

ME 322: Machine Design

Hydrostatic Bearings



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Viscous flow through Rectangular slot

- The flow of lubricating oil through a rectangular slot is shown in Fig.1:

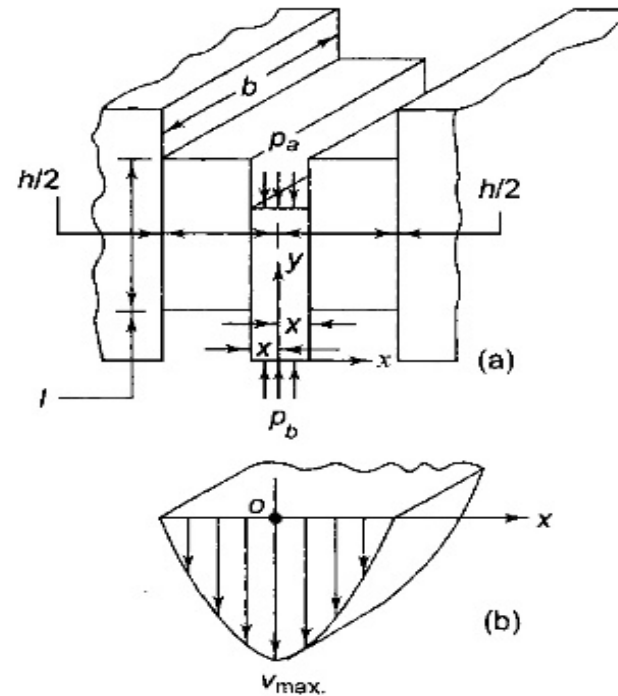


Fig 1: (a)Viscous flow through Rectangular slot (b) Velocity distribution

- l is the length of the slot in the direction of flow, while b and h are the dimensions of the slot in a plane perpendicular to the direction of flow.



- Side leakage neglected as the dimension b is very large compared to h
- The pressure difference between the two sides of the central slice is $(p_a - p_b)$ or Δp
- The downward force due to this pressure difference is area multiplied by the pressure difference ($2xb \Delta p$).
- On account of this force, the rectangular slice of width ($2x$) is extruded down.
- The shear resistance on both surfaces of the slice is due to the viscosity of the lubricant.
- According to Newton's law,

$$p = \mu A \left(\frac{dU}{dh} \right)$$

$$= \mu (2lb) \left(\frac{dv}{dx} \right)$$

where v is the velocity in the Y direction.



- Considering equilibrium of forces in the vertical direction,

$$2xb\Delta p = -\mu(2lb)\left(\frac{dv}{dx}\right)$$

or
$$dv = -\left(\frac{\Delta p}{\mu l}\right)x dx$$

- The negative sign is introduced as the velocity v decreases when x increases.

- Integrating the expression,
$$v = -\left(\frac{\Delta p}{\mu l}\right)\frac{x^2}{2} + c \quad (a)$$

- The constant C of integration is evaluated from the boundary condition,

$$v = 0 \quad \text{when} \quad x = \pm\left(\frac{h}{2}\right)$$

Therefore,
$$c = \left(\frac{\Delta p}{\mu l}\right)\frac{h^2}{8} \quad (b)$$



From (a) and (b),

$$v = \left(\frac{\Delta p}{2\mu l} \right) \left[\frac{h^2}{4} - x^2 \right] \quad (c)$$

The velocity distribution along x-axis is parabolic as shown in Fig.1(b). The maximum velocity at the centre ($x=0$) is given by $v_{\max} = \frac{\Delta p h^2}{8\mu l}$

For parabolic profile, the average velocity is two-third of the maximum velocity,

$$(v_{ave}) = \left(\frac{2}{3} \right) v_{\max} = \frac{\Delta p h^2}{12\mu l}$$

