



Multibody System Dynamics: MBDyn Hydraulics Modeling



Pierangelo Masarati <pierangelo.masarati@polimi.it>
Politecnico di Milano
Dipartimento di Scienze e Tecnologie Aerospaziali

Outline

MBDyn

- Introduction
- Modeling Scales
- Multibody/Multiphysics Dynamics:
 - MBDyn Software
 - Modeling Approach
- Hydraulic Library Overview
- Examples

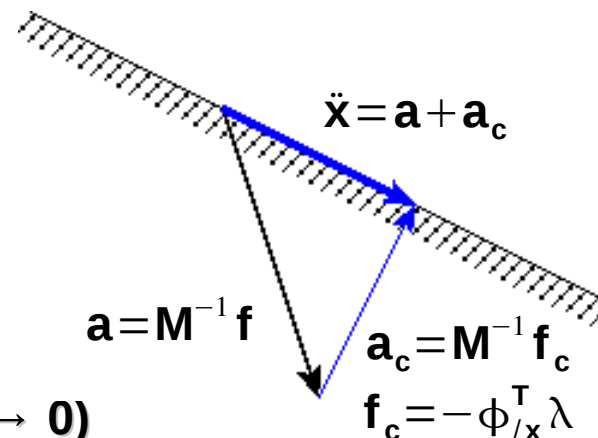
- **Multibody Dynamics: unconstrained mechanical systems...**

$$\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{x}) \ddot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, \dot{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{t})$$

- **... plus kinematic constraints: constrained mechanical systems**

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{x}) \ddot{\mathbf{x}} + \phi_{/x}^T \lambda &= \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, \dot{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{t}) \\ \phi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{t}) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

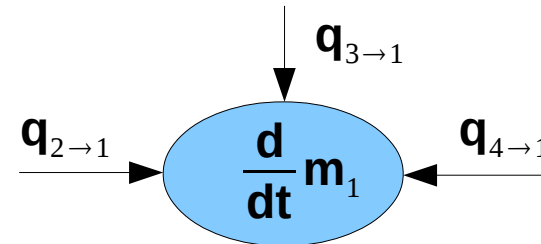
- **System of differential-algebraic equations (DAE)**
- **Infinitely “fast” dynamics (time scale $\rightarrow 0$)**
- **Requires unconditionally stable integration, algorithmic dissipation**
→ implicit A/L-stable schemes



- Hydraulic system dynamics:
 - approximate or neglect local dynamics
 - spatial resolution: 0D & 1D
 - circuit theory: node pressures, branch flows

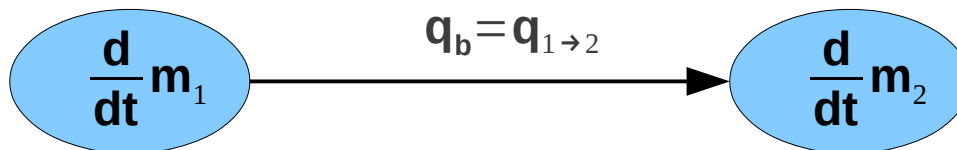
- Flow balance at nodes

$$\sum q_b = \frac{d}{dt} m_n$$



- Constitutive properties of branches (e.g. pressure loss)

$$\psi(q_b, \dot{q}_b, p_{n1}, \dot{p}_{n1}, p_{n2}, \dot{p}_{n2}, t) = 0$$



- Constitutive properties of fluid: linearization about reference condition

$$\frac{d}{dt} m = \frac{d}{dt} (\rho V) = \dot{\rho} V + \rho \dot{V}$$

volume change
(e.g. actuator)

$$\dot{\rho} = \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial p} \dot{p} + \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial T} \dot{T} = \rho_0 \left(\frac{1}{\beta} \dot{p} - \alpha \dot{T} \right)$$

compressibility
can be neglected if:

- m small
- bulk modulus large
- pressure rate small

thermal expansion
can be neglected if:

- m small
- coefficient small
- temperature rate small

$$\frac{d}{dt} m = \frac{m}{\beta} \dot{p} - m \alpha \dot{T} + \rho \dot{V}$$

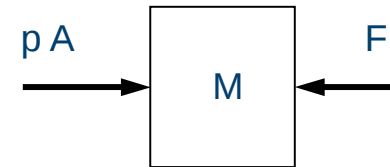
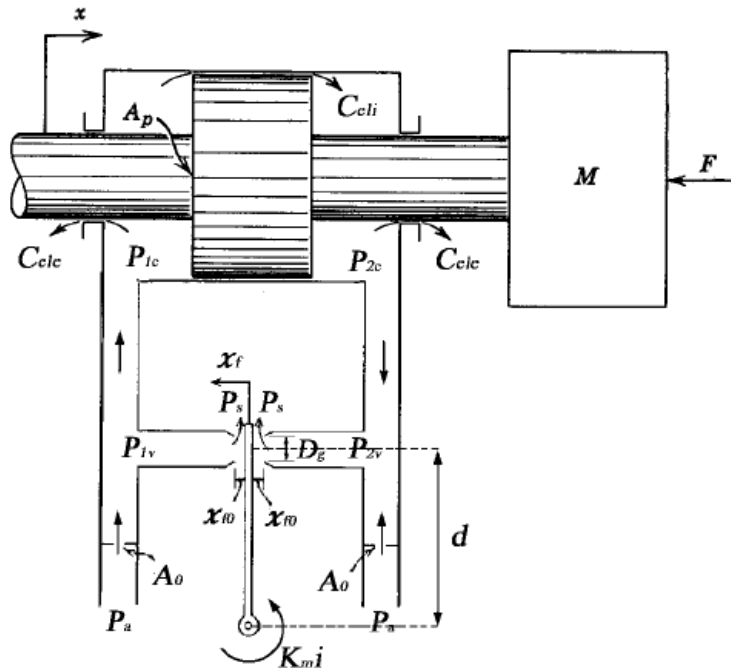
assume temperature rate small compared
to time scale of hydro-mechanical processes

- **Multiphysics problem: interaction between different domains (e.g. mechanical and hydraulic)**
- **Interaction described in terms of:**
 - **Frequency, bandwidth (how rapid phenomena are)**
 - **Power (how much work is transferred between domains)**
- **Determine how interaction can be simplified:**
 - **Truncation**
 - **Steady approximation**
 - **Quasi-steady approximation**
 - **Complete dynamics coupling**

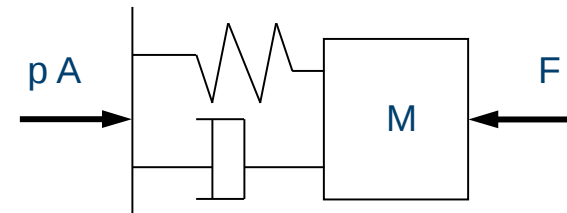
Modeling Scales

MBDyn

- **Example: actuator**



**truncated model: commanded force
independed from dynamics**

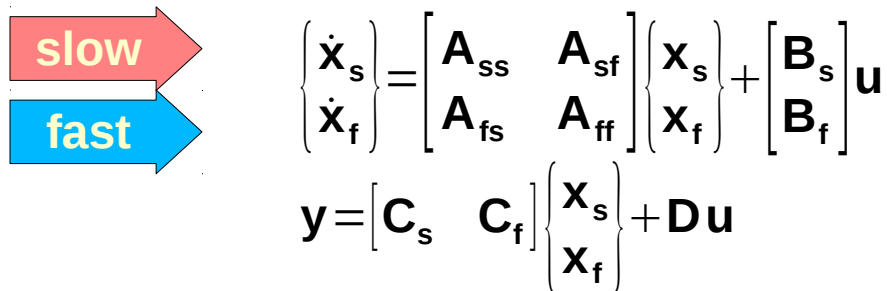


(quasi-)static model: commanded force depends on dynamics approx. as mass-spring-damper

