \frac{K}{2A_0\omega} \sim \frac{\nu}{2D_0^2} \frac{L}{a} f\mathbf{Re}_0 \sim \frac{T_w}{T_d} f\mathbf{Re}_0, \quad (28)$$

where T_w is longitudinal wave propagation time scale; T_d is radial wave diffusion time scale. Actually, this dimensionless parameter in Eq. (28) has been derived in the previous study (Duan et al., 2012a) to represent the relevance and importance of friction effect in pipe fluid transients. To quantify the different influences of pipe-wall roughness and pipe blockages on wave scattering, following typical orders of the values and ranges for the parameters are adopted for a numerical analysis based on previous studies (Ghidaoui et al., 2005; Duan et al., 2012a),

(1) $T_w \sim 1$; $T_d \sim 10^5$; $fRe_0 \sim [64, 10^3]$ for rough pipeline flows; so that $\alpha \sim [6.4 \times 10^{-4}, 10^{-2}]$;

(2) $\sigma^2 \sim 0.1$ for pipe disorders of cross-sectional area; $\theta/k \sim [10^{-2}, 10^{-2}]$ for typical transient pressure waves in water pipelines.

As a result, the influences of pipe-wall friction and rough blockage to transient wave envelope attenuation and wave phase change can be evaluated and plotted in Figs. 3 and 4 respectively, with sub-figures (a) and (b) in each figure for presenting the variation trends of dimensionless parameters (ψ or ϕ) and relative importance coefficients (G_{amp} or G_{pha}) derived formerly in this study.

Fig. 3 will be here.

Fig. 4 will be here.

The results in Figs. 3 and 4 demonstrate the dependence of the relative importance and influence of these two factors (roughness and blockage) to the wave amplitude attenuation and phase change on the disorder-wave ratio θ/k and initial friction condition fRe_0 . On first hand, Figs. 3(a) and 4(a) show that the friction effect of pipe-wall roughness could cause additional attenuation percentage of the envelope amplitude for different friction conditions in addition to

wave scattering effect of pipe blockages (irregular diameters). However, the pipe-wall friction presents little impact on the wave phase change (frequency shift), which is different from wave scattering effect. Particularly, the condition of maximum wave scattering effect is $\theta=2k$ for all the frictional cases, which is also consistent with the previous result for frictionless pipeline case in Duan (2017) and Duan et al. (2017).

On the other hand, Figs. 3(b) and 4(b) indicate that the relative importance of these two factors (i.e., roughness to blockage) to wave behaviors also varies with the two dimensionless parameters of disorder-wave ratio θ/k and friction conditions fRe_0 from the derivations in this study. The overall inspection of these results demonstrates the dominant effect of wave scattering by rough blockages for most cases within the studied domain. Specifically, with regard to wave amplitude attenuation, the pipe-wall friction effect is more important ($G_{amp} > 1$ for the black-filled region in Figs. 3b and 4b) only for the cases of very highly turbulent flows (e.g., $fRe_0 > 10^2$) and relatively large difference between incident wave length and pipe disorder correlation length (e.g., $\theta/k > 10$ or $\theta/k < 10$), which is consistent with observations in many previous studies (Lee et al., 2015; Duan et al., 2017).

Consequently, it can be concluded from Figs. 3 and 4 that the relative importance and influence of pipe-wall roughness to pipe blockage on the transient wave behaviors become progressively significant with an increase of fRe_0 or an increase of the difference between θ and k (e.g., $\theta/k \gg 1$ or $\theta/k \ll 1$). The results and findings of this study may have potential significance and useful implications to the theory and practice of transient pipe flow modelling and analysis such as transient-based pipe faults detection which depends largely on the wave envelope attenuation (amplitude damping) and wave phase change (frequency shift) (Wu and Fricke, 1990; Duan et al., 2012b, 2014; Lee et al., 2013).

Experimental Comparison and Results Discussion

In the literature of water supply pipeline systems, there is very few experimental studies for the interaction of transient wave and rough blockages along pipelines. A recent study by the author and his collaborators (Duan et al., 2017) developed a laboratory test system in the hydraulics laboratory at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand to investigate the wave behaviors in a water pipeline with rough blockages. The sketch and principle of the experimental pipeline system and test information is provided in Fig. 5. Particularly, the uniform pipe case (without blockage) is tested for providing reference data for comparative analysis. The rough blockages made of small stone aggregates (glue together with random distribution) were built in the pipeline for testing. Small-amplitude transient waves were generated by the fast closure of side-discharge valve at the downstream end (Fig. 5), and the pressure signals were measured at the immediate upstream of this transient source location for analysis. The transient data were collected by a pressure transducer with a sample frequency of 20 kHz.