The fundamental equation for flow (Q) of the lubricant through the rectangular slot is given by

$$Q = (v_{ave}) \times (area) = \left(\frac{\Delta p h^2}{12\mu l} \right) \times (bh)$$

$$\therefore Q = \frac{\Delta p h^3}{12\mu l}$$



Hydrostatic step bearing

- The lubricant is flowing radially outward through the annulus of radii R_i and R_o and leaves at the periphery of the shaft (Fig. 2). Consider an elemental ring of radius r and thickness (dr) as shown in Fig. 3 (a).
- The flow of the lubricant through this elemental ring is given by

$$Q = \frac{\Delta p b h^3}{12 \mu l}$$

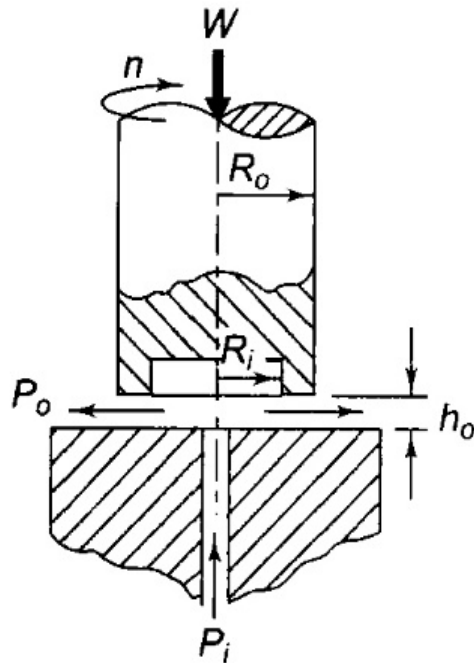


Fig 2: Hydrostatic step bearing

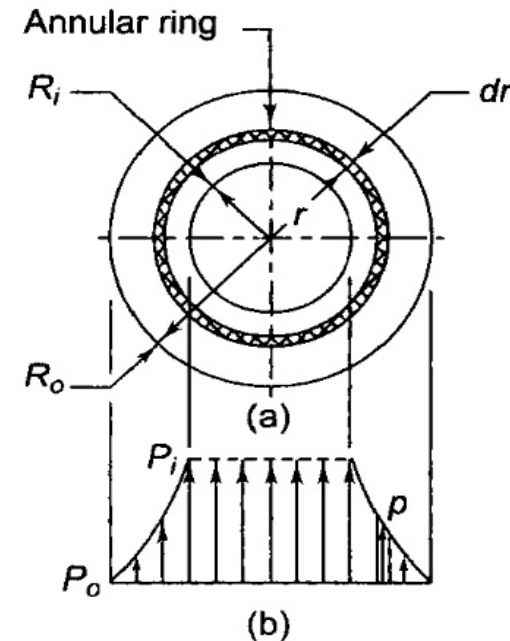


Fig 3: (a) schematic diagram (b) Pressure distribution



Notations

W = thrust load (N)

R_o = outer radius of the shaft (mm)

R_i = radius of the recess or the pocket (mm)

P_i = supply or inlet pressure (N/mm²) or (MPa)

P_o = outlet or atmospheric pressure (N/mm²) or (MPa)

h_o = fluid film thickness (mm)

Q = flow of the lubricant (mm³/s)

μ = viscosity of the lubricant (N-s/mm²) or (MPa-s)



- The length l in the direction of flow is (dr) while the width b is $(2\pi r)$ and

$$h = h_0 \quad \Delta p = dp$$

substituting these quantities

$$Q = - \left(\frac{\pi r h_0^3}{6\mu} \right) \frac{dp}{dr}$$

- The negative sign is introduced in the equation because pressure decreases as the radius r increases or (dp/dr) is negative.
- Rearranging the terms,

$$dp = - \left(\frac{6\mu Q}{\pi h_0^3} \right) \frac{dr}{r}$$

Integrating

$$p = - \left(\frac{6\mu Q}{\pi h_0^3} \right) \log_e r + C \quad \dots\dots\dots (1)$$



- The constant C of integration is evaluated from the boundary condition, $p = 0$ when $r = R_0$ therefore

$$C = \left(\frac{6\mu Q}{\pi h_0^3} \right) \log_e R_0$$

Substituting the value of C in Eq. (1)

$$p = \left(\frac{6\mu Q}{\pi h_0^3} \right) \log_e \left(\frac{R_0}{r} \right) \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

