

International Conference on PDEs. For the 60th birthday of Michael Chipot

## An inverse problem in Lubrication Theory

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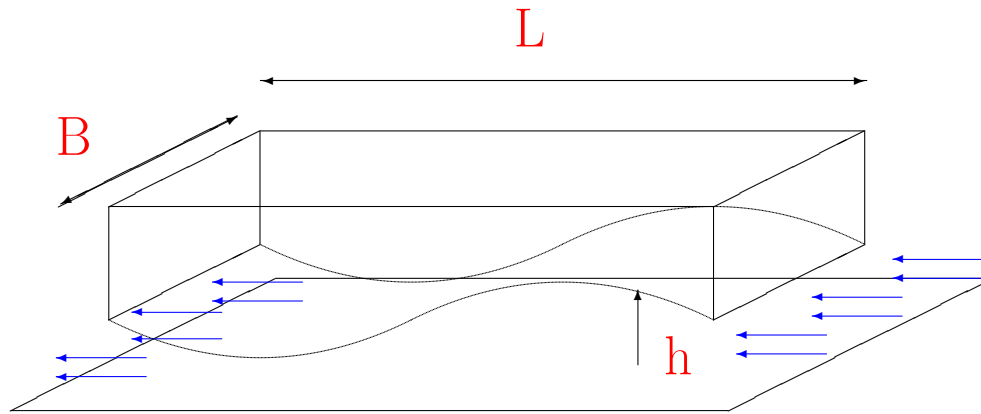
Poitiers, February 18-20 , 2010

## Program:

- 1.- Introduction
- 2.- Modelling Reynolds equation
- 3.- An inverse problem in Journal Bearing systems with cavitation

# 1. Introduction

**Lubrication** is the process whereby a fluid (the lubricant) fills the gap between two surfaces in close proximity and relative motion. Lubrication is employed to reduce friction and avoid contact



We assume  $0 < h \ll L, 0 < h \ll B$

- Lubrication is known from the **ancient civilizations** (Egyptians, Greeks...)
- During the middle age, animal fat is used to lubricate wagon wheels, ships (rudder) etc..)
- **Leonardo Da Vinci** did experiments on friction and obtain experimental data on friction coefficient.
- **Industrial revolution** brought machineries and the necessity to understand the process of lubrication to improve the efficiency of the machines.
- XIX century, **Petrov** (student of Ostrogradsky) Frictional forces and the relevance of the viscosity coefficient of the lubricant.
- Introduction of residues from the oil refining industry as lubricants to **substitute the animal and vegetable oils**

- Reynolds introduce in 1886 [Reynolds Equation](#)
- [Sommerfield](#) 1904. Explicit solutions for the 1-dimensional journal bearing.
- [Rayleigh](#) 1908. Optimization in the shape of lubricated surfaces to maximize the load supported by the engine.
- A.G.M. Michel 1929, study the journal bearing system with axial oil flow.
- Elrod 1960, Elrod-Adams 1975 modeled the phenomenon of **Cavitation:**  
*Physical phenomenon whereby [null pressure regions](#) appear*
- Cameron 1966.
- [M. Chipot](#) and M. Luskin 1986, studied the compressible Reynolds eq.

- Bushman, A. Friedman, Hu, Rodrigues, Litman,
- G.Bayada, M.Chambat, S.Ciuperca, I.Hafidi, M.Jay, S.Martin etc.. (Lyon)
- C.Vázquez, J.Durany, I.Arregui, G.García, B.Cid etc.. (Galicia-Spain)
- JI Díaz, J.Carrillo, S.Álvarez, R.Oujja etc. (Madrid - Spain)

**Lubrication** is today studied in different processes

- Journal Bearing systems,
- Row ball bearing,
- Magnetic recording,
- Hard disk device,
- Earth Physics etc..