Fig. 5 will be here.

Based on this laboratory experimental pipeline system designed for Duan et al. (2017), further tests have been conducted for different flow and system conditions (e.g., discharge, roughness and blockages) as listed in Table 1. For convenience, the obtained pressure head traces are normalized by the *Joukowsky* head at downstream valve (denoted as W^* herein) and the time is normalized by the wave time scale along intact pipeline (i.e., $t/(L/a)$, denoted as t^*). The experimental test results for the two cases (intact and blockage) are plotted in Fig. 6. The experimental results of Fig. 6 reveal the significant influence of rough blockage to the transient

384 wave in terms of both amplitude attenuation and phase change. On this point, this result of
385 influence pattern and trend is consistent with the above analytical finding of Eq. (24) in this
386 study.

387
388 Table 1 will be here.

389 Fig. 6 will be here.

390
391 To quantitatively validate the analytical result of Eq. (24), the transient pressure data in Fig.
392 6 are first converted into the frequency domain by the discrete Fourier transform (Lee et al., 2013;
393 Duan et al., 2011a), and then the peak (envelop) data of amplitudes and frequencies are extracted
394 and shown in Figs. 7(a) and 7(b) respectively for further analysis. For comparison, the analytical
395 results by Eq. (24) are also calculated for these two cases and plotted in the same figure.

396
397 Fig. 7 will be here.

398
399 Based on the retrieved data and the test information in Table 1, the overall results of the
400 two factors shown in Fig. 7 demonstrate the good agreement between the analytical solution and
401 experimental data. It can be estimated from these results that the average differences between the
402 analytical and experimental results are within 15% of their mean values for both cases (i.e., about
403 14.1% for amplitude attenuation and 8.7% for frequency shift). By inspection, these differences
404 may be mainly attributed to the following reasons: (1) linearization error of the analytical
405 solution for relatively small amplitude turbulent friction; (2) experimental data error from
406 measurement (sampling frequency and system noises); (3) numerical error occurred in data
407 treatment (discretization and data resolution); and (4) local transient turbulence dissipation

(unsteady friction) in the rough blockage section.

Consequently, the result comparison in Fig. 7 indicates the acceptable accuracy and validity of the derived analytical results in this study for expressing the transient wave scattering phenomenon and process by pipe roughness and blockages in water pipelines. Meanwhile, the results of this study regarding the wave scattering by the rough blockages may provide underlying physics and reasons for the blockage detection errors by the original transient-based methods where only regular blockage configurations have been included (e.g., Stephens, 2008; Duan et al., 2012b; Meniconi et al., 2013, 2015). From this perspective, the analytical results and analysis of this study that have included the roughness and irregularity of pipe-wall and solid blockages may be useful to improve transient modelling and practical applications such as blockage detection in water pipelines (Wu and Fricke, 1990; Brunone et al., 2004; Meniconi et al., 2011; Lee et al., 2013; Duan et al., 2014; Duan et al., 2017; Gong et al., 2014, 2018; Che et al., 2018, 2019; Zouari et al., 2019, 2020; Zanganeh et al., 2020). In this regard, based on the results of current study, the further investigation of transient-based pipe-wall condition assessment (e.g., corrosion, deformation and blockage detection) shall be the next step research work in the future.

Practical Implications and Limitations

The experimental comparison indicates the acceptable accuracy range of the derived analytical solution and results analysis in this study. It is also worthy of noting that the analytical results of this study are derived based on several key assumptions summarized formerly in this paper. In this regard, the potential limitations and practical implications of the results and findings from this study can be summarized as follows.

