

# LUBRICANTS

## # FRICTION

- Static Friction
- Kinetic Friction
- \* Sliding friction (different hardness of the parties)
- \* ~~Heat effects~~ Disadvantages
  - Wear & Tear
  - Regular servicing required
  - Heat (thus expansion)
  - Low efficiency
  - Noise
  - More power consumption
  - More fuel

## # LUBRICANTS

### \* Functions

- Reduces wear & tear
- Reduces maintenance cost
- Reduces waste of energy/power
- Reduces metal expansion (heat)
- Avoids seizures
- May act as seal (piston-cylinder)

### \* Types

#### \*1 Thick - film lubrication / Fluid-film / Hydrodynamic

- Most basic
- $> 1000 \text{ \AA}$  (thickness)
- Frictional coeff =  $0.001 - 0.02$

#### \*2 Thin - film / Boundary lubrication

- Varying speed - High load
- Low viscosity
- $10 - 20 \text{ \AA}$

→ Frictional coeff. (0.05 - 0.15)

### \* Extreme Pressure

→ High pressure - high temp

→ eg: chlorinated esters, tricresyl phosphate

### \* ~~Viscosity~~

\* Classification: (physical state)

→ Liquid → Lubricating oils

(i) Animal / vegetable oil

(ii) Mineral / petroleum oil

(iii) Blended oils (ii) added with additives

→ Semi Solid → Greases

eg: Calcium-based, Soda-base, Lithium-base, and.

→ Solid

eg: Graphite, molybdenum sulphide

→ Honourable Mentions: Synthetic lubes, Lubricating emulsions (polyalkyl glycol etc.)

### \* PROPERTIES:

1) VISCOSITY: (unit = poise)

Too viscous → creates friction

Too less viscous → Can't stand on the surface

∴ sweet spot

\* Viscosity Index: Scale of change in viscosity with temp.

(Greater is its vulnerability to temp. lower is the VI.)

How to calculate?

There are 2 standard groups of oils.

+ Modifying VI: (i) polymeric molecules sensitive to temp: classmate

Eg: polyolefins, polyalkylmethacrylates etc.

(3) VI Index: < 35 (low grade); 35-80 (medium)  
80-110 (High grade); > 110 (very high)

(i) paraffin-base Pennsylvanian oils (H-oil) (VI = 100)

(ii) naphthenic-base gulf oils (L-oil) (VI = 0)

Step 1) Take viscosity of test oil at 210°F and 100°F (as V and U)

Step 2) Take the H-oil and L-oil with same viscosities as test oil at 210°F (as H and L)

Step 3)  $VI = \frac{L - U}{L - H} \times 100$

Step 3) Take the viscosity of selected H and L-oils at 100°F (as H and L)

$\therefore VI = \frac{L - U}{L - H} \times 100$

\* Viscometers:

(i) Brookfield viscometer

(ii) Saybolt viscometer

(iii) Reduced viscometer. (Time of collection for 50ml, capillary diameter = 1.62 mm)

2) Flash and Fire Points: (unrelated to lubrication)

> Flash point: lowest temp. at which oil gives ignitable vapours

> Fire point: lowest temp. at which oil gives ignitable (25-40° > flash pt.) vapours that cause a flame for > 5 sec.

→ Apparatus: Abel Cup, Pensky Marten, Cleaveland cup (open)

3) Emulsification:

> Ability to mix with water

Demulsification number / Steam Emulsion Number (SEN):

How to calculate?

Step 1) Take 20ml oil and bubble it with 100°C steam till 90°C

Step 2) Note the time till oil and water form layer while keeping temp. constant at 90°C.

This time in sec. is SEN. (lower the better)



4) Oiliness: Stickiness when subjected to heavy load.  
Vegetable oils have high oiliness while mineral oils don't  
can't be determined, just feel it on fingers. Eg: oleic acid

5) Cloud and Pour Points:

> Cloud point:- temp at which oil becomes cloudy/hazy.  
> Pour point:- temp at which oil stops flowing/pouring, and  
paraffin wax starts separating out.