- Coupled dynamic problem: state-space representation (e.g. linear)

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\mathbf{x}} &= \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{y} &= \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{D} \mathbf{u}\end{aligned}$$


- States partitioned based on frequency separation (“slow” vs. “fast”):



$$\begin{aligned}\begin{pmatrix} \dot{\mathbf{x}}_s \\ \dot{\mathbf{x}}_f \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{ss} & \mathbf{A}_{sf} \\ \mathbf{A}_{fs} & \mathbf{A}_{ff} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_s \\ \mathbf{x}_f \end{pmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}_s \\ \mathbf{B}_f \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{y} &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_s & \mathbf{C}_f \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_s \\ \mathbf{x}_f \end{pmatrix} + \mathbf{D} \mathbf{u}\end{aligned}$$

- Approximations consist in reducing the system to the “slow” dynamics while preserving information about the “fast” dynamics

- Truncation: only consider “slow” states

slow 

$$\begin{array}{c} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \dot{\mathbf{x}}_s \\ 0 \end{array} \right\} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{ss} & \mathbf{A}_{sf} \\ \mathbf{A}_{fs} & \mathbf{A}_{ff} \end{bmatrix} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{x}_s \\ 0 \end{array} \right\} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}_s \\ \mathbf{B}_f \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_s & \mathbf{C}_f \end{bmatrix} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{x}_s \\ 0 \end{array} \right\} + \mathbf{D} \mathbf{u} \end{array}$$

- Reduced system:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\mathbf{x}}_s &= \mathbf{A}_{ss} \mathbf{x}_s + \mathbf{B}_s \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{y} &= \mathbf{C}_s \mathbf{x}_s + \mathbf{D} \mathbf{u} \end{aligned}$$

- **Steady approximation: statically approximate “fast” states**

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{matrix} \dot{\mathbf{x}}_s \\ \mathbf{0} \end{matrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{ss} & \mathbf{A}_{sf} \\ \mathbf{A}_{fs} & \mathbf{A}_{ff} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_s \\ \mathbf{x}_f \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}_s \\ \mathbf{B}_f \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{y} &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_s & \mathbf{C}_f \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_s \\ \mathbf{x}_f \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{D} \mathbf{u} \end{aligned}$$

- **Reduced system:**

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\mathbf{x}}_s &= \left(\mathbf{A}_{ss} - \mathbf{A}_{sf} \mathbf{A}_{ff}^{-1} \mathbf{A}_{fs} \right) \mathbf{x}_s + \left(\mathbf{B}_s - \mathbf{A}_{sf} \mathbf{A}_{ff}^{-1} \mathbf{B}_f \right) \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{x}_f &= -\mathbf{A}_{ff}^{-1} \mathbf{A}_{fs} \mathbf{x}_s - \mathbf{A}_{ff}^{-1} \mathbf{B}_f \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{y} &= \left(\mathbf{C}_s - \mathbf{C}_f \mathbf{A}_{ff}^{-1} \mathbf{A}_{fs} \right) \mathbf{x}_s + \left(\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{C}_f \mathbf{A}_{ff}^{-1} \mathbf{B}_f \right) \mathbf{u} \end{aligned}$$

- **Note: the original system becomes differential-algebraic (DAE) of index 1, thus reducible to ODE by direct substitution**

- Quasi-steady approximation: use low-order dynamics
- In Laplace's domain:

$$\mathbf{y}(s) = (\mathbf{C}(s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{D})\mathbf{u}(s) = \mathbf{H}(s)\mathbf{u}(s)$$



$$\mathbf{y}(s) \simeq \left(\mathbf{H}(0) + s \left(\frac{d\mathbf{H}}{ds} \right)_{s=0} + \frac{s^2}{2} \left(\frac{d^2\mathbf{H}}{ds^2} \right)_{s=0} + \dots + \frac{s^n}{n!} \left(\frac{d^n\mathbf{H}}{ds^n} \right)_{s=0} \right) \mathbf{u}(s)$$

$$\mathbf{H}(0) = -\mathbf{C}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{D}$$

$$\mathbf{H}'(0) = -\mathbf{C}\mathbf{A}^{-2}\mathbf{B}$$

$$\mathbf{H}''(0) = -2\mathbf{C}\mathbf{A}^{-3}\mathbf{B}$$

...

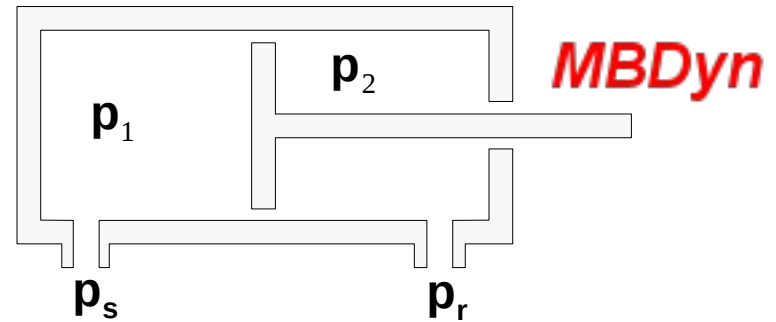
$$\mathbf{H}^{(n)}(0) = -(n!)\mathbf{C}\mathbf{A}^{-(n+1)}\mathbf{B}$$

- Back to time domain:

$$\mathbf{y}(t) = \mathbf{H}(0)\mathbf{u}(t) + \mathbf{H}'(0)\dot{\mathbf{u}}(t) + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{H}''(0)\ddot{\mathbf{u}}(t) + \dots$$

- Note: time derivative of input!
(Only makes sense when u is state of interacting system)

Approximations



Example: actuator; equations:

- **Flow balance in chamber 1**

$$V_1/\beta \dot{p}_1 = -A_p \dot{x} - C_{eli} A_{eli} (p_1 - p_2) - C_{ele} A_{ele} p_1 - C_{els} A_{els} (p_s - p_1)$$

- **Flow balance in chamber 2**

$$V_2/\beta \dot{p}_2 = +A_p \dot{x} - C_{eli} A_{eli} (p_2 - p_1) - C_{ele} A_{ele} p_2 - C_{elr} A_{elr} (p_2 - p_r)$$

- **Equilibrium of piston**

$$m \ddot{x} = A_p (p_1 - p_2) - r \dot{x} + F$$

- **State-space realization**

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{p}_1 \\ \dot{p}_2 \\ \dot{x} \\ \dot{v} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -C_{e11} \beta / V_1 & C_{e12} \beta / V_1 & 0 & -A_p \beta / V_1 \\ C_{e12} \beta / V_2 & -C_{e22} \beta / V_2 & 0 & A_p \beta / V_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ A_p / m & -A_p / m & 0 & -r / m \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \\ x \\ v \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} C_{e10} \beta / V_1 p_s \\ C_{e20} \beta / V_2 p_r \\ 0 \\ F / m \end{pmatrix}$$