(1) The analytical results in Eqs. (23) and (24) are in principle valid mainly for relatively small-amplitude transient waves (i.e., $q \ll Q_0$). According to Meniconi et al. (2011), however, such small-amplitude transient events (either naturally happened or artificially generated) are commonly existent in urban water supply systems and utilized for water pipeline diagnosis;

(2) The analysis results in Figs. 3 and 4 are based on typical configuration parameters in urban water supply pipelines. Nevertheless, the analytical results can also be easily extended to other fluid piping systems, as long as the transient flow model is still valid (or approximately valid) for such systems. For instance, the incorporation of viscoelastic term (pipe-wall deformation) in the continuity equation (1), coupling with the results of rough blockages in this study, will be useful to the arterial blood system analysis (Mei and Jing, 2016);

(3) In this study, an experimental test system was designed in the laboratory, in which the artificially fabricated rough blockages were used in the tests. Despite these tests might not be able to represent exactly the practical situations in water supply pipelines, the obtained results herein may provide a lumped effect of transient wave scattering and dynamic response as propagating in a pipeline with rough blockages (e.g., amplitude damping and phase shifting).

For higher order (i.e., order > 2) perturbations induced during transient wave propagation process in water pipelines, such as high frequency wave behavior (e.g., $\omega \sim a/D$), advanced analytical methodology, probably together with high-dimensional (2D/3D) numerical simulation techniques (Louati and Ghidaoui, 2019), will be required to derive the solutions to the nonlinear transient wave interactions. Based on the results and findings of this study, the further investigation of high-order wave behavior is expected to be useful to enhance the pipeline condition assessment under complex system conditions (such as transient-based leak and blockage detection).

454

455 **Summary and Conclusions**

456 This paper investigates transient wave propagation behaviors under the conditions of rough
457 blockages (causing irregular pipe diameter variations) and pipe-wall roughness. An analytical
458 result is derived in the study by multi-scale wave perturbation analysis method for describing the
459 wave scattering effect due to both factors of pipe blockages and pipe-wall roughness along the
460 pipeline under the condition of transient laminar and small-amplitude turbulent flows. The
461 relevance and importance of these two factors are discussed for their effects on transient wave
462 modifications (envelope attenuation and phase change).

463 The obtained analytical results indicate that the relative importance of pipe blockage and
464 pipe-wall roughness to wave behaviors can be expressed by two dimensionless factors G_{amp} and
465 G_{pha} defined in Eq. (27) in this study. Specifically, these two factors are functions of incidence
466 wave properties (wave length and speed) and pipeline conditions (roughness, blockage range and
467 severity). The dominant influence domains of these two effects are analyzed and discussed for
468 typical ranges of pipe parameters and flow conditions in water pipeline systems. The result
469 shows that the pipe-wall roughness effect on wave modification becomes significant only when
470 $fRe_0 > 10^2$ and $(\theta/k > 10$ or $\theta/k < 10)$ for the demonstration case, otherwise the rough blockage
471 induced wave scattering effect will be dominant to the wave behavior.

472 These key findings from the analytical analysis have been compared and validated by
473 experimental data from laboratory tests, indicating that the results of this study may provide
474 useful implications on the transient wave modelling and utilization for pipeline diagnosis (e.g.,
475 leak and blockage detection) in the water pipeline system. In particular, the inclusion of the wave
476 scattering effect by rough blockages will be beneficial to improve the accuracy and applicability

of the transient-based defect detection method, which is commonly developed for small-amplitude wave operations and tested for laminar (or low turbulent) flow conditions (e.g., Meniconi et al., 2011). Furthermore, with the two dimensionless factors derived in this study, the transient data measured from practical pipeline systems may be better interpreted by considering the wave scattering effect from different reasons (internal blockage, pipe-wall roughness, etc.). It is also noted that more applications under different complex systems and operation conditions are required in future work to further validate and verify the results and findings of this study.

Data Availability Statement

Some or all data, models, or code generated or used during the study are available from the corresponding author by request (including analytical derivation, numerical model data and experimental test data).

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Notation

The following symbols are used in this paper:

A	=	pipe cross-sectional area
a	=	wave speed
A_0	=	pipe cross-sectional area for uniform pipeline
D	=	pipe diameter

500	f	=	Darcy friction factor
501	K	=	friction coefficient
502	$K\omega$	=	friction effects to the mainstream wave propagation
503	k	=	wave number
504	M	=	March number
505	P	=	pressure
506	P_0	=	initial steady-state pressure
507	p	=	transient parts of pressure
508	Q	=	flowrate
509	Q_0	=	initial steady-state flowrate
510	q	=	transient parts of flowrate
511	Re	=	initial Reynolds number
512	T_d	=	radial wave diffusion time scale
513	T_w	=	longitudinal wave propagation time scale
514	t	=	temporal coordinate
515	ν	=	kinematic viscosity
516	W	=	wave amplitude
517	X	=	characteristic distance for wave propagation
518	x	=	spatial coordinate
519	Y	=	characteristic phase for wave propagation
520	α	=	friction-related dimensionless damping factor
521	δ	=	spatial distance
522	ε	=	scaling variable