## 2. Modelling Reynolds equation

Starting from the usual conservation principles

**mass conservation:**

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{u}\rho) = 0,$$

**momentum conservation:** (e.g. incompressible case)

$$\frac{\partial(\rho\mathbf{u})}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)(\rho\mathbf{u}) = -\nabla P + \frac{\mu}{2} \operatorname{div}(\nabla\mathbf{u} + (\nabla\mathbf{u})^T).$$

Dimensional analysis:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} & + & \frac{\partial(\rho u_1)}{\partial x} & + & \frac{\partial(\rho u_2)}{\partial y} & + & \frac{\partial(\rho u_3)}{\partial z} & = & 0 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ \rho_0/T_0 & & \rho_0 U_{1c}/L & & \rho_0 U_{2c}/B & & \rho_0 U_{3c}/H & & \end{array}$$

$$\frac{U_{3c}}{H} \simeq \frac{U_{1c}}{L}; \quad \frac{U_{3c}}{H} \simeq \frac{U_{2c}}{B}.$$

Then

$$\frac{U_{3c}}{U_{1c}} \ll 1, \quad \frac{U_{3c}}{U_{2c}} \ll 1.$$



## X-component of N-S

$$\begin{array}{cccccc}
 \frac{\partial \rho u_1}{\partial t} & + & u_1 \frac{\partial \rho u_1}{\partial x} & + & u_2 \frac{\partial \rho u_1}{\partial y} & + & u_3 \frac{\partial \rho u_1}{\partial z} & = & -\frac{\partial P}{\partial x} & + & \mu \Delta u_1 \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \frac{\rho_0 U_{1c}}{T_0} & & \frac{\rho_0 U_{1c}^2}{L} & & \frac{U_{2c} \rho_0 U_{1c}}{B} & & \frac{U_{3c} \rho_0 U_{1c}}{H} & & \delta_x P & & \mu \frac{U_{1c}}{L^2} \\
 & & & & & & & & & & \mu \frac{U_{1c}}{B^2} \\
 & & & & & & & & & & \mu \frac{U_{1c}}{H^2}
 \end{array}$$

$$Re = \frac{U_c L}{\mu}; \quad -\frac{\partial P}{\partial x} + \mu \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial z^2} = 0.$$

$$X \text{-Component} \quad - \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} + \mu \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial z^2} = 0,$$

$$Y \text{-Component} \quad - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} + \mu \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial z^2} = 0,$$

$$Z \text{-Component:} \quad - \frac{\partial P}{\partial z} = 0.$$

$$\text{B.C.} \quad u_1 = u_2 = 0, \quad u_3 = \frac{\partial h}{\partial t}, \quad \text{on } z = h(x, y),$$

$$u_1 - U_1 = u_2 - U_2 = u_3 = 0, \quad \text{on } z = 0.$$

Then

$$u_1 = \frac{1}{2\mu} \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} z(z-h) + U_1 \left(1 - \frac{z}{h}\right),$$
$$u_2 = \frac{1}{2\mu} \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} z(z-h) + U_2 \left(1 - \frac{z}{h}\right).$$

We define

$$q_x := \int_0^h u_1 dz = \frac{U_1 h}{2} - \frac{h^3}{12\mu} \frac{\partial P}{\partial x},$$
$$q_y := \int_0^h u_2 dz = \frac{U_2 h}{2} - \frac{h^3}{12\mu} \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}.$$

Integrating (1)

$$\frac{\partial(h\rho)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(\rho q_x) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(\rho q_y) = 0.$$

# Reynolds Equations (1886)

## Incompressible fluids

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [U_1 h - \frac{h^3}{6\mu} \frac{\partial P}{\partial x}] + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [U_2 h - \frac{h^3}{6\mu} \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}] = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} h, \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ P - P_0 = 0, \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega. \end{array} \right.$$

$$-div(h^3 \nabla P) = -6\mu U \nabla h - \frac{\partial h}{\partial t} \quad \text{in } \Omega, \quad +BC$$

Cavitation has been modeled in different ways:

