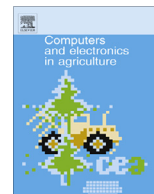




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Design of a windbreak fence to reduce fugitive dust in open areas

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ABSTRACT

The wind characteristics of the Saemangeum reclaimed land are quite different from those of inland because of the prevalence of strong wind environments near the seashore. Thus, the probability of fugitive dust dispersion would be higher under these wind environmental conditions, and civil complaints regarding fugitive dust have increased in the residential area. Therefore, we must establish countermeasures to reduce fugitive dust. In this study, the dispersion behavior of fugitive dust at the Saemangeum reclaimed land was simulated by using a two-dimensional CFD simulation. A CFD model was simulated by considering the wind velocity and the design properties of the windbreak fences, such as their height, installation interval and number of layer. The percent of upstream velocity (PUV) is applied in this study to quantitatively evaluate the reduction in the wind velocity by a windbreak fence. The behavior of saltating dust was analyzed by comparing the simulation results with the threshold wind velocity, which is the wind velocity at which the soil particulates come off the surface and erosion starts. The behavior of suspended dust was analyzed by using the reduction rate of dust concentration according to the installation conditions of the windbreak fence. A strategy for installing windbreak fences was suggested according to these results to reduce fugitive dust in the Saemangeum reclaimed land.

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1. Introduction

The Saemangeum reclaimed land is one of the largest reclaimed lands in the world, with a total area as large as 40,100 ha. Since the completion of its 4 seawalls in 2006, the salt concentration in the area has increased, accelerating the drying of its surface. Its arid open area has low vegetation coverage and thus is prone to wind erosion, resulting in problems with fugitive dust.

The wind environment of a reclaimed land is different from that of inland areas because of the influence of sea-land breezes, which exhibit higher wind velocity in a constant direction and are strongly influenced by turbulence because of convection from the seashore (Korea Metrological Administration, 2014). The arid conditions in the Saemangeum reclaimed land continue in spring, during which the precipitation and relative humidity are low. Most of the soil consists of sand soil with low clay content or silt soil, so the probability of fugitive dust dispersion would be higher when the

maximum wind velocity is $25\text{--}39\text{ m s}^{-1}$ at a reclaimed land (Rural Research Institute in Korea Agricultural and Rural Infrastructure Corporation, 2004). Fugitive dust negatively affects ecological systems by reducing visibility, creating aesthetic displeasure, causing respiratory diseases in humans and animals, and hindering the assimilation, breathing and evaporation of plants by blocking the stomata when deposited on leaves (Jeong, 2012; Kang and Lee, 2005; Kim et al., 2005). Civil complaints regarding fugitive dust have increased in the residential area and the country club around the Saemangeum reclaimed land, so we must establish countermeasures to reduce fugitive dust.

Studies have examined the optimal installation and reduction performance of windbreak facilities, such as fences, obstacles, halophyte covers, windbreak forests, and tillage, on fugitive dust in an open area (Dong et al., 2007; Grantz et al., 1998; Kim et al., 2005; You et al., 2006). The roots and stems of halophytes prevent surface erosion by promoting the solidification and stabilization of the sediment and reduce the concentration of fugitive dust by collecting suspended dust (Choi, 1998; Hwang et al., 2009; Shin et al., 2013). A windbreak fence is one method to prevent sand erosion and its dispersion in open spaces and deserts, resulting in wind

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Nomenclature

AED	Aerodynamic equivalent diameter	TAC	technical advisory committee
ABL	atmospheric boundary layer	UDF	user-defined functions
C_2	inertial resistance factor (m^{-1})	u	wind velocity (m s^{-1})
C_μ	model fitting parameter (0.09)	u^*	wall friction velocity (m s^{-1})
CFD	computational fluid dynamics	u_{ref}	design wind velocity (m s^{-1})
$D_{m,j}$	mass diffusion coefficient for species j ($\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$)	u_t	threshold wind velocity (m s^{-1})
$D_{T,j}$	thermal diffusion coefficient for species j ($\text{kg m}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$)	Velocity field _{with fence}	wind velocity with a windbreak fence (m s^{-1})
EL	elevation level (m)	Velocity field _{without fence}	wind velocity without a windbreak fence (m s^{-1})
ESDU	Engineering Sciences Data Unit	Y_j	mass fraction of species j
FVM	finite volume method	y^+	dimensionless distance from the wall
J_j	diffusion flux of specie j ($\text{kg m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$)	z	height in the atmospheric boundary layer (m)
k	turbulent kinetic energy ($\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-2}$)	z_0	aerodynamic roughness length (m)
PM10	particle matter under 10 μm	α	permeability (m^2)
PM2.5	particle matter under 2.5 μm	Δn	thickness of porous media (m)
PUV	percent of upstream velocity (%)	ΔP	static pressure difference (Pa)
R^2	coefficient of determination	ϵ	turbulent energy dissipation ($\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-3}$)
RANS	Reynolds-averaged Navier-Stokes	κ	Von Karman constant
Re	Reynold number	μ	viscosity coefficient ($\text{kg m}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$)
RNG	Re-Normalization Group	μ_t	turbulent viscosity ($\text{kg m}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$)
Sc_t	Turbulent Schmidt number	ρ	air density (kg m^{-3})
SIMPLE	semi-implicit method for pressure-linked equations		
T	temperature (K)		