523	ϕ	=	dimensionless factor representing for wave phase change
524	$\chi(\delta)$	=	correlation coefficient
525	σ^2	=	ensemble averaged magnitude of pipe area disorders
526	θ	=	spatial correlation factor of pipe disorders
527	τ_w	=	wall shear stress
528	τ_{w0}	=	average (steady) components of wall shear stress
529	τ_w^p	=	perturbing (transient) components of wall shear stress
530	ω	=	wave frequency
531	ψ	=	dimensionless factor representing for wave envelope attenuation
532	$\zeta(x)$	=	irregular variation of pipe cross-sectional area

533

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Table 1. Settings for experimental test systems.

Test case	Uniform pipe sections				Blockage section (average)				Re₀ (×10 ³)
	<i>L</i> ₁ (m)	<i>L</i> ₃ (m)	<i>D</i> ₁ (= <i>D</i> ₃) (mm)	<i>a</i> ₁ (= <i>a</i> ₃) (m/s)	<i>L_b</i> (m)	<i>D_b</i> (mm)	<i>a_b</i> (m/s)	<i>σ</i> ²	
Blockage-free (intact)	15.5	20.4	73.2	1180	5.6	73.2	1180	0	2.0
Rough blockage (aggregate)	15.5	20.4	73.2		5.6	59.3	1050	0.01	~ 15.0

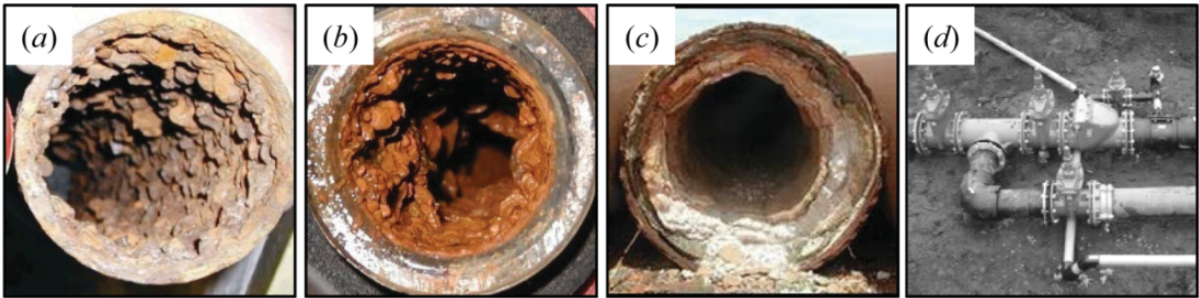


Fig. 1. Disorders of pipe diameters (roughness and blockages) in water pipelines due to different factors: (a) corrosion; (b) bio-film; (c) deposition; (d) complex connection.

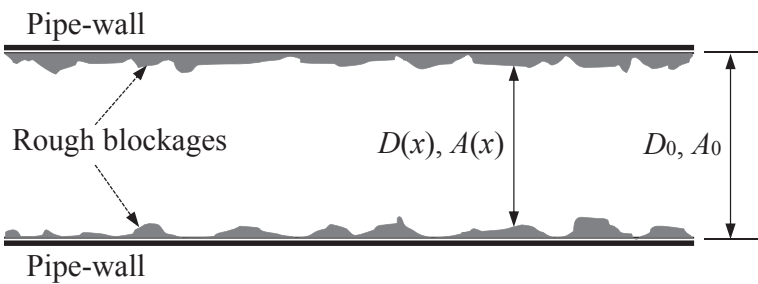


Fig. 2. Sketch of rough blockage configuration in a water pipe section.