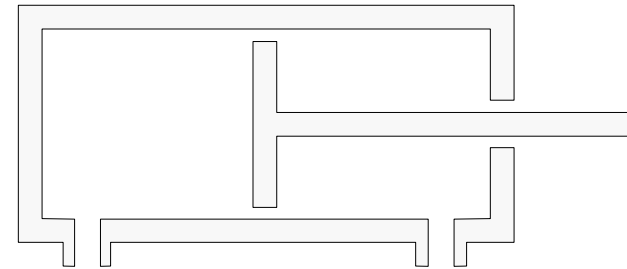
Truncation approximation:

- Neglect hydraulics (velocities small, infinite power available)

$$m \ddot{x} = A_p (p_s - p_r) - r \dot{x} + F$$

- Directly control the force exerted by the fluid

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{v} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -r/m \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} x \\ v \end{Bmatrix} + \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ A_p/m (p_s - p_r) + F/m \end{Bmatrix}$$



Static approximation:

- Neglect compressibility (volume is small, bulk modulus is high)

$$0 \simeq -A_p \dot{x} - C_{eli} A_{eli} (p_1 - p_2) - C_{ele} A_{ele} p_1 - C_{els} A_{els} (p_s - p_1) \Rightarrow p_1, p_2 \div \dot{x}$$

$$0 \simeq +A_p \dot{x} - C_{eli} A_{eli} (p_2 - p_1) - C_{ele} A_{ele} p_2 - C_{elr} A_{elr} (p_2 - p_r)$$

$$m \ddot{x} = A_p (p_1 - p_2) - r \dot{x} + F$$

- Pressure depends on velocity: → equivalent damping

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{v} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -r/m - c_{eq}/m \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} x \\ v \end{Bmatrix} + \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ A_p/m (p_s - p_r) + F/m \end{Bmatrix}$$

- **AMESim:**
 - Monolithic software (can be interfaced as dynamic module to other solvers)
 - Models hydraulic networks in detail
- **ADAMS:**
 - Module for basic solver
 - Introduces modeling capabilities of hydraulic components
- **Modelica (Dymola, MathModelica, OpenModelica?)**
 - Modeling language, based on open library of elements
 - Broad library for general-purpose components
 - Many fields, including hydraulics and multibody
 - Needs specific (closed) solver
- **MBDyn**

- **MBDyn:**
- **Developed at Dipartimento di Ingegneria Aerospaziale, Politecnico di Milano**
- **Monolithic multibody/multiphysics general-purpose software**
- **It's free: released under GPL (GNU General Public License)**
- **Includes integrated hydraulic library**

- **Web site:** <http://www.mbdyn.org/>
- **Distributed as source code**
- **Developed for Linux**
- **Needs Un*x-like build environment**
 - **Linux**
 - **Linux in virtual machine**
 - **MSYS/MinGW in windows**
 - **Cygwin in windows**

- **Command-line software**
- **Prepare an input file using your favourite text editor**
- **Execute:**

```
# mbdyn -f input_file -o output_file_prefix
```

- **Output in files with specific extensions**
- **Load output files in math environment (octave, scilab, matlab, ...) for plotting and further manipulation**

- Output can be reformatted for some post-processing tools
 - built-in: EasyAnim
 - ...
- Ongoing third-party project (“Blender & MBDyn”) about using Blender <http://www.blender.org/> for pre/post-processing:

<http://www.baldwintechology.com/>

- The model and the analysis are defined in a textual input file
- Use your preferred editor to prepare the input file
- The structure and the syntax of the statements are described here
<http://www.mbdyn.org/> → Download
(pick the manual for the version in use, or follow instructions)
- A set of tutorials and other documentation is presented here
<http://www.mbdyn.org/> → Documentation
including example input files

- Nodes instantiate degrees of freedom and the corresponding balance equations
- Static structural nodes only instantiate equilibrium equations

$$0 = \sum \mathbf{f}$$

$$0 = \sum \mathbf{m}$$

- Dynamic structural nodes also instantiate momentum and momenta moment definitions

$$\mathbf{M} \dot{\mathbf{x}} = \boldsymbol{\beta}$$

$$\mathbf{J} \boldsymbol{\omega} = \boldsymbol{\gamma}$$

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{\beta}} = \sum \mathbf{f}$$

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{\gamma}} = \sum \mathbf{m}$$

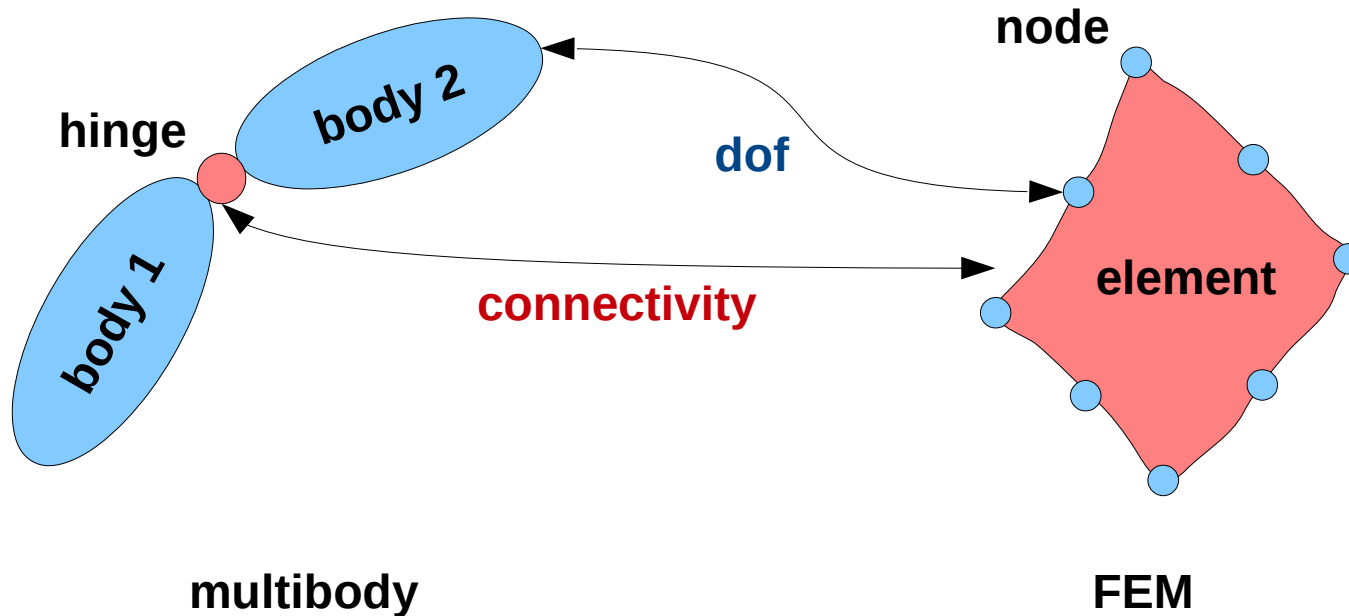
- Hydraulic nodes (pressure) instantiate flow balance equations

- **Elements write contributions to equations instantiated by nodes**
- **Elements represent “connectivity” and “constitutive properties”**
- **Elements can add further, “private” equations and variables (e.g. algebraic constraints and Lagrange multipliers)**
- **Mechanical elements typically add forces and moments to equilibrium equations**
- **Mechanical constraints (“joints”) may add algebraic relationships between kinematic degrees of freedom**
- **Hydraulic elements typically add flow contributions to flow balance equations in nodes**