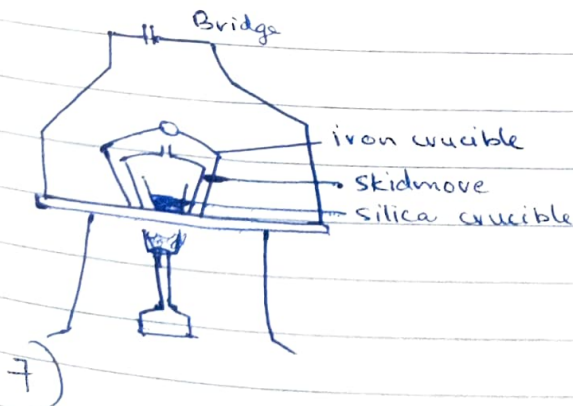
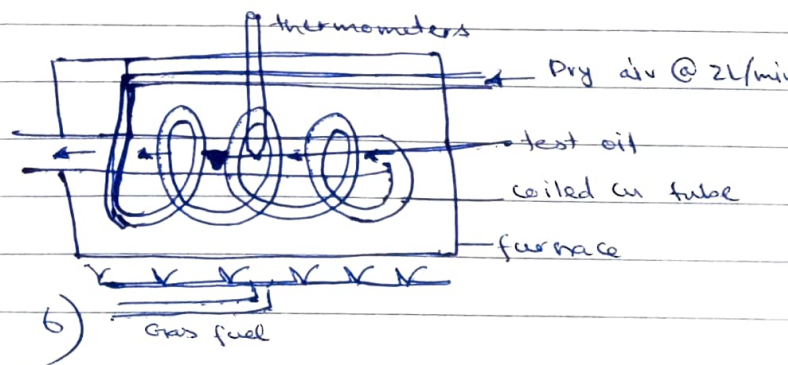
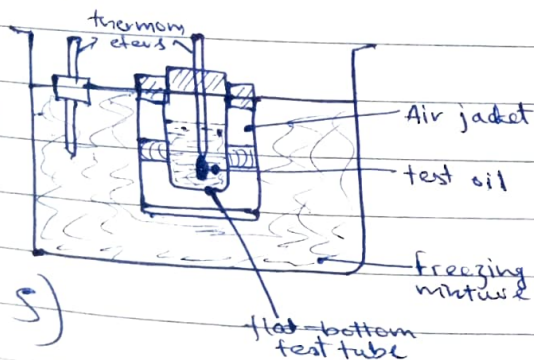
> Pour point depressants: phenolic polymers, alkylated naphthalenes

→ Apparatus:

6) Volatility:- Vaporization of some portions. (less the better)  
→ Apparatus: Vaporimeter

7) Carbon Residue:- Deposition of carbon after heating oil.  
(less the better)

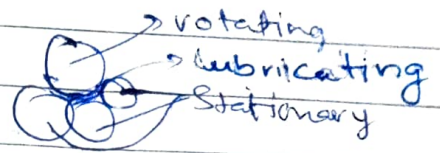
→ Apparatus: Conradson Apparatus.



- 8) Corrosion Stability: The effect of corrosion that the oil has on the metal (less the better)
- > Copper corrosion test  $\rightarrow$  Cu strip in oil
  - > Inhibitors: organic compounds with P, As, Sb, Cr, Bi, Pb.
- 9) Decomposition Stability:  
Sources of decomposition at operating temp.
- Oxidation: produces acids, sludges, and varnish  
 $\rightarrow$  antioxidants - phenols, amines, organic alcohols etc.
  - Hydrolysis: ester oils hydrolyze to produce alcohols/fatty acids.
  - Pyrolysis: petroleum chains crack due to temp. and in turn deposit gummy & carbon residues in the lubricant.
- \* Slight oxidation test: 10g oil displaced with oxygen heated at  $200^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 2 hr, then cooled in petroleum naphtha for 1 hr. Precipitate formed is dried and weighed (less the better).
- 10) Aniline Point: oil consists of aromatic hydrocarbons which dissolve rubber. Higher aniline pt.  $\rightarrow$  lower aromatic hydroc  $\rightarrow$  better.
- How to measure: equal volume of oil and aniline is taken heated till homogeneous. Then cooled, time taken to separate out is aniline point.
- 11) Neutralization Number: No. of mg of KOH required to neutralize 1g of oil acids is acid value. Should be  $< 0.1$ .
- 12) Saponification Number: No. of mg of KOH required to saponify 1g of oil. (vegetable oil).



### 13) Mechanical Stability.



### \* CLASSIFICATION:

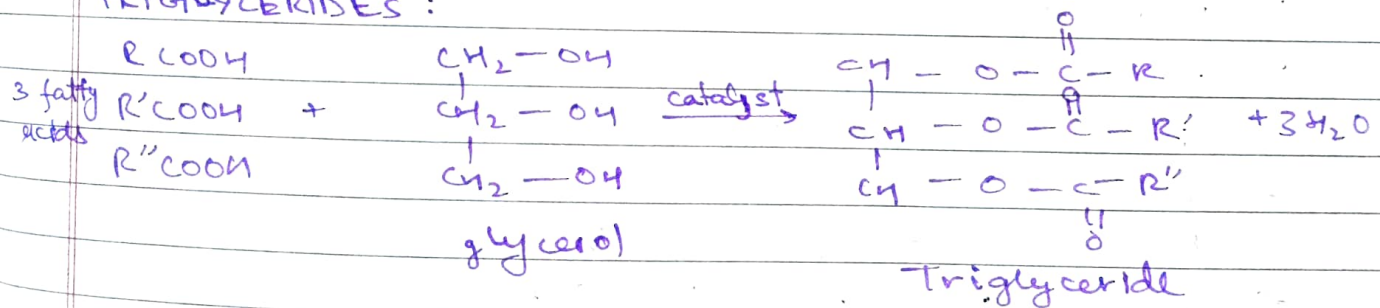
- 1) Vegetable / Animal - Based oils
- 2) Mineral / hydrocarbon oil
- 3) Blended oil
- 4) Synthetic oil

#### 1) Vegetable / Animal oils

Plant: Rapeseed, castor, coconut, palm oil etc.

