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# THIN LAYER FLOW

## IN ROLLING ELEMENT BEARINGS



TIXAA ARABA



## C.H. (KEES) VENNER

## **ROLLING ELEMENT BEARINGS**





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# TYPES



Ball bearing

Taper roller bearing



Spherical roller bearing

# SIZES







Extreme pressures à 1-3 GPa



- **§** Protect surfaces by separation (thickener layer/oil layer)
- **§** Reduce friction (just a little lubricant !!!!)
- **§** Protection against contamination

> 80% grease lubricated

## OBJECTIVE

§ Accurate prediction of

Service life= min(fatigue life, grease life)

- **§** Prediction of subsurface stresses and film thickness in relation to:
- **§** OLD: Nominal operating conditions and lubricant properties
- § NEW: Variations in time due to force, speed, start-stop, roughness moving through contact
- **§** Lubricant availability (local amount, local properties)
- § Active re-lubrication ?
- **§** Grease composition: Thickener rich protective layers ?

## MODELING (Single Contact): EHL

Experimental



## SINGLE CONTACT MODELING (EHL)

Flow: Navier Stokes, Narrow Gap (lubrication) assumption :

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial X} \left( e \frac{\partial P}{\partial X} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial Y} \left( e \frac{\partial P}{\partial Y} \right) - \Lambda(T) \frac{\partial \left( q \overline{r} H \right)}{\partial X} - \frac{\partial \left( q \overline{r} H \right)}{\partial T} = 0$$
  
+ viscosity en density pressure law

Gap height h: undeformed shape+elastic deformation

$$H(X,Y,T) = -\Delta(T) + \frac{X^{2}}{2} + \frac{Y^{2}}{2} + \frac{2}{p^{2}} \iint_{S} \frac{P(X',Y',T)dX'dY'}{\sqrt{(X-X')^{2} + (Y-Y')^{2}}}$$

Equation of Motion

$$\frac{1}{\Omega^2} \frac{d^2 \Delta}{dT^2} + \frac{3}{2p} \iint_{S} P(X, Y, T) dX dY + \overline{K} \cdot \Delta = 1 + \overline{K} \Delta_{\infty}$$

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# MULTISCALE/MULTILEVEL COMPUTATIONAL METHODS

#### **Conceptual approach:**

- § Identify problematic components responsible for computational slowness (slow convergence, multi-summations).
- **§** Design **accurate** representation for **efficient** solution (computation)

## **§** Appearances:

Standard: Geometric Multigrid

Advanced: General Systems: AMG

Advanced: Physics, Chemistry, Particles, etc.

## § Result:

O(N) solver: realistic conditions, many unknowns (points\*timesteps) on small computers

## **RESULTS SINGLE CONTACT EHL**



## SINGLE CONTACT VALIDATION



## **STEADY STATE**



Standard mineral oil (shell TT9)

## **STEADY STATE**





U=0.05 m/s



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## TIME VARYING: LOAD

Experimental results: Sakamoto, M., Nishikawa, H., Kaneta, M., Proc. 30<sup>th</sup> Leeds –Lyon Symposium On Tribology, p391-399 (2004)



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# TIME VARYING "ROUGHNESS"





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## STARVED CONTACTS: EXPERIMENTAL



## STARVED CONTACTS



## STARVED CONTACTS

Direct relation between inlet layer and film thickness in the contact.

Accurate prediction when oil layer thickness correctly modeled.



Chevalier, F. Lubrecht, A.A., Cann, P., Dalmaz, G., and Colin, F. Proceedings 22<sup>nd</sup> Leeds Lyon Symposium on Tribology, p 126-133, (1998)

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# APPLICATION TO REAL BEARINGS ?

## **Complications:**

- **§** Repeated overrolling in very short time
- § Billions of overrollings in life-time !!!! (even MG doesn't help enough)
- § Lubricant migration (grease bleeding, cage, centrifugal forces etc.) determines inlet layer of oil on surface to each the contact
- § .....

Solution: Thin Layer flow model for layer flow, linked to direct relation between layer and film from starved contact.