Modeling Approach

MBDyn

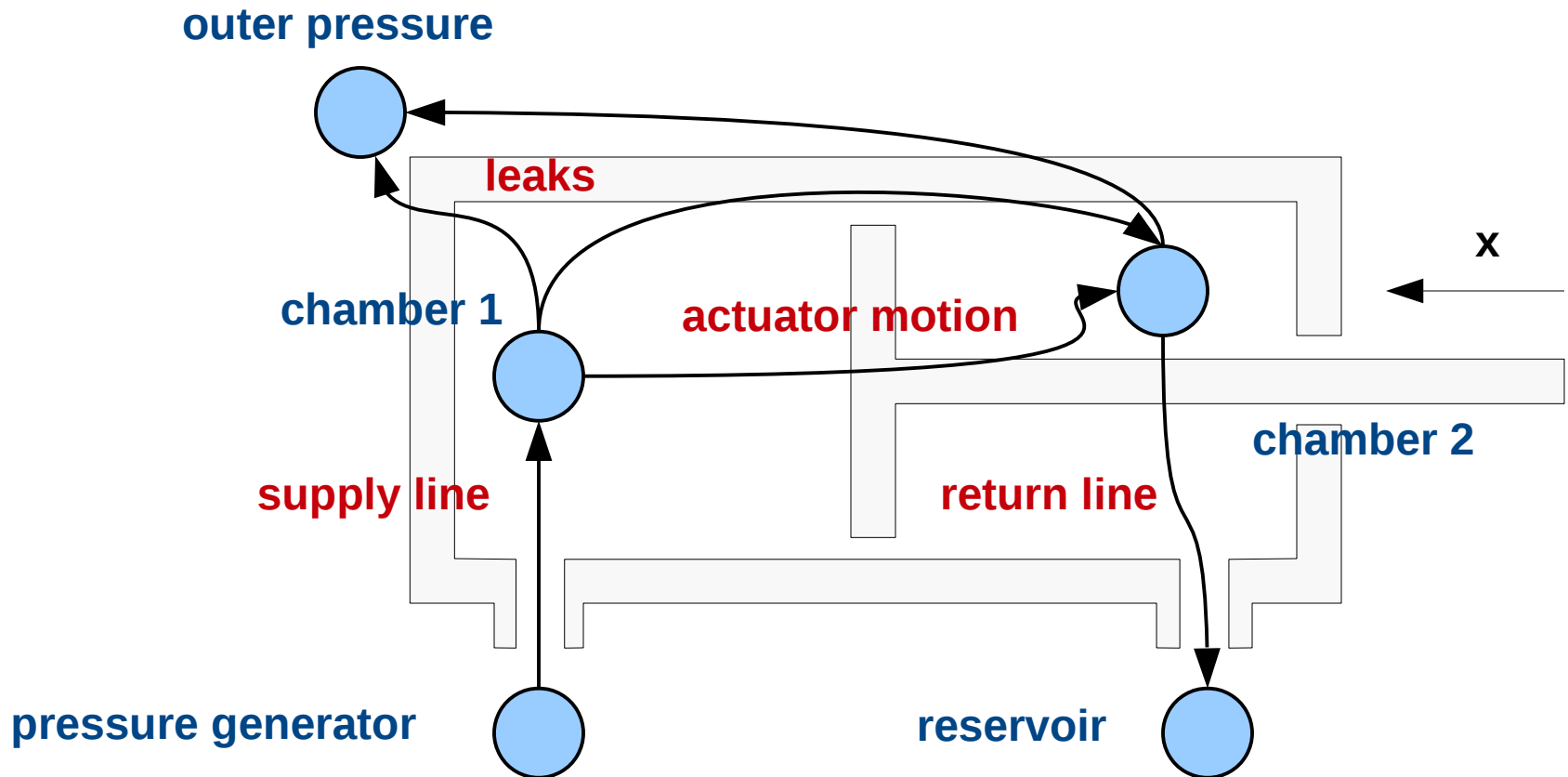
- **Multibody vs. FEM: nodes at bodies vs. nodes at frontier**
(node \leftrightarrow body; element \leftrightarrow hinge)



Modeling Approach

MBDyn

- Hydraulic modeling: network



Hydraulic Element Library: Pressure Generator

MBDyn

- Not specifically implemented; use a “clamp” genel instead
- This element adds a scalar algebraic equation that enforces a specific value (possibly time-dependent) on a scalar node

$$p = p_0(t)$$

- This algebraic equation implies a Lagrange multiplier on the flow balance equation related to the pressure node

$$\sum q + \lambda = 0$$

- The Lagrange multiplier represents the flow required to grant the imposed pressure value

Hydraulic Element Library: Imposed Flow

MBDyn

- Not specifically implemented, use an “abstract” force instead
- This element adds a contribution, possibly time-dependent, to an arbitrary scalar equation

$$q=q(t)$$

- Note: in MBDyn, a negative flow enters the circuit at the given node, a positive flow leaves the circuit at the given node

Hydraulic Element Library: Dynamic Pipeline

MBDyn

- Dynamic pipes are formulated using a finite-volume approach
- Degenerate into static when pressure time derivatives neglected

- Differential mass balance:

$$\frac{D}{Dt} dm = 0 \rightarrow q_{/x} + A \rho_{/t} = 0$$

- Differential momentum balance:

$$\frac{D}{Dt} dq = df \rightarrow q_{/t} + \left(\frac{q^2}{\rho A} + A p \right)_{/x} = f_v$$

- Discretization:

$$q(x, t) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1-\xi}{2} & \frac{1+\xi}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} q_1(t) \\ q_2(t) \end{Bmatrix}$$

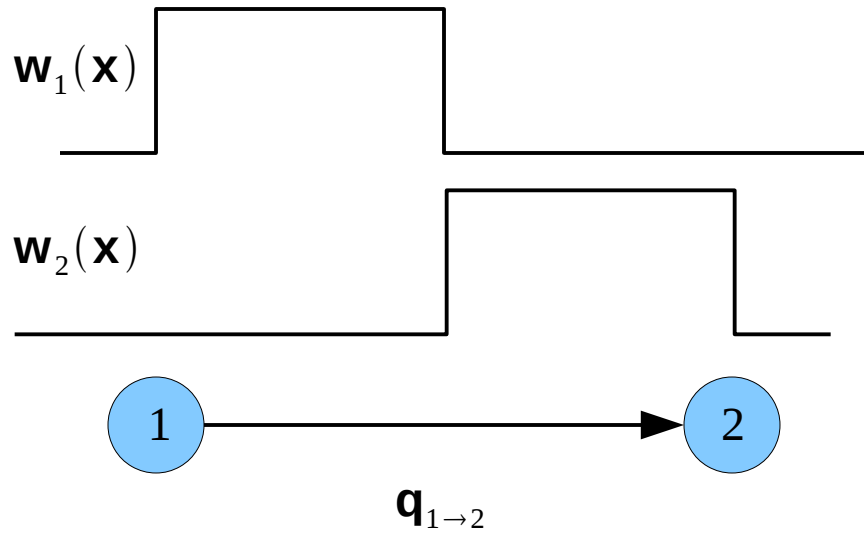
$$p(x, t) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1-\xi}{2} & \frac{1+\xi}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} p_1(t) \\ p_2(t) \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$x = x(\xi)$$