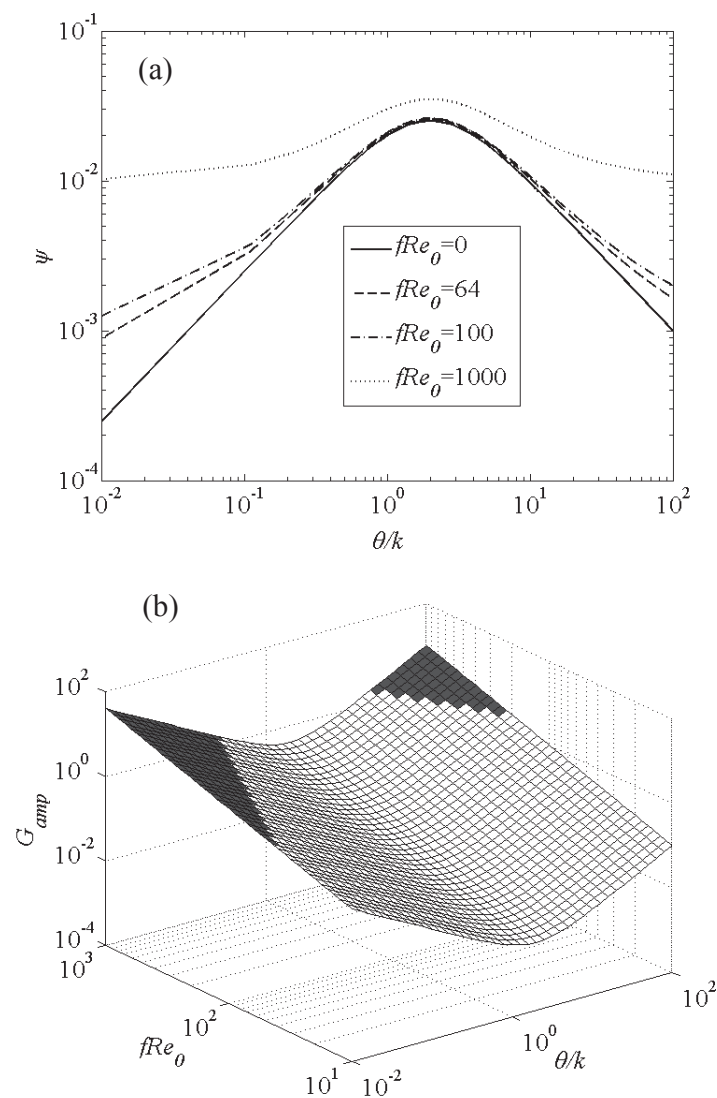


Fig. 3. Effects of pipe wall roughness and blockage on transient wave envelope attenuation: (a): dimensionless envelope attenuation coefficient (ψ); (b): relative importance (G_{amp}) with the black-filled region for $G_{amp} > 1$.