Animal: Lard, Tallow, Neatsfoot, cod-liver, sperm oil  
(pigs) (farm animal) → (hooves) (cod fish) (sperm whale)

#### TRIGLYCERIDES:



if R, R', R'' are same, simple triglyceride  
else, mixed triglyceride

- They are fat if solid at 25°C, oils if liquid.
- Animal based are generally solids.

#### ADVANTAGES:

- High → oiliness, viscosity, VI
- Low → SEN, volatility.
- Biodegradable, Non-toxic

#### DISADVANTAGES:

- Expensive → Not producible in high amount
- Poor corrosion stability → Solubility at low temp.

(7)

## 2) Mineral / Hydrocarbon oil.

Four main types of hydrocarbon oil in crude oil,

- > paraffins (15-60%)
- > naphthalenes (30-60%)
- > aromatics (3-30%)
- > asphaltics (remainder)

### \* Fractionating Column

- > Height = 60m
- > Diameter = 1.2 - 2 m

Refinery Gas ( $C_1-4$ )	20°C
Petrol ( $C_5-9$ )	70°C
Naphtha ( $C_9-10$ )	120°C
Kerosine ( $C_{10-16}$ )	170°C
Diesel ( $C_{10-18}$ )	270°C
Lubricating oil ( $C_{17-30}$ )	
Fuel oil ( $C_{23-30}$ )	
Bitumen ( $C_{>30}$ )	340°C

### \* Refining of lubricating oil

- > Dewaxing - solvent used: methyl ethyl ketone, toluene
- > Solvent refining - separate impurities from product stream by dissolving / precipitation  
- solvent used: phenol.
- > Acid refining - fuming  $H_2SO_4$ , clay treatment  
purification.

### ADVANTAGES:

- Available in bulk, cost effective, solubility of additive.

### DISADVANTAGES:

- Non biodegradable, Highly toxic, cannot be replenished.

### 3) Blended Oil (volume: oil - 30% <sup>ref additive</sup>)

Use: Mineral oil can't satisfy all criteria of machinery.

Basic roles of additives: ~~enhance basic existing oil properties~~

Function	Additives
1) Enhance basic existing properties of oil	antioxidants, corrosion inhibitors, anti-foam reagent, demulsifying agent.
2) Suppress undesirable base oil property	Pour and point depressant, VI improvers
3) Impart new properties to base oil	Extreme pressure additive, detergent, metal deactivator

### 4) Synthetic Oil

- > Man made
- > Prod High molecular wt. as a product of low molecular wt. reactants.
- > High price for good performance.

#### ADVANTAGES:

- Longer oil life, safer operation, easy disposal

#### DISADVANTAGES:

- High production cost, toxic, high disposal cost.

Eg: Silicones, silicate esters, halogenated hydrocarbons, Dibasic acid, polyalphaolefins.



9

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Date

Page

## \* Dibasic acid esters

### ADVANTAGE:

- Non toxic, non-corrosive, low volatility

### DISADVANTAGES:

- Limited biodegradability, incompatible with sealing material, low hydrolytic stability

### APPLICATIONS:

- Engine oil, gear oil, bearing oil.

## \* Poly alpha olefins

### ADVANTAGE:

- High VI, Non-toxic, low volatility

### DISADVANTAGE:

- Limited biodegradability, seal shrinking risk, limited additive solubility.

### APPLICATIONS

- Engine oil, gear oil, bearing oil.

## \* Silicones (polysiloxanes)

ADVANTAGE :

DISADVANTAGE:

### APPLICATIONS:

## \* GREASES

→ Conditions for Use : ~~ADVANTAGES~~ :

- > Too many jerks during movement.

DISADVANTAGE:

Does not ~~clear~~ cool quickly.

+ Importance of consistency for grease:  
Lower the consistency the more readily will the grease lose the lubricant oil.  
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Page \_\_\_\_\_

11

→ Types of Grease:

> Table

Table

Color

Temp Range	Name	Color	Properties
< 65°C	Calcium-based	yellow/reddish	smooth, cheap, common, insoluble in water.
upto 175°C	Sodium-based	yellow/green	spongy, not water resistant
around 150°C	Lithium-based	brownish red	buttery, water resistance, high cost, non-corrosive
< 90°C	Aluminum-based		waterproof, 5% oil more than other grease.
-40 to 700°C	Silicon-based	white paste (translucent)	viscous, waterproof, used for preserving rubber part, plumbing industry, dental equipment usage.

\* → Properties

- > Consistency
- > Drop-point
- > Base oil viscosity
- > Ash content
- > Water stability
- > Neutralization number.

\* Consistency: (in terms of penetration)

Apparatus: Penetrometer

→ Distance (in  $1/10^{th}$  mm) penetrated for 150g load at 25°C for 5 sec.

→ It is the ability of grease to oppose applied force and resist deformation.