Hydraulic Element Library: Dynamic Pipeline

MBDyn

- Piecewise-constant weight functions:
- Weight the mass and momentum balance equations
- Four constitutive equations in pressure and flow at nodes



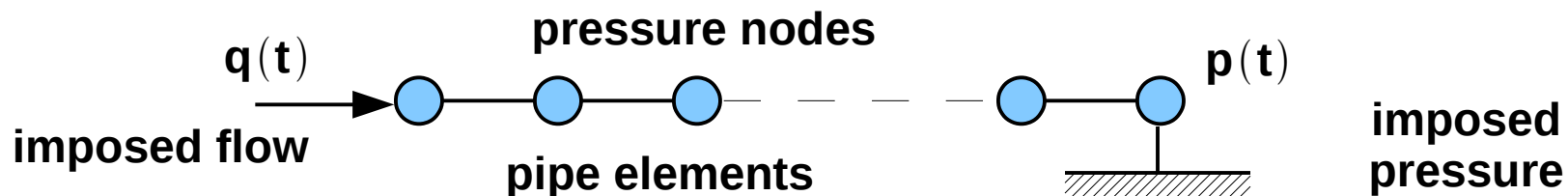
Example: Pressure Wave in Pipeline

MBDyn

- From: R. Piché, A. Ellman, “A Fluid Transmission Line Model for Use with ODE Simulators”, 8th Bath International Fluid Power Workshop, Sep. 20-22 1995, University of Bath, UK

- Length: 19.74 m
- Radius: 6.17e-3 m
- Density: 870 kg/m³
- Viscosity: 8.e-5 m²/s
- Sound celerity: 1.4e3 m/s
- Impulsive flow: 0.001 m³/s
- Duration: 0.1e-3 s

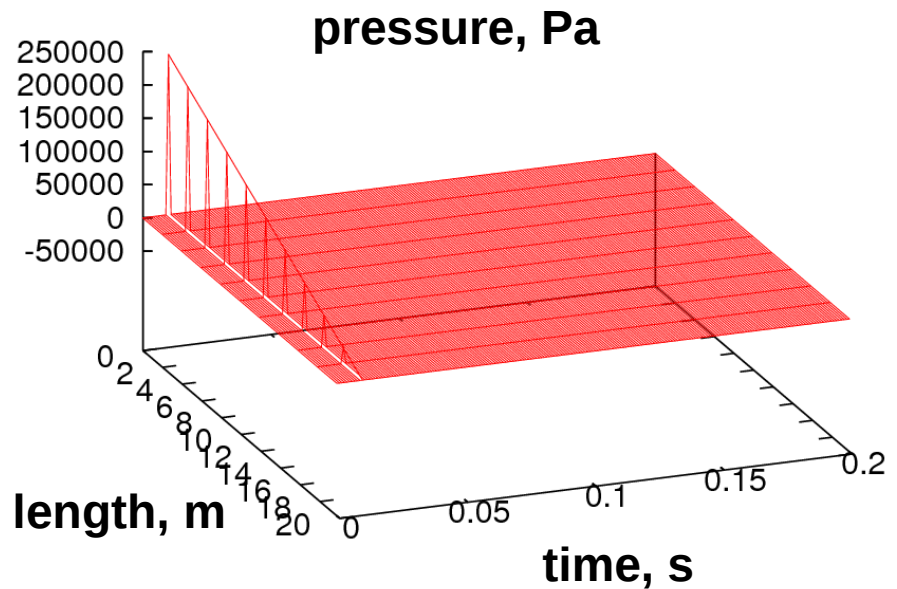
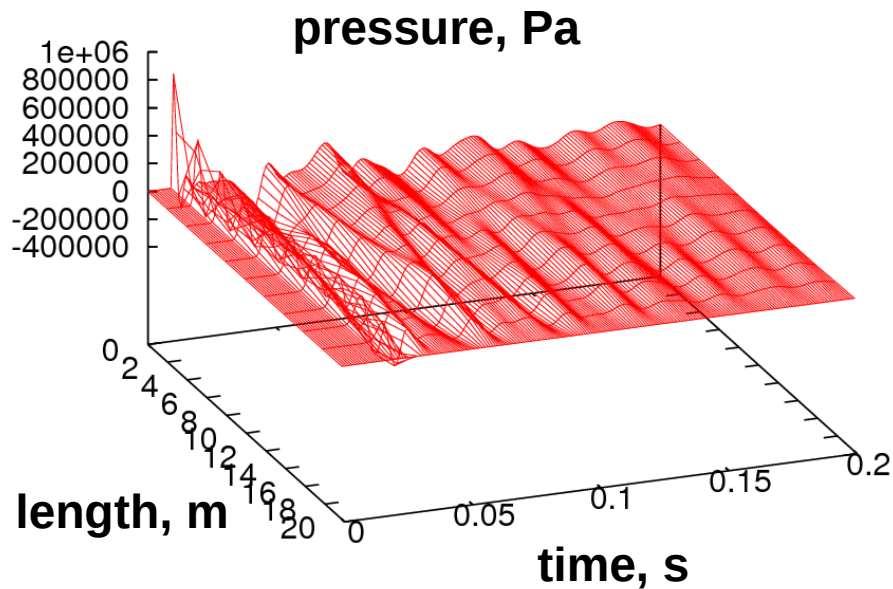
- Impulsive dynamics



Example: Pressure Wave in Pipeline

MBDyn

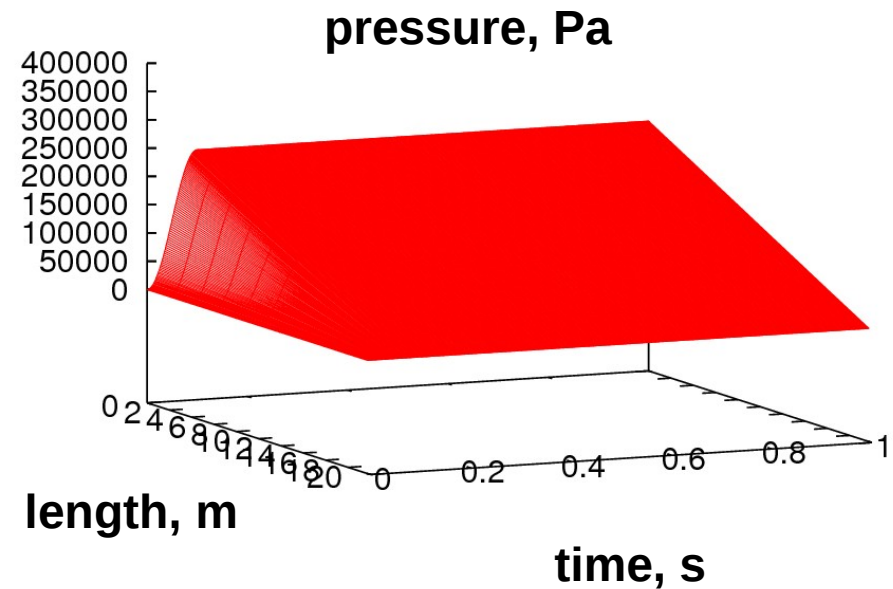
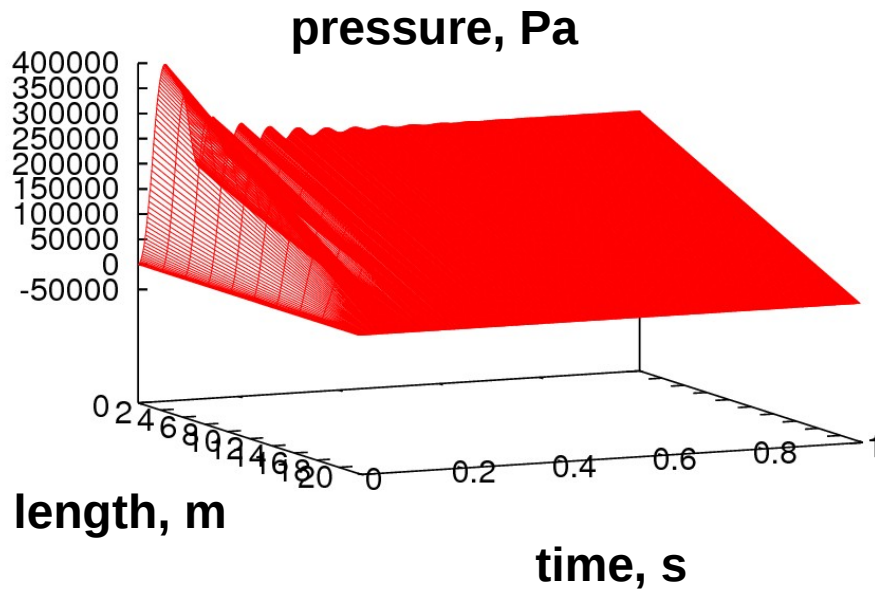
- Dynamic pipe (10 “dynamic pipe” elements)
compared to static pipe, “impulsive” flow input:



Example: Pressure Wave in Pipeline

MBDyn

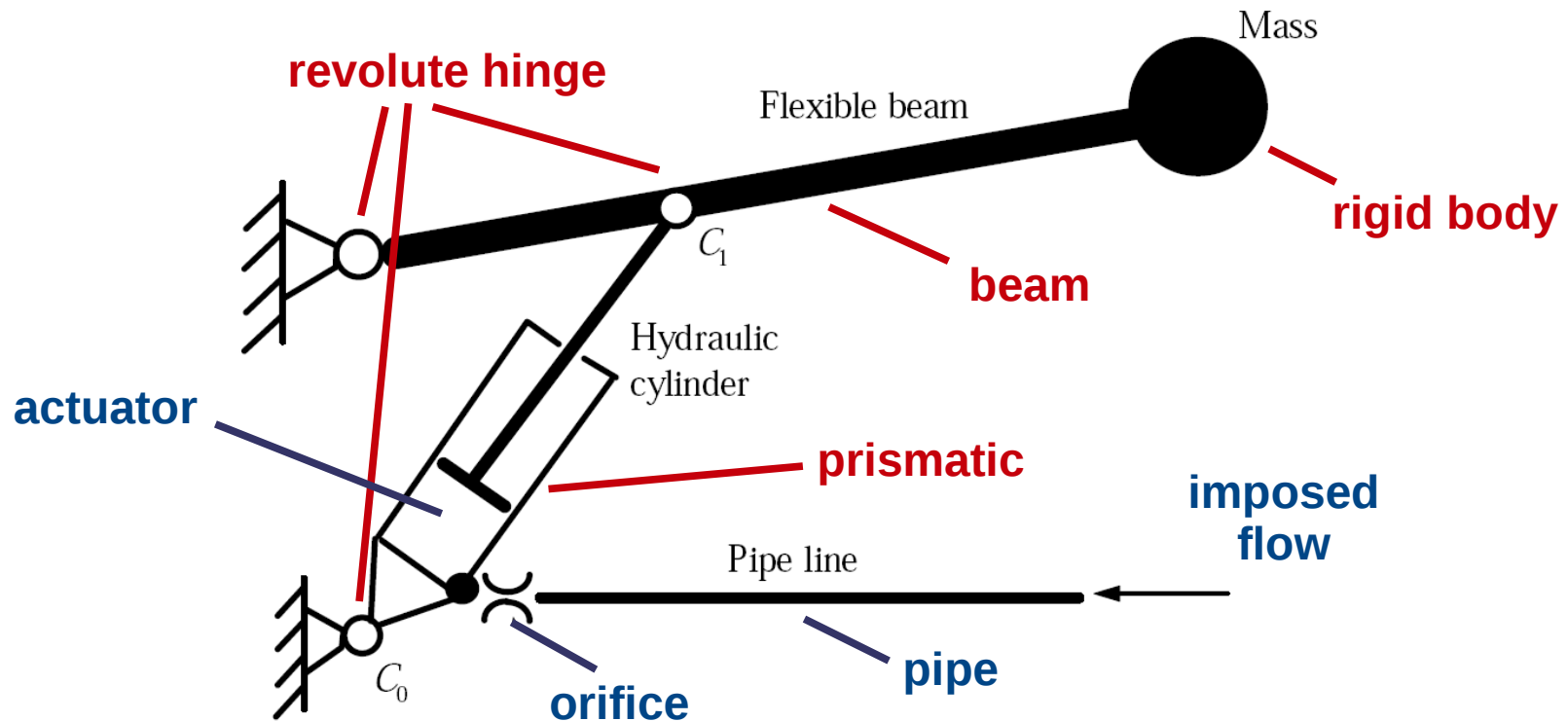
- Dynamic pipe (10 “dynamic pipe” elements)
compared to static pipe, “smooth” flow input:



Example: Hydraulically Actuated Beam

MBDyn

- From: J. Mäkinen, A. Ellman, R. Piché, “Dynamic Simulations of Flexible Hydraulic-Driven Multibody Systems using Finite Strain Beam Theory”, 5th Scandinavian International Conference on Fluid Power, Linköping, 1997, Sweden