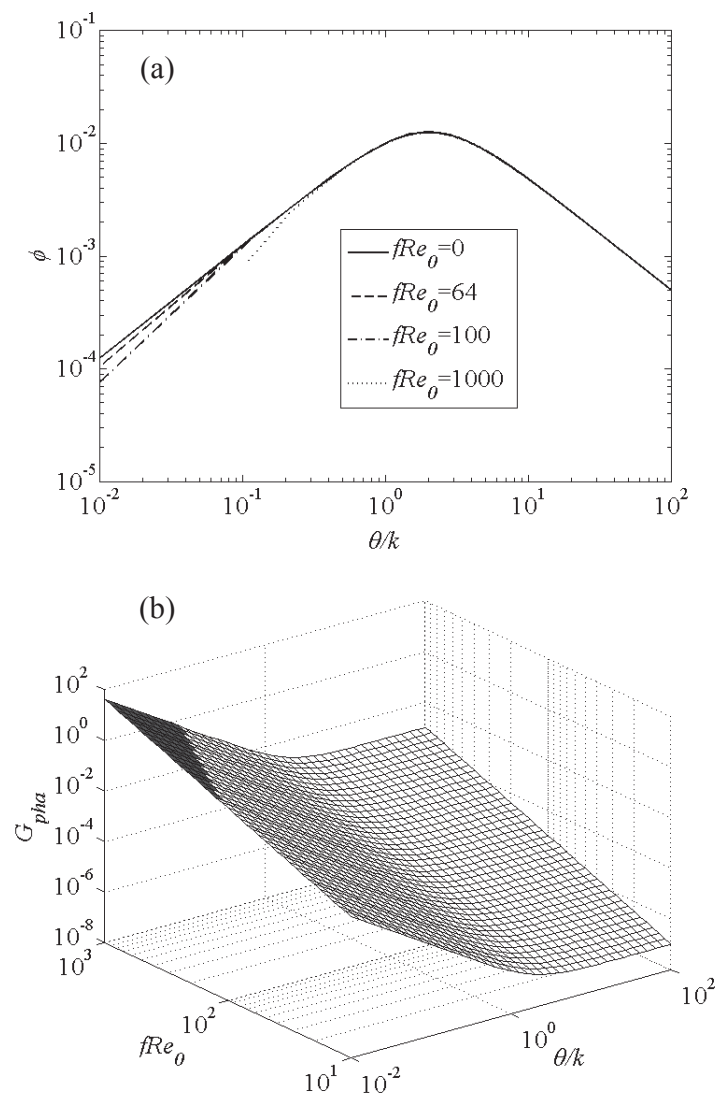


Fig. 4. Effects of pipe wall roughness and blockage on transient wave phase change: (a): dimensionless phase change coefficient (ϕ); (b): relative importance (G_{pha}) with the black-filled region for $G_{pha} > 1$.

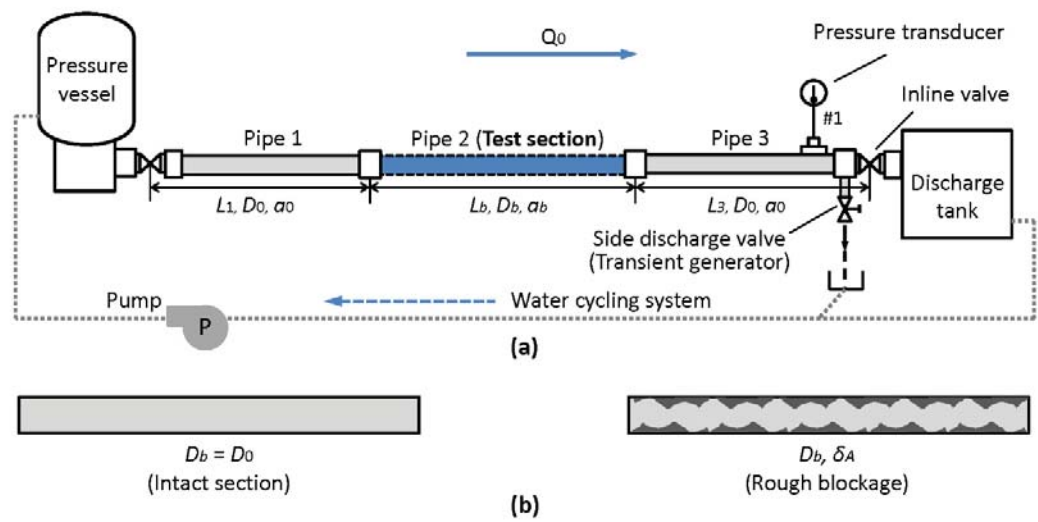


Fig. 5. Experimental test system: (a) sketch of test system configuration; (b) inserted sections for the two test cases (intact and rough blockage sections).

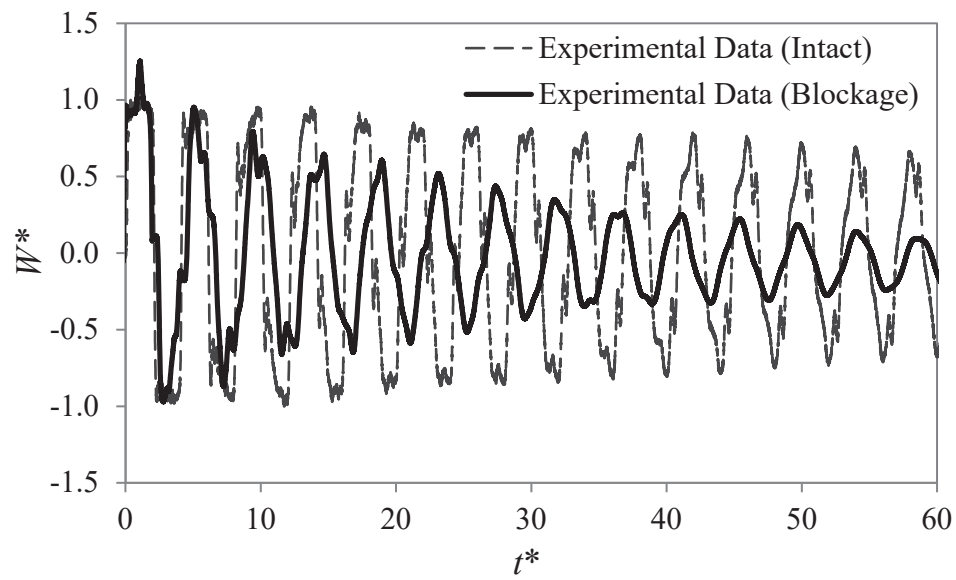


Fig. 6. Time-domain measurement of transient waves for two test cases (0~60 L/a).