# THIN LAYER FLOW MODEL: INTRO



- § To develop a model that predicts change supply layer thickness.
- **§** Use model to predict long term film thickness decay.

## THIN LAYER FLOW IN BEARINGS

# Centrifugal effect **Contact pressure effect** Lubricant film thickness distribution

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## **COMBINING LAYERS: EQUIPARTION**



## CONTACT PRESSURE: BEARING

## **Mass conservation**

$$\frac{\partial \hat{h}_{\infty}}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{r_0 l_t} \frac{\partial \hat{q}_y}{\partial y}$$

## Mass flow in EHL contacts

$$\hat{q}_{y}(y,t) = \sum_{k=1}^{n_{c}} \hat{q}_{y,k}$$

$$\hat{q}_{y,k}(y,t) = \frac{1}{2p} \int_{0}^{2p} \int_{a^{-}}^{a^{+}} \left( -\frac{rh^{3}}{12h} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \right)_{k} dx dy$$

$$h = h(p) \qquad p = p(x, y, y, t)$$
  

$$r = r(p) \qquad h = h(x, y, y, t)$$
  
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## Layer thickness

$$\lim_{h_{oil}\to 0}h=\frac{2h_{\infty}^{0}}{\overline{r}}$$

## **Pressure**

$$\lim_{h_{oil}\to 0} p = p_h \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{y}{b}\right)^2}$$

## SINGLE CONTACT: VALIDATION



van Zoelen, M. T.; Venner, C. H. & Lugt, P. M. "Prediction of Film Thickness Decay in Starved EHL Contacts using a Thin Layer Flow Model," *Journal of Engineering Tribology, ImechE* 2009, 223 In Press. UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE. Faculty CTW/Engineering Fluid Dynamics

## SINGLE CONTACT: VALIDATION



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## SINGLE CONTACT: VALIDATION

(a) Intitial oil layer distibution



(c) t = 123 sec.  $h_c = 67$  nm



**(b)** t = 0 sec.  $h_c = 147$  nm



(d) t = 744 sec.  $h_c = 27$  nm









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## FILM THICKNESS DECAY



Spherical Roller Bearing

Load [kN]	Speed [rpm]	<u>At</u> [h]
10	750	2.5
10	1500	3.8
10	3000	5.8
5	3000	5.7
2.5	3000	5.6

Load [kN]	Speed [rpm]	<u>Δt</u> [h]
10	750	0.048
- 10 -	1500	0.072
10	3000	0.109
5	3000	0.105
2.5	3000	0.100

Deep groove

**Ball Bearing** 

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## CONCLUSION

Film decay model for bearings developed based on:

Thin layer flow model

Starved EHL

Model is developed to predict change of supply layer

- § Centrifugal effects
- § Contact pressure effects

Single Contact Model is validated experimentally

Bearing Model is worst case, further validation needed and addition of sources

# Challenges and Future Role of Physics+Chemistry

Optimization of Lubricant availability and composition

- § Nano-scale protective layers (grease composition)
- § Activate local relubrication (meniscus/contact line control/momentary lubricant supply)
- § Mixed lubrication modeling
- **§** Transition to zero film physically correctly
- § Multiscale Islands

## Acknowledgement

Many collaborators

- 1. Brandt (Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel)
- Lubrecht (INSA-Lyon), Greenwood (Cambridge, UK), Hooke (Birmingham, UK), Cann (Imperial College), Bair (Georgia Tech, USA)
- 3. PhD Students: Ysbrand Wijnant, Benoit Jacod, Daniel van Odyck, Gheorghe Popovici, Marco van Zoelen
- 4. STW, SKF ERC

Thank you for your kind attention

- 1. Scale the N-S equations
- 2. Take the limit as taking the limit of as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$
- 3. Derive equation velocities
- 4. Insert the velocities into continuity equation.