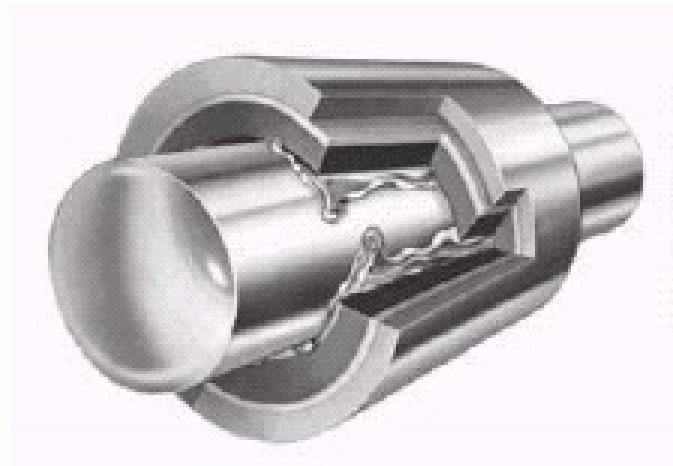
- Considering the **positive part** of the solution to Reynolds equation  $(p)^+$
- **Variational inequalities**

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} -\operatorname{div} \left[ \frac{h^3}{6\mu} \nabla p \right] \geq -U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} h - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} h, & p \geq 0 \\ \left( -\operatorname{div} \left[ \frac{h^3}{6\mu} \nabla p \right] + U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} h + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} h \right) p = 0 & \text{on } \Omega \\ p = p_0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega. \end{array} \right.$$

- **Elrod-Adams Model**

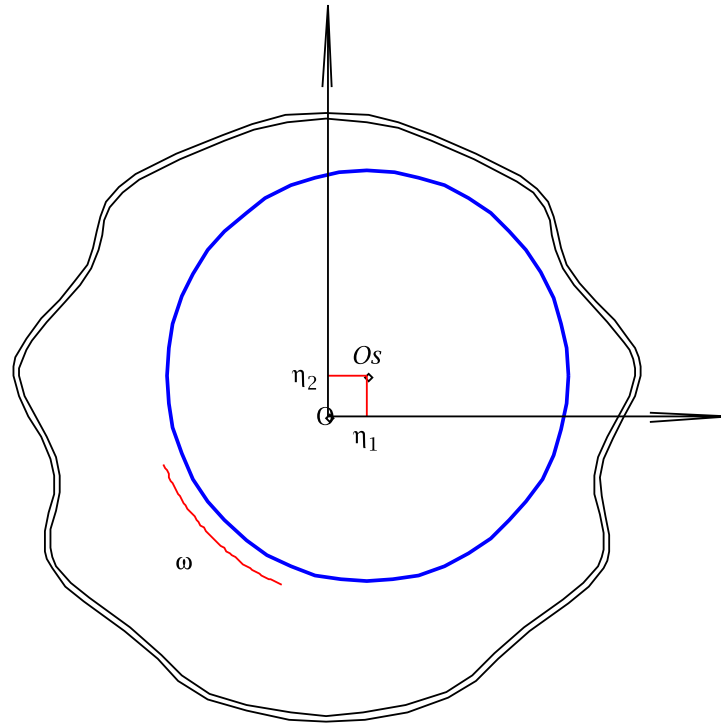
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} -\operatorname{div} \left[ \frac{h^3}{6\mu} \nabla p \right] = -U \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\theta h) - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\theta h), & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \theta \in H(p), \text{H is the heaviside function} & \\ p = p_0, & \text{on } \partial\Omega. \end{array} \right.$$

### 3.- Journal Bearing system with cavitation



- Unknown position of the inner cylinder which support a given load
- We only allow to the inner cylinder to displace parallel to the outer one
- 2-parameters inverse problem





Scheme of the journal bearing

- $O_s$  the center of the shaft,
- G. Bayada 1972, J. Durany, J. Pereira, F. Varas. Numerical sol. 2008

- Cartesian coordinates of  $O_s$ ,  $(\eta_1, \eta_2)$  Polar coordinates of  $O_s$ ,  $(\eta, \alpha)$
- $\eta_1 = \eta \cos \alpha$ ,  $\eta_2 = \eta \sin \alpha$ .
- $h(\theta, \eta, \alpha) = \rho(\theta) - \eta \cos(\theta - \alpha) = \rho(\theta) - \eta_1 \cos \theta - \eta_2 \sin \theta$ .
- $0 \leq x \leq 1$
- $\Omega := S^1 \times (0, 1)$

### Unknowns:

- the pressure  $p : (\theta, x) \in \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
- the position of the inner cylinder (given by  $O_s := (\eta, \alpha)$ )

### Known Data:

- Load supported by the shaft ( $F = (F_1, F_2)$ ),
- viscosity  $\mu$ , (assumed constant)
- velocity (assumed constant) and geometry of the surfaces (given by  $\rho$ ).