The second boundary condition is $p = P_i$ when $r = R_i$

Substituting these values in Eq. (2),

$$P_i = \left(\frac{6\mu Q}{\pi h_0^3} \right) \log_e \left(\frac{R_0}{R_i} \right)$$

$$\therefore Q = \frac{\pi P_i h_0^3}{6\mu \log_e \left(\frac{R_0}{R_i} \right)} \dots\dots\dots (3)$$



- The above equation is used to calculate the flow requirement of the bearing.
- The pressure distribution is shown in Fig. 3 (b).

Load carrying capacity

$$W = P_i(\pi R_i^2) = \int_{R_i}^{R_0} p(2\pi r dr) \quad \dots\dots\dots (4)$$

substituting Eq. (2) in the above expression,

$$W = \pi P_i R_i^2 + \frac{12\mu Q}{h_0^3} \int_{R_i}^{R_0} \log_e \left(\frac{R_0}{r} \right) r dr \quad \dots\dots\dots (5)$$

consider the integral,

$$u = \log_e \left(\frac{R_0}{r} \right) \text{ and } dv = r dr$$

$$\therefore du = \left(\frac{R_0}{r} \right) (R_0) \left(-\frac{1}{r^2} \right) dr = -\left(\frac{1}{r} \right) dr \quad \left[\therefore \frac{d}{dx} (\log_e x) = \frac{1}{x} \right]$$



$$\int u \, dv = uv - \int v \, du$$

substituting the values of u and v ,

$$\int \log_e \left(\frac{R_0}{r} \right) r dr = \left[\frac{r^2}{2} \log_e \left(\frac{R_0}{r} \right) + \frac{r^2}{4} \right]$$

Therefore,

$$\int_{R_i}^{R_0} \log_e \left(\frac{R_0}{r} \right) r dr = \left[\frac{r^2}{2} \log_e \left(\frac{R_0}{r} \right) + \frac{r^2}{4} \right]_{R_i}^{R_0} = \frac{(R_0^2 - R_i^2)}{4} - \left(\frac{R_i^2}{2} \right) \log_e \left(\frac{R_0}{R_i} \right)$$

Substituting the value of p and Q in Eq. 5, we have

$$W = \frac{\pi P_i}{2} \left[\frac{R_0^2 - R_i^2}{\log_e \left(\frac{R_0}{R_i} \right)} \right] \dots\dots\dots (6)$$

The above equation can be used even if there is no recess, in which case, R_i will be the radius of oil supply pipe.



Energy losses in Hydrostatic bearing

- The total energy loss in a hydrostatic step bearing consists of two factors—the energy required to pump the lubricating oil and energy loss due to viscous friction.
- The energy E_p required to pump the oil is given by,

$$E_p = Q(P_i - P_0) \frac{\text{mm}^3}{\text{s}} \times \frac{\text{N}}{\text{mm}^2}$$
$$E_p = Q(P_i - P_0) \text{N-mm/s}$$
$$= Q(P_i - P_0)(10^{-3}) \text{N-m/s or W}$$

Therefore,

$$(kW)_p = Q(P_i - P_0)(10^{-6})$$

Where $(kW)_p$ is the power loss in pumping (in kW).



- The frictional power loss is determined by considering the elemental ring of radius (r) and radial thickness (dr) illustrated in Fig. 2(a).
- The viscous resistance for this ring is (dF). It is determined by Newton's law of viscosity.
- According to this law,

$$dF = \mu A \left(\frac{U}{h} \right)$$

Substituting,

$$A = 2\pi r dr \quad U = \omega r = \left(\frac{2\pi n}{60} \right) r \quad \text{and } h = h_0$$

$$\text{we have } dF = \left(\frac{4\pi^2}{60} \right) \left(\frac{\mu n}{h_0} \right) r^2 dr$$

