

# **Solving Free Boundary Problem in Hydrodynamic Lubrication by Variational Methods**

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## **Abstract**

In this Paper , we will find variational formulation free boundary problem in hydrodynamic lubrication infinite Journal Bearing , after that we solve the direct problem to find pressure function  $p(t)$  numerically by variational methods .

**1. Introduction:** A Journal Bearing consists of a rotating cylinder which is separated from a “ bearing surface “ by a thin film of lubricating fluid ( see fig. 1 ). The fluid is fed in at **A** and flows out at **B** . The width of the film is smallest at **C** , and we set  $t = \theta / \theta_c$  where  $\theta$  is as show in fig.1 .

Between **C** and **B** , the width of the film increases so that the pressure in the lubricating fluid may be expected to decrease . We assume that for  $t = \tau$  the pressure becomes slow that the fluid vapofrizes . The point  $t = \tau$  , the interfase between the two phases of the fluid , is called the free boundary . Colin W. Cryer [1] used Finite difference method to solve this problem by interest from method of Christopherson . Also Giovawni Cimatti [2] trying to fined variational formulation of lubrication problem and fined solve this problem in tectangular region . We might of studies the problem of lubrication in [3] and solution this problem in rectangular region . In this paper we try to solution this problem in one dimation .

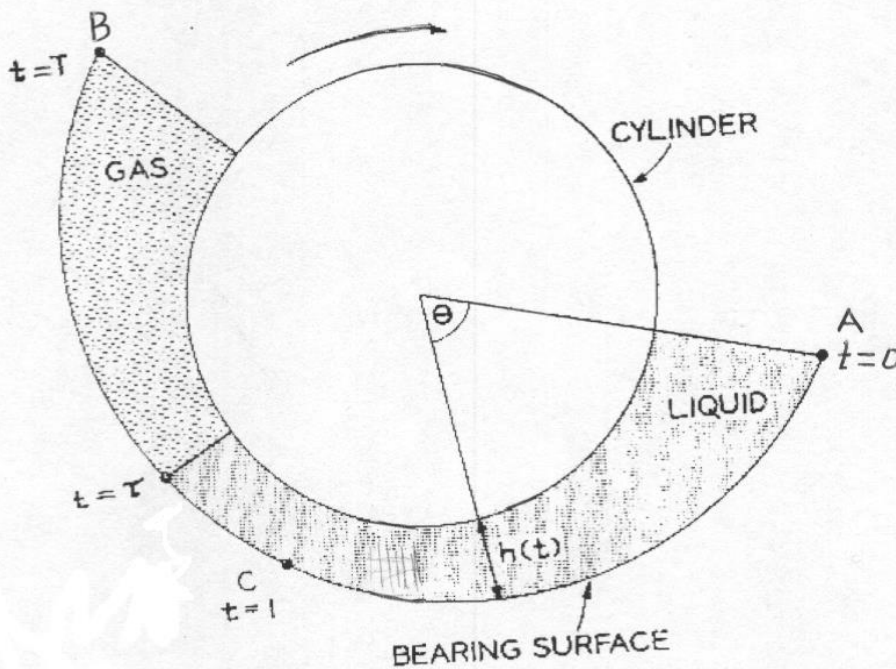


FIGURE 1

**2. Mathematical formulation :** The mathematical problem can now formulated by Pinkus and Sternlicht (see [1]) :

Problem 1. Find a function  $p(t)$  and a constant  $\tau$  such that  $p \in C[0, T] \cap C^{(2)}(0, \tau)$ , and

$$\delta p(t) = \frac{d}{dt} [h^3(t) \frac{dp}{dt}] - \frac{dh}{dt} = 0 \quad 0 < t < \tau \quad \text{-----(1.1)}$$

$$p(t) = 0, \quad \tau \leq t \leq T \quad \text{-----(1.2)}$$

$$p(0) = 0, \quad \text{-----(1.3)}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} p(\tau) = 0 \quad \text{-----(1.4)}$$