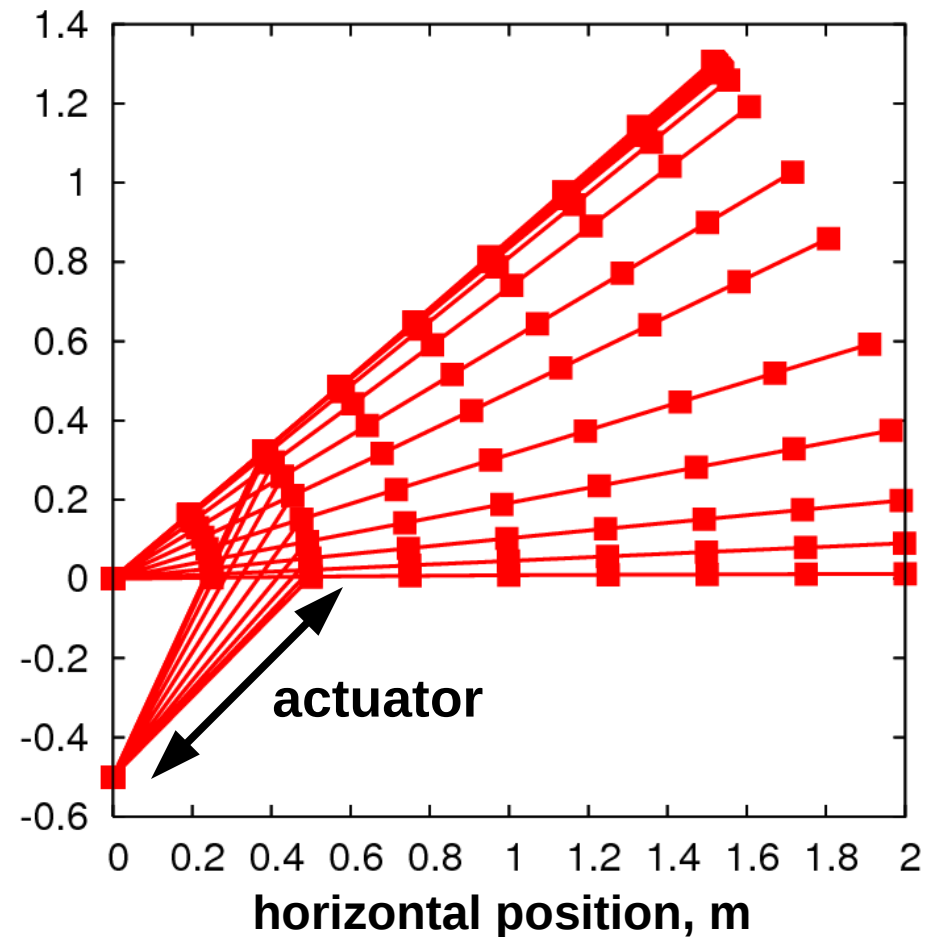
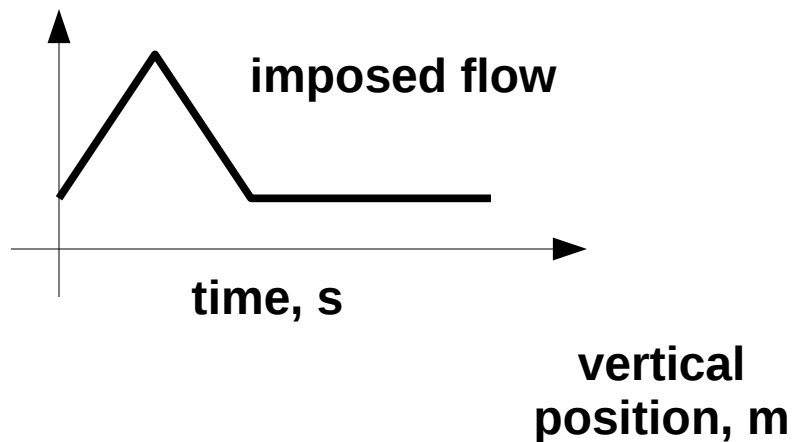