To find:

$$p \in K := \{\varphi \in H_0^1(\Omega) : \varphi \geq 0\}$$

and

$$(\eta_1, \eta_2) \in A := \text{set of admissible positions}$$

such that

$$\int_{\Omega} h^3 \nabla p \cdot \nabla(\varphi - p) \geq \int_{\Omega} h \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta}(\varphi - p) \quad \forall \varphi \in K$$

$$\int_{\Omega} p \cos \theta d\theta dx = F_1$$

$$\int_{\Omega} p \sin \theta d\theta dx = F_2$$

where  $h(\theta, \eta, \alpha) = \rho(\theta) - \eta \cos(\theta - \alpha) = \rho(\theta) - \eta_1 \cos \theta - \eta_2 \sin \theta$

## Assumptions:

$$\rho \in C^3(\mathbb{R}), \quad \rho, \text{ is } 2\pi - \text{periodic.}$$

$$\rho''(\theta) + \rho(\theta) > 0, \quad \forall \theta \in [0, 2\pi) \quad (\text{technical assumption})$$

$$\min_{0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi} \rho(\theta) = 1.$$

## Notation:

$$a(\alpha) := \min_{\alpha - \frac{\pi}{2} < \theta < \alpha + \frac{\pi}{2}} \left\{ \frac{\rho(\theta)}{\cos(\theta - \alpha)} \right\}.$$

$$A := \{(\eta, \alpha); \quad 0 \leq \eta < a(\alpha)\}$$

Let  $G = (G_1, G_2) : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ ,

$$G_1(\eta_1, \eta_2) := \int_{\Omega} p \cos \theta d\theta dx - F_1 \quad (1)$$

$$G_2(\eta_1, \eta_2) := \int_{\Omega} p \sin \theta d\theta dx - F_2 \quad (2)$$

for  $p$  defined as the unique solution to the variational inequality for fixed  $\eta_1, \eta_2$ .

**Thus the problem is equivalent to**

$$\mathbf{Find} \ (\eta_1, \eta_2) \in A \ \mathbf{such\ that} \ G(\eta_1, \eta_2) = (0, 0)$$

**Theorem 1** *For any  $F \in \mathbb{R}^2$  there exists, at least, a solution to  $G = 0$ .*

For fixed  $(\eta_1, \eta_2)$  there exists a unique solution to the variational problem  $p$  (see Kinderlehrer-Stampacchia 1980) and  $G$  is well defined.

## Some basic results in Degree Theory in $\mathbb{R}^n$

### Definition.

Let  $S$  be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $f \in C^1(S)$ . Let  $y_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $y_0 \notin f(\partial S)$ , suppose that  $Df(x)$  is invertible for all  $x \in f^{-1}(y_0)$ . We define the **degree of  $f$  in  $S$  at  $y_0$**  by:

$$d(f, S, y_0) := \sum_{i=1}^n \text{sign}(\det(Df(x_i))),$$

for all  $x_i \in f^{-1}(y_0)$ .

**Theorem 2** *Let  $S$  be a bounded open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Let  $f_0$  and  $f_1$  be two continuous functions from  $\bar{S}$  to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . We assume moreover that  $S$  is a star domain with respect to the point  $y_0 \in S$  and that*

$$[f_0(x) - y_0]^t \cdot [f_1(x) - y_0] > 0, \text{ for any } x \in \partial S.$$

*Then*

$$d(f_0, S, y_0) = d(f_1, S, y_0).$$

## Properties of $a(\alpha)$

- 

$$a(\alpha) := \min_{\alpha - \frac{\pi}{2} < \theta < \alpha + \frac{\pi}{2}} \left\{ \frac{\rho(\theta)}{\cos(\theta - \alpha)} \right\}.$$

- $a(\alpha)$  represents the **maximum displacement of  $O_s$  in the  $\alpha$ -direction.**

- Since

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow \alpha \pm \frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\rho(\theta)}{\cos(\theta - \alpha)} = \infty$$

we guarantee the existence of at least one minimum.

