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Drag Measurements in Laminar Flows over Superhydrophobic Porous Membranes OZGUR OZSUN, VICTOR YAKHOT, KAMIL L. EKINCI, Boston University — An anomalous hydrodynamic response has recently been observed in oscillating flows on mesh-like porous superhydrophobic membranes.¹ This effect was attributed to a stable Knudsen layer of gas at the solid-liquid interface. In this study, we investigate laminar channel flow over these porous superhydrophobic membranes. We have fabricated surfaces with solid area fraction ϕ_s , which can maintain intimate contact with both air and water reservoirs on either side. Typical structures have linear dimensions of $1.5 \text{ mm} \times 15 \text{ mm} \times 1 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ and pore area of $10 \text{ }\mu\text{m} \times 10 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$. The surfaces are enclosed with precisely machined plastic microchannels, where pressure driven flow of DI water is generated. Pressure drop across the microchannels is measured as a function of flow rate. Slip lengths are inferred from the Poiseuille relation as a function of ϕ_s and compared to that of similar standard superhydrophobic surfaces, which lack intimate contact with an air reservoir.

¹S. Rajauria, O. Ozsun, J. Lawall, V. Yakhot, and K. L. Ekinici, Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, 174501 (2011)

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