The frictional torque $d(M_t)_f$ is given by

$$d(M_t)_f = r \times dF = \left(\frac{4\pi^2}{60} \right) \left(\frac{\mu n}{h_0} \right) r^3 dr$$



Integrating,

$$\begin{aligned}(M_t)_f &= \left(\frac{4\pi^2}{60} \right) \left(\frac{\mu n}{h_0} \right) \int_{R_i}^{R_0} r^3 dr \\&= \left(\frac{4\pi^2}{60} \right) \left(\frac{\mu n}{h_0} \right) \left[\frac{r^4}{4} \right]_{R_i}^{R_0} \\&= \left(\frac{4\pi^2}{60} \right) \left(\frac{\mu n}{h_0} \right) \frac{(R_0^4 - R_i^4)}{4} \\&= \left(\frac{\pi^2}{60} \right) \frac{\mu n (R_0^4 - R_i^4)}{h_0}\end{aligned}$$

The unit of $(M_t)_f$ is (N-mm).

$$\begin{aligned}(kW)_f &= \frac{2\pi n (M_t)_f}{60 \times 10^6} \\&= \frac{2\pi n}{60 \times 10^6} \left(\frac{\pi^2}{60} \right) \frac{\mu n (R_0^4 - R_i^4)}{h_0}\end{aligned}$$



Therefore,

$$(kW)_f = \left(\frac{2\pi^3}{3600 \times 10^6} \right) \frac{\mu n^2 (R_0^4 - R_i^4)}{h_0}$$

$$\text{or } (kW)_f = \left(\frac{1}{58.05 \times 10^6} \right) \frac{\mu n^2 (R_0^4 - R_i^4)}{h_0} \dots\dots\dots (7)$$



Numerical Problems



Example 1

The following data is given for a hydrostatic thrust bearing:

thrust load = 500 kN

shaft speed = 720 rpm

shaft diameter = 500 mm

recess diameter = 300 mm

film thickness = 0.15 mm

viscosity of lubricant = 160 SUS

specific gravity = 0.86

Calculate

- i. supply pressure;
- ii. flow requirement in litres/min;
- iii. power loss in pumping; and
- iv. frictional power loss.



Solution:

Given, $W = 500 \text{ kN}$, $n = 720 \text{ rpm}$, $D_o = 500 \text{ mm}$, $D_i = 300 \text{ mm}$, $h_0 = 0.15 \text{ mm}$, $\rho = 0.86$
viscosity = 160 SUS

i. Supply Pressure

$$P_i = \frac{2W \log_e \left(\frac{R_o}{R_i} \right)}{\pi (R_o^2 - R_i^2)} = \frac{2(500 \times 10^3) \log_e \left(\frac{250}{150} \right)}{\pi (250^2 - 150^2)}$$
$$= 4.065 \text{ N/mm}^2 \text{ or MPa}$$

ii. Flow requirement

$$z_k = \left[0.22t - \frac{180}{t} \right] = \left[0.22(160) - \frac{180}{(160)} \right]$$
$$= 34.075 \text{ cSt}$$

$$z = \rho z_k = 0.86(34.075) = 29.3 \text{ cP}$$

$$\mu = \frac{z}{10^9} = (29.3)(10^{-9}) \text{ N-s/mm}^2$$



$$Q = \frac{\pi P_i h_0^3}{6\mu \log_e \left(\frac{R_0}{R_i} \right)} = \frac{\pi (4.065)(0.15)^3}{6(29.3)(10^{-9}) \log_e \left(\frac{250}{150} \right)}$$

$$= (0.48 \times 10^6) \text{ mm}^3/\text{s}$$

$$Q = (0.48 \times 10^6) \text{ mm}^3/\text{s}$$

$$= (0.48 \times 10^6)(10^{-3}) \text{ cc/s}$$

$$= (0.48 \times 10^6)(10^{-3})(10^{-3}) \text{ liters/s}$$

(1000 cc = 1 litre)