where  $p(t)$  is proportional to the fluid pressure, while Eq.(1.1) is Reynold's equation for the pressure in a lubricating film. In order to define the problem 1, we must to know that the width of the film  $h(t)$  satisfy certain conditions :  $h \in C^{(1)}[0, T]$  and that

$$h(t) > 0, \quad t \in [0, T] \quad \text{-----(1.5)}$$

$$\frac{dh}{dt} < 0, \quad t \in (0, 1), \quad \text{-----(1.6)}$$

$$\frac{dh}{dt} > 0, \quad t \in (1, T) \quad \text{-----(1.7)}$$

$$h(T) \geq h(0) \quad \text{-----(1.7)}$$

The conditions (1.5)-(1.7) ensure that there exists a unique solution to problem 1 [1].

Now, we give some of important definitions :

**Definition 2.1**[4]: A set  $A$  is said to be convex if for any  $u, v \in A$ ,  $(1-\alpha)u + \alpha v \in A$ , where  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ .

**Definition 2.2** [4]: A functional  $F$  is called convex function if  $F$  defines on the convex set  $A$ .

**Definition 2.3** [3]: A bilinear form, defined on a given two linear spaces  $U$  and  $V$  is a functional  $G(u, v)$ , which linear in both  $u$  and  $v$ , where  $u$  and  $v$  are elements of  $U$  and  $V$  respectively.

**Definition 2.4** [3]: Let  $G(.,.)$  be a bilinear form, then  $G(.,.)$  is said to be symmetric if  $G(u, v) = G(v, u)$  for all  $u \in U$  and  $v \in V$ .

**Definition 2.5** [5]: The bilinear form  $G(.,.): V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called  $V$ -elliptic if  $G(v, v) \geq \alpha \|v\|^2$ ,  $\alpha \geq 0$  and for all  $v \in V$ .

**Definition 2.6** [5]: The bilinear form  $G(.,.)$  is bounded if  $G(u, v) \leq \mu \|u\| \|v\|$  for all  $u \in U$ ,  $v \in V$ , where  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ .

### 3. Variational inequalities formulation for boundary value problem

A variational inequality is usually posed with respect to a Hilbert space  $V$  with dual space  $V^*$ , a non-empty closed convex set  $K$  in  $V$ , a bilinear form  $a(.,.)$  on  $V \times V$  and an element  $f \in V^*$  [2]. The basic idea of the subject of variational inequality is to find  $u \in K$ , such that  $a(u, v-u) \geq (f, v-u)$ , for all  $v \in K$ .

Lions and Stampacchia in 1967 [3] introduced one of the fundamental theorems in this field, which is:

**Theorem 2.1** [3]: If  $(.,.)$  is  $V$ -elliptic, then variational inequality  $a(u, v-u) \geq (f, v-u)$  for every  $v \in K$  has a unique solution.

Now, we can find the functional  $J$ , which represent the variational formulation the problem  $L(u)=f$  by depending on the next theorem, when  $L$  be a linear operator.

**Theorem 2.2** [4]: Assume  $K$  is a non-empty closed subset of the Hilbert space  $V$ ,  $a(.,.): V \times V \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$  is a bilinear, symmetric, bounded and  $V$ -elliptic,  $f \in V^*$ , let:

$$J(v) = \frac{1}{2} a(v, v) - (f, v), v \in V$$

then there exists a unique  $u \in K$ , such that:  $J(u) = \inf_{v \in K} J(v)$

which is also the unique solution of the variational inequalities:

$$u \in K, a(u, v-u) \geq (f, v-u), \text{ for each } v \in K \text{ or } u \in K, a(u, v) = (f, v) \text{ for each } v \in K$$

Now, we can use the theorems in above to find a variational formulation of the problem 1.

### 4. The variational formulation of the problem 1.

The solution of the mathematical model, which is defined by eqs (1.1)-(1.4) depending a function  $p(t) \in C[0, T] \cap C^{(2)}(0, \tau)$ .