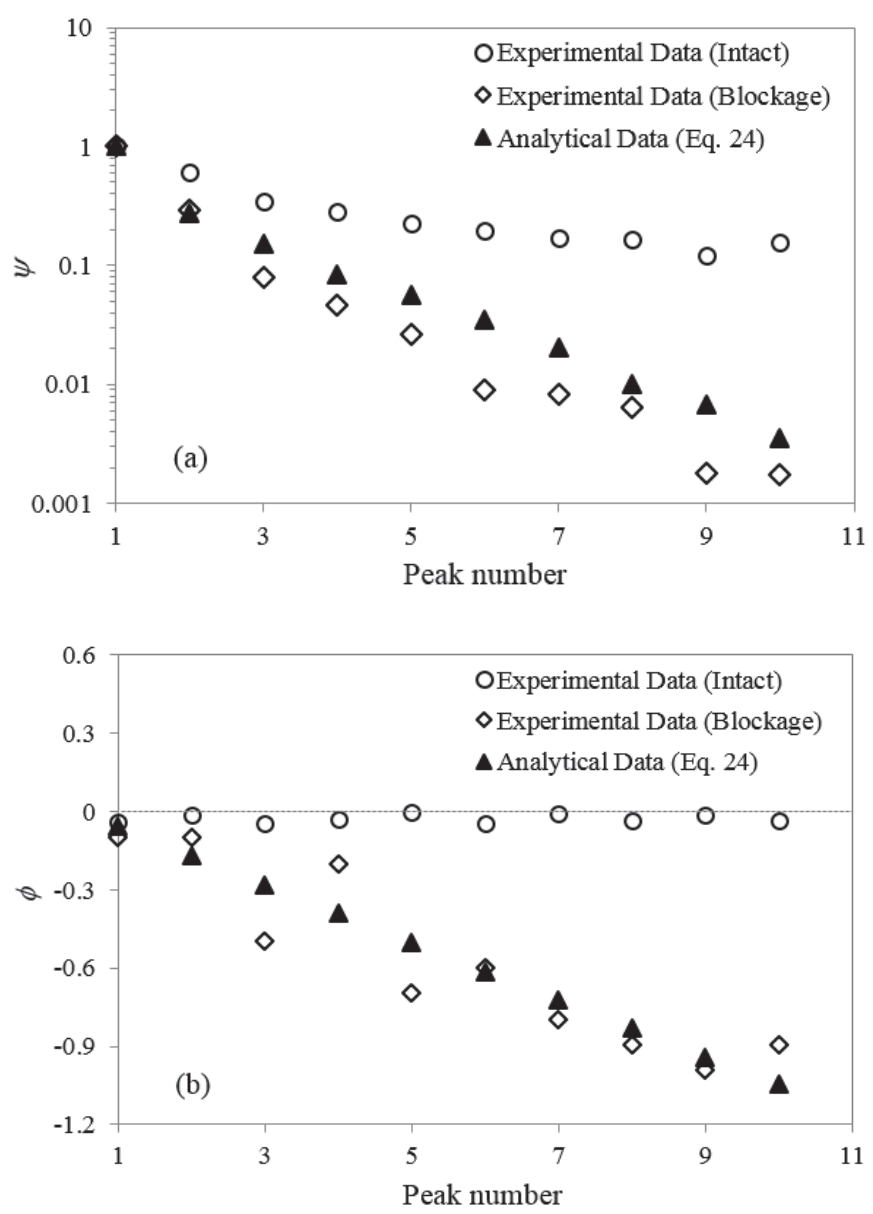


Fig. 7. Frequency-domain results of two test cases (with first 10 peaks) for: (a): peak amplitude attenuation; (b): peak frequency shift (phase change).

List of Figure Captions

Fig. 1. Disorders of pipe diameters (roughness and blockages) in water pipelines due to different factors: (a) corrosion; (b) biofilm; (c) deposition; (d) complex connection

Fig. 2. Sketch of rough blockage configuration in a water pipe section

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Fig. 4. Effects of pipe wall roughness and blockage on transient wave phase change: (a): dimensionless phase change coefficient (ϕ); (b): relative importance (G_{pha}) with the black-filled region for $G_{pha} > 1$

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