$$= (0.48 \times 10^6)(10^{-6})(60) \text{ l/min}$$

$$= 28.8 \text{ l/min}$$

iii. Power loss in pumping

$$(kW)_p = Q(P_i - P_0)(10^{-6})$$

$$= 0.48 \times 10^6 (4.065 - 0)(10^{-6}) = 1.95$$



iv. Frictional power loss

$$\begin{aligned}(kW)_f &= \left(\frac{1}{58.05 \times 10^6} \right) \frac{\mu n^2 (R_0^4 - R_i^4)}{h_0} \\&= \left(\frac{1}{58.05 \times 10^6} \right) \frac{(29.3 \times 10^{-9})(720)^2 [(250)^4 - (150)^4]}{(0.15)} \\&= 5.93\end{aligned}$$

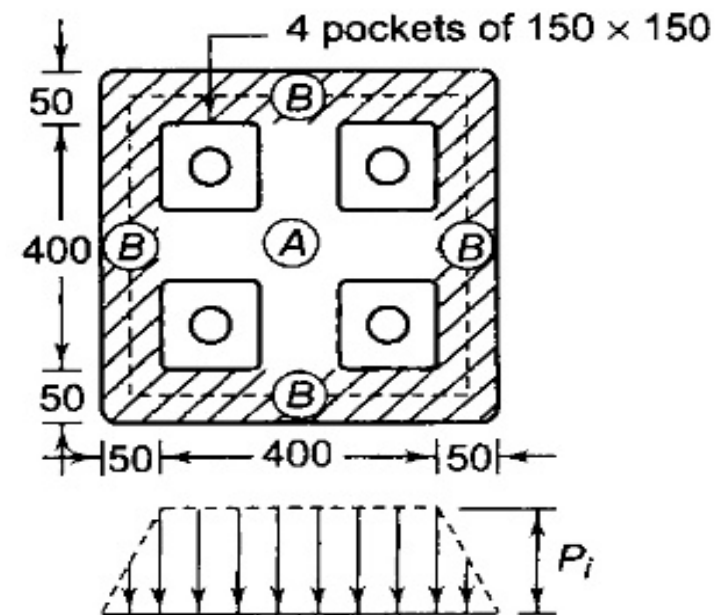


Example 2

The pad of a square hydrostatic thrust bearing, with four pockets of 150×150 mm is shown in the following figure. The thrust load is 500 kN and the film thickness is 0.15 mm. The viscosity of the lubricant is 250 cP. The pressure in the area A bordering the pockets can be assumed to be uniform and equal to the supply pressure. The pressure distribution in the area B (shown by hatching lines) is assumed to be linear, varying from supply pressure at the inner edge to atmospheric pressure at the outer edge. For calculating the flow of the lubricant, it can be assumed that the area B is straightened out and has length equal to the mean length shown by the dotted line.

Calculate

- I. supply pressure; and
- II. flow requirement in litres/min



Solution

Given $W = 500 \text{ kN}$ $h_o = 0.15 \text{ mm}$ $z = 250 \text{ cP}$

i. Supply pressure

The pressure in the area A is the supply pressure P_i , while the average pressure in the area B is $(P_i/2)$.

Therefore,

$$W = (\text{area}A)(P_i) + (\text{area}B)(0.5P_i)$$

$$\text{or } 500 \times 10^3 =$$

$$= (400 \times 400)P_i + (500 \times 500 - 400 \times 400)(0.5P_i)$$

$$\therefore P_i = 2.44 \text{ N/mm}^2 \text{ or MPa}$$

ii. Flow requirement

When the area B is straightened out, its length is equal to (450×4) or 1800 mm.

$$Q = \frac{\Delta p b h^3}{12 \mu l} = \frac{2.44(1800)(0.15)^3}{12(250 \times 10^{-9})(50)}$$

$$= 98820 \text{ mm}^3/\text{s}$$



$$\begin{aligned}Q &= (98820) \text{ mm}^3/\text{s} \\&= (98820)(10^{-3}) \text{ cc/s} \\&= (98820)(10^{-3})(10^{-3}) \text{ liters/s} \\&\quad (1000 \text{ cc} = 1 \text{ liters}) \\&= (98820)(10^{-6})(60) \text{ l/min} \\&= 5.93 \text{ l/min}\end{aligned}$$



Example 3

The hydrostatic thrust bearing of a generator consists of six pads as shown in Fig.17(a). The total thrust load is 900 kN and the film thickness is 0.05 mm. The viscosity of the lubricant is 300 SUS. Neglecting the flow over corners, each pad can be approximated as a circular area of 500 mm and 100 mm as outer and inner diameters respectively. This is shown in the following figure. The density of the lubricating oil is 0.9 g/cc.