The cavitation conditions (1.2)-(1.4) ensure non-negative pressure and the conditions (1.5)-(1.6) on width of the film  $h(t)$ , all these conditions makes  $p(t)$  satisfies the inequalities:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} -\frac{d}{dt} \left[ h^3(t) \frac{dp}{dt} \right] + \frac{dh}{dt} &\geq 0 \\ p \left\{ -\frac{d}{dt} \left[ h^3(t) \frac{dp}{dt} \right] + \frac{dh}{dt} \right\} &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{-----(4.1)}$$

in the domain  $C[0, T] \cap C^{(2)}(0, \tau)$ .

To find  $p(t)$  such that the equations (1.1) and (4.1) are satisfies. Consider  $C^{(2)}[0, T]$  and  $H[0, T]$  with inner product

$$(u, v) = \int_0^T uv dt \quad \text{and} \quad a(u, v) = \int_0^T h^3(u, v_t) dt$$

Where the associated norms are:  $|u|^2 = (u, u)$  and  $\|u\|^2 = a(u, u)$

Denoted by  $H^*[0, T]$  the subspace of  $H[0, T]$ , whose elements  $v$  satisfy conditions (1.1) to (1.4). Let  $K$  be a closed convex set of  $H^*[0, T]$ , defined by:  $K = \{v \in H^*[0, T]: v \geq 0 \text{ in } [0, T]\}$

If  $p(t)$  is a solution of (1.1) and (4.1), then  $p \in K$  for every  $v \in K$ , we have:

$$a(p, v - p) = \int_0^T h^3 \{p_t(v - p)_t\} dt$$

We can easily prove that  $a(., .)$  is a bilinear, symmetric, bounded and elliptic form. Also we get:

$$a(p, v - p) \geq (f, v - p), \text{ for every } v \in K \text{ where } f = \frac{dh}{dt} \quad \text{----- (4.2)}$$

Thus, by Lions-Stampacchia theorem, (4.2) has unique solution.

$$\text{Consider the functional: } J(p) = \frac{1}{2} a(p, p) - (f, p) \quad \text{----- (4.3)}$$

The equivalent minimization statement is  $J(p) \leq J(v)$ , for all  $v \in K$ , by using theorem (2.2), (2.1) and (4.3) has a unique solution, which is the same solution of (4.2),

$$\text{thus: } J(p) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \left\{ h^3 \frac{d}{dt^2} p - \frac{dh}{dt} p \right\} dt \quad \text{----- (4.4)}$$

Could be regarded as the variational formulation of infinite Journal Bearing problem.

## 5. Numerical Solution of the Problem

The variational formulation (4.4) with the boundary conditions (1.2)-(1.4) is so difficult to solve analytically using principle or other analytical methods, therefore direct methods are required to solve this problem. To find the solution  $p$  which is the critical point of functional (4.4), the Ritz method [6] will be used. The procedure utilized here, can be described in below.

Let the solution  $p_a = u$  is approximate by a linear combination of elements of a complete sequence of functions  $\{\varphi(t)\}$  defined over the interval  $[0, T]$  and each function satisfying the before conditions. In other words:  $u(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \varphi_i(t)$  ----- (5.1),

where  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  coefficients to be determined. These functions can be defined as follows:

$$u(t) = t(\tau - t)^2 [a_0 + a_1 t + a_2 t^2 + a_3 t^3] \quad \text{----- (5.2)}$$

Substituting then above function  $u(t)$  in the functional  $J$  defined by Eq. (4.4) , and after carrying out the integration using Gaussian quadrature integration method [4] of degree 7 , the functional  $J$  becomes a function of the real variables  $a_0, a_1, a_2$  and  $a_3$  .

Thus , the variational formulation is equivalent to the unconstrained non-linear minimizing problem of the functional  $J(a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3)$  .

Hook and Jeeves minimization method [6] have been successfully used to solve the problem , after assuming that the film thickness :

$$h(t)=1+0.01\cos(t) \quad [1]$$

where  $0.01$  equals to eccentricity ration . The approximate values of the coefficients  $a_0, a_1, a_2$  and  $a_3$  in approximate solution Eq. (5.2) are tabulated below :

$$a_0=0.4, a_1=0.7, a_2=1.69 \text{ and } a_3=0.9 .$$

## 6. References

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