- Input file: <https://www.mbdyn.org/userfiles/documents/examples/actuator>

Example: Hydraulically Actuated Beam

MBDyn

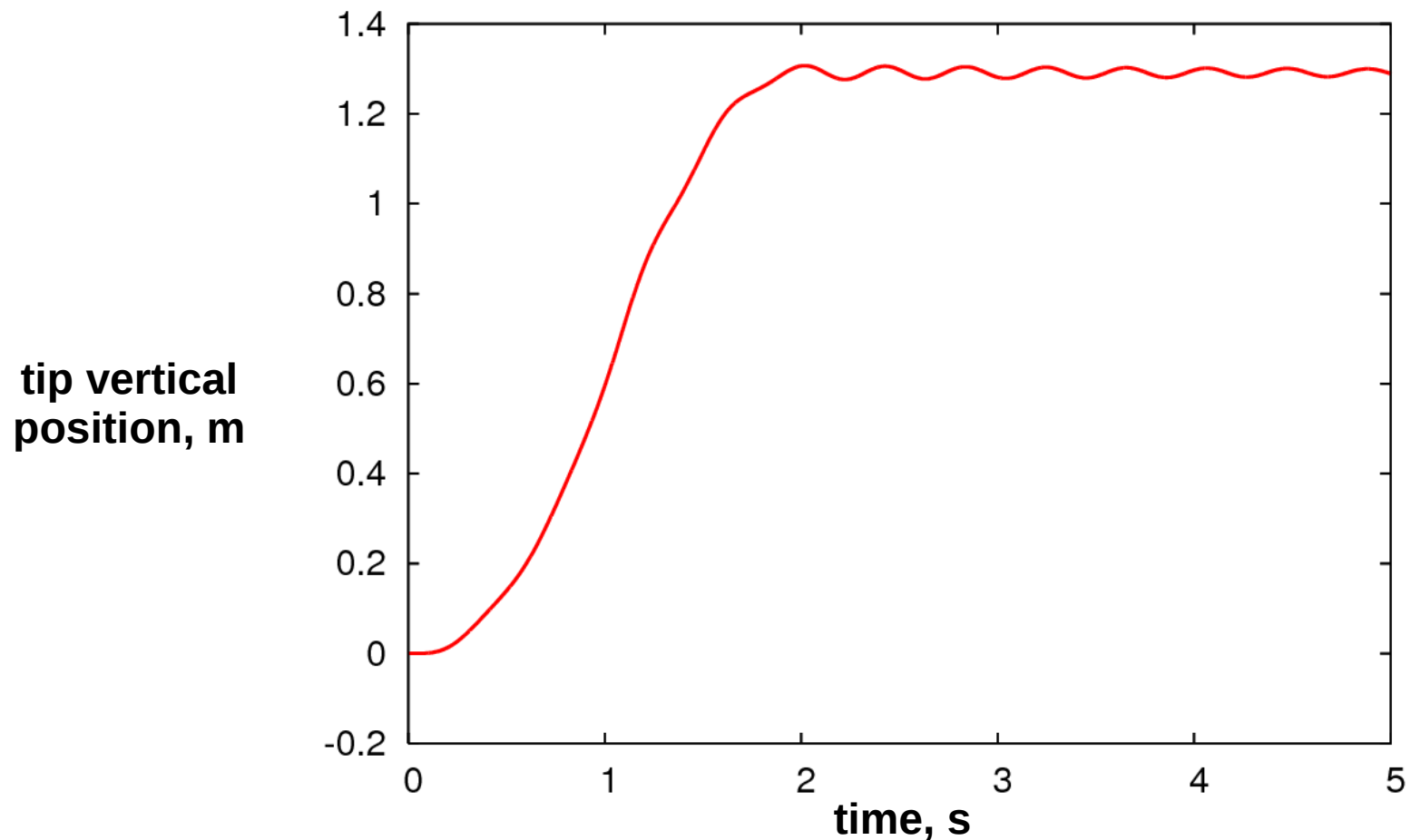
- 4 3-node beam elements



Example: Hydraulically Actuated Beam

MBDyn

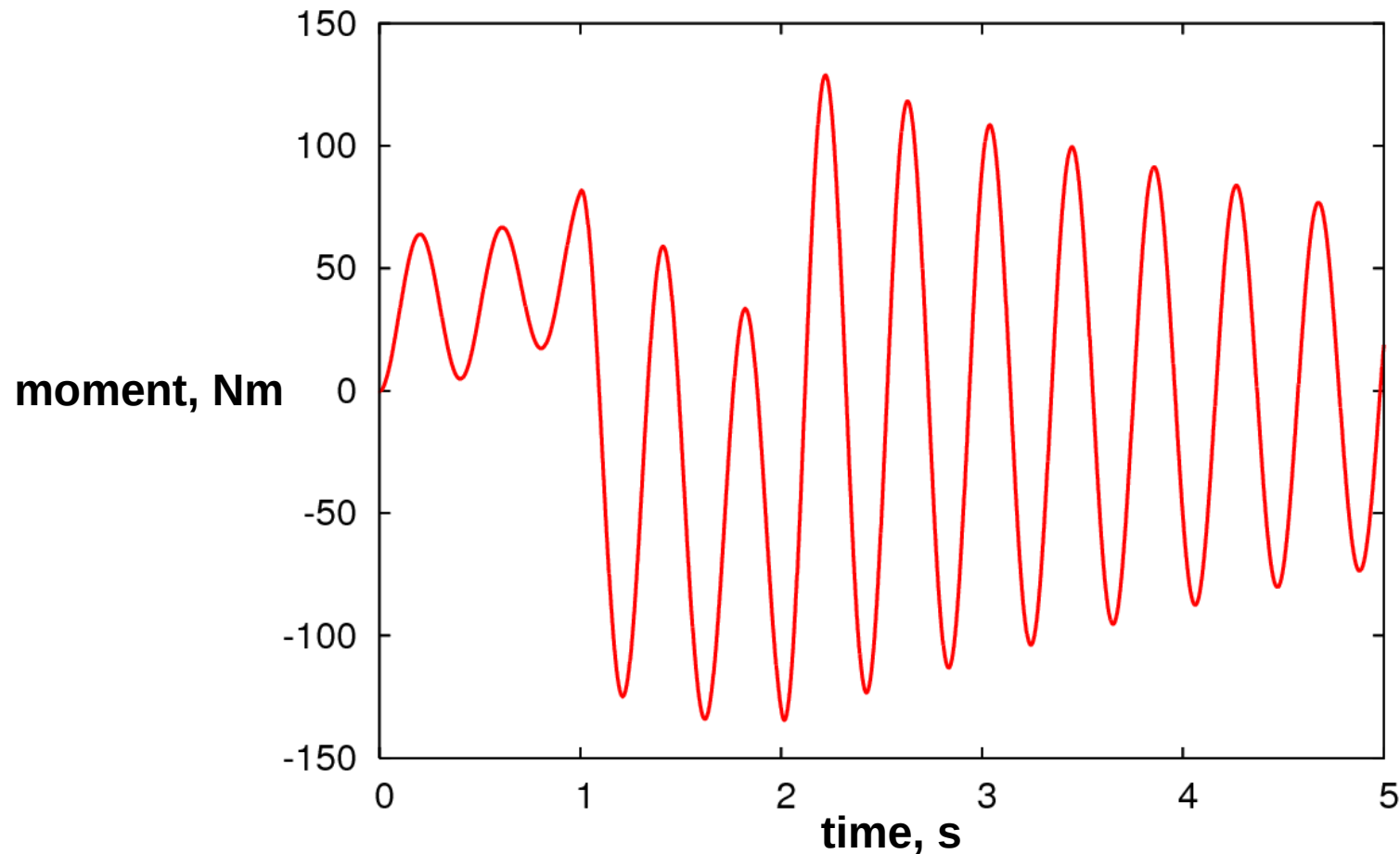
- Tip vertical displacement



Example: Hydraulically Actuated Beam

MBDyn

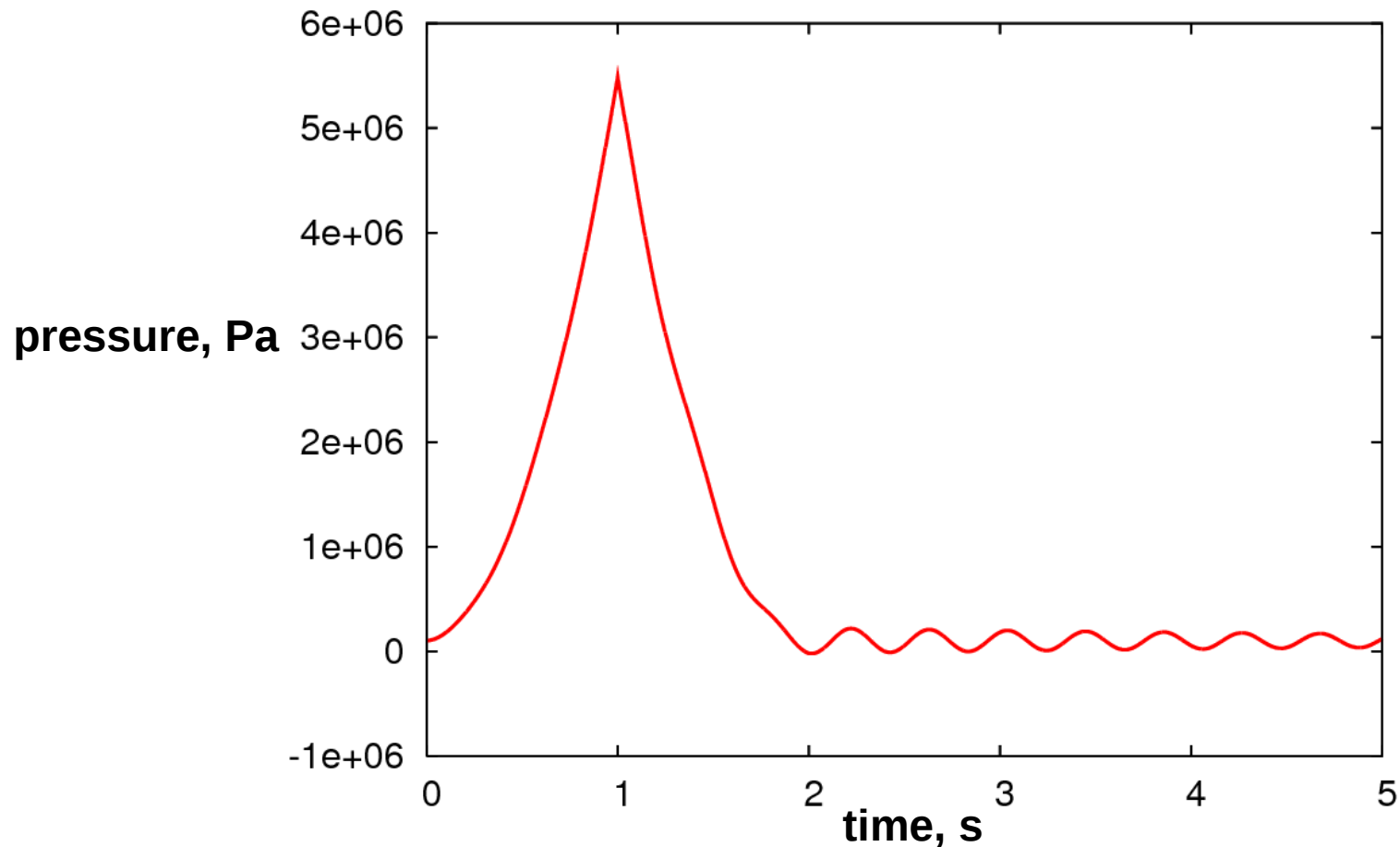
- Internal bending moment close to actuator connection



Example: Hydraulically Actuated Beam

MBDyn

- Pressure at imposed flow node



- **Multibody: natural environment for integration of multiphysics**
- **Need for further development: complete library, build test suite, validate components**
- **The software is free: try it, and feed back!**

<http://www.mbdyn.org/>

mbdyn-users@mbdyn.org

A light blue circle containing the text "RT-MBDyn" in a bold, grey, sans-serif font. Below the circle, the word "Questions?" is written in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font.

RT-MBDyn Questions?