Calculate

- I. the supply pressure
- II. the flow requirement

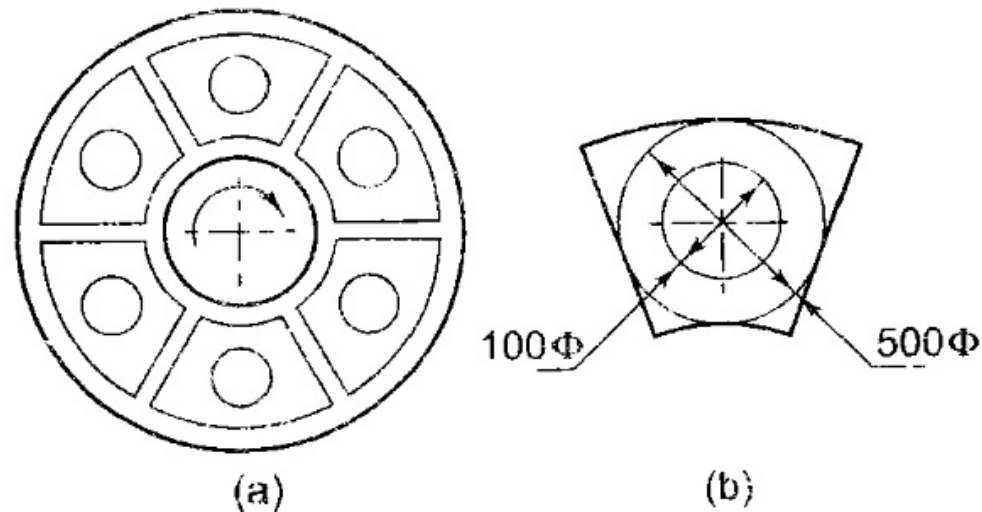


Fig. 17: (a) Six pad Bearing (b) Dimensions of Pad



Solution:

Given

$W = (900/6) \text{ kN}$, $D_o = 500 \text{ mm}$, $D_i = 100 \text{ mm}$

$H_o = 0.05 \text{ mm}$, $\rho = 0.9$, Viscosity = 300 SUS

i. Supply Pressure

The load acting on each pad is given by

$$W = \frac{900 \times 10^3}{6} = 150 \times 10^3 \text{ N}$$

$$P_i = \frac{2W \log_e \left(\frac{R_o}{R_i} \right)}{\pi (R_o^2 - R_i^2)} = \frac{2(150 \times 10^3) \log_e \left(\frac{250}{50} \right)}{\pi (250^2 - 50^2)}$$

$$= 2.56 \text{ N/mm}^2 \text{ or MPa}$$



ii. Flow requirement

$$z_k = \left[0.22t - \frac{180}{t} \right] = \left[0.22(300) - \frac{180}{(300)} \right]$$
$$= 65.4 \text{ cSt}$$

$$z = \rho z_k = 0.9(65.4) = 58.86 \text{ cP}$$

$$\mu = \frac{z}{10^9} = (58.86)(10^{-9}) \text{ N-s/mm}^2$$

$$Q = \frac{\pi P_i h_0^3}{6\mu \log_e \left(\frac{R_0}{R_i} \right)} = \frac{\pi (2.56)(0.05)^3}{6(58.86)(10^{-9}) \log_e \left(\frac{250}{50} \right)}$$
$$= 1830.91 \text{ mm}^3/\text{s}$$



Thank you