- Since  $\rho'' + \rho > 0$  the minimum is unique.

- $\theta_\alpha$  represents the **contact point**, it is **unique** and  $C^1$ .

- 

$$1 = \min_{0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi} \rho \leq a(\alpha) \leq \max_{0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi} \rho = \rho_M.$$

- There exists  $s < \frac{\pi}{2}$  such that  $|\tilde{\theta}_\alpha - \alpha| < s$

- We introduce

$$A_\epsilon = \{(\eta_1, \eta_2) : 0 \leq \eta \leq a(\alpha) - \epsilon\},$$

- We fix  $(\eta, \alpha) \in \partial A_\epsilon$
- We take  $\varphi = 0$  and  $\varphi = 2p$  as test functions in the variational inequality to obtain

$$\int_{\Omega} h^3 |\nabla p|^2 = - \int_{\Omega} p \frac{\partial h}{\partial \theta}$$

- Notice that

$$- \int_{\Omega} p \frac{\partial h}{\partial \theta} \sim \left( \int_{\Omega} p \cos \theta, \int_{\Omega} p \sin \theta \right) \cdot (-\eta_2, \eta_1)^t$$

- We introduce

$$\tilde{h}(\theta, \alpha) := h(\theta_\alpha, a(\alpha) - \epsilon, \alpha) + [\rho''(\theta_\alpha) + \rho(\theta_\alpha)](1 - \cos(\theta - \theta_\alpha)).$$

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$$- \int_{\Omega} p \frac{\partial \tilde{h}}{\partial \theta} = c_1 \left( \int_{\Omega} p \cos \theta, \int_{\Omega} p \sin \theta \right)^t \cdot (\eta \sin \theta_\alpha, -\eta \cos \theta_\alpha) \quad \text{in } (\eta, \theta_\alpha) \in \partial A_\epsilon$$

For  $(\eta, \theta_\alpha) \in \partial A_\epsilon$  we have

$$\left(\int_\Omega p \cos \theta, \int_\Omega p \sin \theta\right)^t \cdot (\eta \sin \theta_\alpha, -\eta \cos \theta_\alpha) = \int_\Omega p(h - \tilde{h})' + \int_\Omega h^3 |\nabla p|^2$$

In order to take limits when  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$  we need some estimations

•

$$\inf_{0 \leq \alpha \leq 2\pi} \int_\Omega h^3(\theta, \eta, \alpha) |\nabla p|^2 d\theta dx > c\epsilon^{-\frac{1}{2}} \quad \text{for } \epsilon \ll 1.$$

• Since,

$$\left|\int_\Omega p(h - \tilde{h})'\right| = \left|\int_\Omega \frac{\partial p}{\partial \theta}(h - \tilde{h})\right| \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_\Omega h^3 |\nabla p|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \int_\Omega \frac{|h - \tilde{h}|^2}{h^3}$$

and

$$\int_\Omega \frac{|h - \tilde{h}|^2}{h^3} \leq c_2.$$

We compare the fields  $G$  with  $(-\eta_2, \eta_1)$  in  $\partial A_\epsilon$  by using the vector field  $W$

$$W : (\eta, \alpha) \in A \rightarrow (\eta \sin \theta_\alpha, -\eta \cos \theta_\alpha) \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

to obtain

$$G(\eta_1, \eta_2) \cdot W(\eta_1, \eta_2) \geq \eta(c(\epsilon^{-1/2} - 1) - \|F\|), \quad \text{in } \partial A_\epsilon.$$

Then for  $\epsilon \ll 1$

$$\deg(G, A_\epsilon, 0) = \deg(W, A_\epsilon, 0) = \deg((- \eta_2, \eta_1), A_\epsilon, 0) = 1$$

by continuity of  $G$  we have the existence of at least a solution.

## Open Questions:

Uniqueness of solutions

Existence and uniqueness for Elrod-Adams model