Navier-Stokes equation (incompressible flow, constant viscosity):

$$\mathbf{r}\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + w\frac{\partial u}{\partial z}\right) = f_x - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \mathbf{m}\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2}\right)$$
$$\mathbf{r}\left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + u\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + v\frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + w\frac{\partial v}{\partial z}\right) = f_y - \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \mathbf{m}\left(\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial z^2}\right)$$
$$\mathbf{r}\left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial t} + u\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} + v\frac{\partial w}{\partial y} + w\frac{\partial w}{\partial z}\right) = f_z - \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + \mathbf{m}\left(\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial z^2}\right)$$

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Step 1: 
$$e = \frac{H}{L}$$
  $W = eU$ 



$$e^{2} \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{\partial \overline{u}}{\partial \overline{t}} + \overline{u} \frac{\partial \overline{u}}{\partial \overline{x}} + \overline{v} \frac{\partial \overline{u}}{\partial \overline{y}} + \overline{w} \frac{\partial \overline{u}}{\partial \overline{z}} \right) = \overline{f}_{x} - \frac{\partial \overline{p}}{\partial \overline{x}} + e^{2} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{u}}{\partial \overline{x}^{2}} + e^{2} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{u}}{\partial \overline{y}^{2}} + \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{u}}{\partial \overline{z}^{2}} \\ e^{2} \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{t}} + \overline{u} \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{x}} + \overline{v} \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{y}} + \overline{w} \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{z}} \right) = \overline{f}_{y} - \frac{\partial \overline{p}}{\partial \overline{y}} + e^{2} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{x}^{2}} + e^{2} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{y}^{2}} + \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{z}^{2}} \\ e^{4} \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{t}} + \overline{u} \frac{\partial \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{x}} + \overline{v} \frac{\partial \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{y}} + \overline{w} \frac{\partial \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{z}} \right) = \overline{f}_{z} - \frac{\partial \overline{p}}{\partial \overline{z}} + e^{4} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{x}^{2}} + e^{4} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{y}^{2}} + e^{2} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{z}^{2}} \\ e^{4} \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{t}} + \overline{u} \frac{\partial \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{x}} + \overline{v} \frac{\partial \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{y}} + \overline{w} \frac{\partial \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{z}} \right) = \overline{f}_{z} - \frac{\partial \overline{p}}{\partial \overline{z}} + e^{4} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{x}^{2}} + e^{4} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{y}^{2}} + e^{2} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{z}^{2}} \\ e^{4} \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{t}} + \overline{u} \frac{\partial \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{x}} + \overline{v} \frac{\partial \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{y}} + \overline{w} \frac{\partial \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{z}} \right) = \overline{f}_{z} - \frac{\partial \overline{p}}{\partial \overline{z}} + e^{4} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{x}^{2}} + e^{4} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{y}^{2}} + e^{2} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{z}^{2}} \\ e^{4} \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{t}} + \overline{v} \frac{\partial \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{y}} + \overline{v} \frac{\partial \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{y}} \right) = \overline{f}_{z} - \frac{\partial \overline{p}}{\partial \overline{z}} + e^{4} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{z}^{2}} + e^{4} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{y}^{2}} + e^{2} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{z}^{2}} \\ e^{4} \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{t}} + \overline{v} \frac{\partial \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{y}} \right) = \overline{t}_{z} - \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{z}} + e^{4} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{z}^{2}} + e^{4} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{z}^{2}} \\ e^{4} \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{t}} + \overline{v} \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{y}} \right) = \overline{t}_{z} - \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{z}} + e^{4} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{z}^{2}} + e^{4} \frac{\partial^{2} \overline{w}}{\partial \overline{z}^{2}} \\ e^{4} \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{v}} \right) = \overline{t}_{z} - \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{v}} + \overline{t}_{z} - \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{v}} \right) = \overline{t}_{z} - \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{v}} + e^{4} \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{z}^{2}} + e^{4} \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{v}} \right) = \overline{t}_{z} - \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{v}} + e^{4} \frac{\partial \overline{v}}{\partial \overline{v}} \right) = \overline{t}_{z} - \overline{t}_{z} - \overline{t}_{$$

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$$L$$
  $V$   $L$   $h, H$ 

Step 2: 
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Step 2:

$$0 = f_x - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + m \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} \right)$$
$$0 = f_y - \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + m \left( \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial z^2} \right)$$
$$0 = f_z - \frac{\partial p}{\partial z}$$