velocity reduction and sedimentation around the fence (Dong et al., 2007; Hong et al., 2015; Kim et al., 2006; Perera, 1981; Santiago et al., 2007; Song et al., 2007; You et al., 2006). Windbreak forests are planted to prevent wind damage, salt damage, odors and fugitive dust (Alhajraf, 2004; McAneney et al., 1990; Mercer, 2009; Plate, 1971; Santiago et al., 2007). Obstacles or tillage can also increase the surface roughness and reduce the wind velocity (Grantz et al., 1998; Tatarko, 2004).

A method that can be installed in a short time in the Saemangeum reclaimed land is required because this region is rapidly exposed to wind erosion in a strong wind environment. The use of halophytes to prevent fugitive dust has maintenance problems: maintaining an optimal growth environment for halophytes is difficult because of the continuous desiccation. Given many aspects such as the economy, maintenance and the wind reduction effect, many studies have therefore suggested that the installation of windbreak fences is a proper method to manage the dispersion of fugitive dust in the Saemangeum reclaimed land. However limited studies, which have investigated the installation cost, the optimal reduction effect on fugitive dust and applicability to an open area, have been conducted regarding the optimal installation of a windbreak fence.

Studies regarding the dispersion of fugitive dust and the reduction efficiency of a windbreak fence can be classified into three categories: field tests, wind tunnel tests and numerical analyses. Raine and Stevenson (1977) used hot-wire anemometers to measure the average velocity at the wake of windbreak fences and investigated the flow characteristics. Perera (1981) suggested that a porosity value of more than 0.3 for a windbreak fence is appropriate based on a flow analysis of windbreak fences with an anemometer. Cornelis and Gabriels (2005) conducted a wind tunnel test to optimize the installation of a screen for a windbreak fence and found that the most efficient wind velocity reduction was achieved when the porosity ranged from 0.2 to 0.35. Santiago et al. (2007) proposed an optimal porosity of 0.35 for a windbreak fence after a wind tunnel test and numerical analysis based on the Reynolds-averaged Navier-Stokes equations (RANS). Lim and Lee (2000) conducted a numerical analysis in the wake of windbreak fences and compared these results to the results from

a wind tunnel test to evaluate the accuracy of the model. Kim et al. (2006) reported that the wind velocity reduction from a wind tunnel test was the highest when the distance between the windbreak fences was 4–7 times the height of the fence, when the porosity of circular and vertical windbreak fences was 0.4, and when the porosity of a horizontal windbreak fence was 0.2. Based on a wind tunnel test and numerical analysis, Bitog et al. (2009) analyzed the wind velocity reduction rather than dust behaviors according to the porosity of a windbreak fence and its arrangement in the Saemangeum reclaimed land and suggested that the highest wind velocity reduction was obtained when the porosity was 0.2, regardless of the height or the distance of the windbreak fences. Kim et al. (2013) conducted an experiment regarding the aerodynamic resistance of commercially available windbreak screens based on the number of screen layers and the arrangement by using a small wind tunnel. Hong et al. (2015) used a small wind tunnel to measure the aerodynamic resistance of windbreak screens with various arrangements, and their results were applied to a computational fluid dynamics (CFD) simulation. In particular, Hong et al. (2015) verified this CFD simulation by comparing it with the results from a field test and analyzed the wind velocity reduction of the windbreak fence to suggest optimal parameters for wind velocity reduction. Field tests are a reliable method that uses a full-scale model. In a very wide space such as the Saemangeum reclaimed land, however, understanding all the phenomena in a qualitative and quantitative manner by relying on point-by-point measurements becomes more difficult, while the cost and time for such measurements remain, as with other obstacles. Furthermore, separating the contribution from the climate conditions to the results is difficult because the wind environmental conditions change during the measurements. For a wind tunnel test, it is possible to control the condition and to acquire quantitative data, while it is sensitive to the similarity law with the cost of time and money.

In this study, the dispersion behavior of fugitive dust at the Saemangeum reclaimed land was simulated by using numerical analyses such as CFD, from which the optimal installation of a windbreak fence was suggested to efficiently reduce fugitive dust dispersion. A two-dimensional simulation model in which the

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