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#### Step 3:

$$p = f_{z}(z-h) - t_{c}k + p_{0}$$

$$\left\langle u \right\rangle = \frac{1}{h} \int_{0}^{h} u \, dz = \frac{h^{2}}{3m} \left[ f_{x} + \frac{3}{8}h \frac{\partial f_{z}}{\partial x} + f_{z} \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} + t_{s} \left( \frac{\partial^{3}h}{\partial x^{3}} + \frac{\partial^{3}h}{\partial y^{2}\partial x} \right) \right]$$

$$\left\langle v \right\rangle = \frac{1}{h} \int_{0}^{h} v \, dz = \frac{h^{2}}{3m} \left[ f_{y} + \frac{3}{8}h \frac{\partial f_{z}}{\partial y} + f_{z} \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} + t_{s} \left( \frac{\partial^{3}h}{\partial x^{2}\partial y} + \frac{\partial^{3}h}{\partial y^{3}} \right) \right]$$

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## THIN LAYER APPROXIMATION

- 1. Scale the N-S equations
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#### Step 4:

$$\frac{1}{3m}\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\left(h^{3}\left[f_{x}+\frac{3}{8}h\frac{\partial f_{z}}{\partial x}+f_{z}\frac{\partial h}{\partial x}+t_{s}\left(\frac{\partial^{3}h}{\partial x^{3}}+\frac{\partial^{3}h}{\partial y^{2}\partial x}\right)\right]\right)+\dots$$
$$\frac{1}{3m}\frac{\partial}{\partial y}\left(h^{3}\left[f_{y}+\frac{3}{8}h\frac{\partial f_{z}}{\partial y}+f_{z}\frac{\partial h}{\partial y}+t_{s}\left(\frac{\partial^{3}h}{\partial x^{2}\partial y}+\frac{\partial^{3}h}{\partial y^{3}}\right)\right]\right)+\frac{\partial h}{\partial t}=0$$

van Zoelen, M. T.; Venner, C. H. & Lugt, P. M. "Free Surface Thin Layer Flow on Bearing Raceways," Journal of Tribology, ASME, 2008, 130, 021802

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# CENTRIFUGAL EFFECTS RACEWAY

## Example



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# CENTRIFUGAL EFFECTS RACEWAY

## Example



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## CENTRIFUGAL EFFECT RACEWAY: VALIDATION

![](_page_46_Figure_1.jpeg)

van Zoelen, M. T.; Venner, C. H. & Lugt, P. M. "*Free Surface Thin Layer Flow on Bearing Raceways,*" *Journal of Tribology, ASME,* **2008**, 130, 021802 UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE. Faculty CTW/Engineering Fluid Dynamics

## SIMPLIFICATION

## <u>2D à 1D:</u>

- § Equipartition
- **§** Contact pressure smoothening
- § Surface tension

$$\frac{1}{3m}\frac{\partial}{\partial y}\left(h^{3}f_{x}\right) + \frac{\partial h}{\partial t} = 0$$

§ Hyperbolic equation, easily solved by method of characteristics UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.

![](_page_47_Picture_7.jpeg)

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## CENTRIFUGAL EFFECT ROLLER

![](_page_48_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Figure_2.jpeg)

$$\frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial}{\partial s}\left(\frac{h^3}{3h_0}r f_s\right) + \frac{\partial h}{\partial t} = 0$$

Body force equation

Raceways:

$$f_{s,rw} = r\Omega_{rw}^{2} r \frac{dr}{ds}$$

Rollers:

$$f_{s,rol} = r \Omega_{ca}^{2} \left( \sin^{2} \left( g \right) z_{rol} + \sin \left( g \right) R_{crol} \right) \frac{dz_{rol}}{ds} + \left( \left( \frac{1}{2} \cos^{2} \left( g \right) + \frac{1}{2} \right) \Omega_{ca}^{2} + 2 \Omega_{ca} \Omega_{rol} \cos \left( g \right) + \Omega_{rol}^{2} \right) r r_{rol} \frac{dr_{rol}}{ds}$$

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![](_page_48_Figure_10.jpeg)

## CENTRIFUGAL EFFECT: BEARING

![](_page_49_Figure_1.jpeg)