



## Modeling Squeeze Film Effects in MEMS

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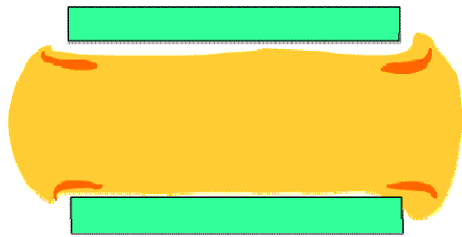
# Outline

Introduction  
Motivation  
SF in MEMS  
Modeling  
Solution Methods  
Results Interpretation  
Summary

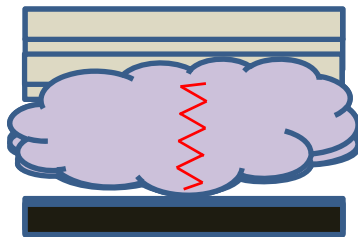
- ❖ Introduction : What is Squeeze Film and when does it occur?
  - ❖ Motivation: Why is it important to study?
  - ❖ Various MEMS devices showing Squeeze Film Effects
  - ❖ Modelling : The Reynolds Equation
  - ❖ Solution Methods
  - ❖ The Eigen-expansion Method
  - ❖ Understanding the Results
  - ❖ Summary
-

# Introduction : What is Squeeze Film Effect

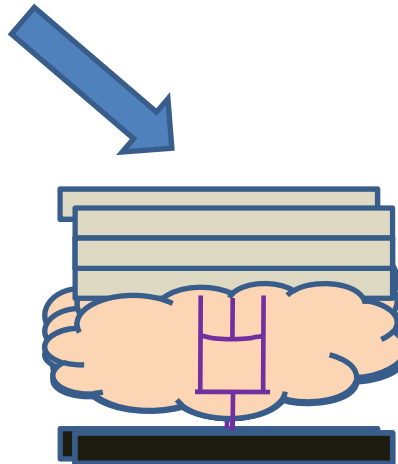
## Schematic of Squeeze flow\*



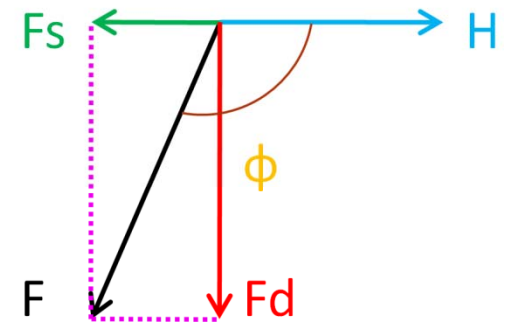
Stiffness effect



Damping effect



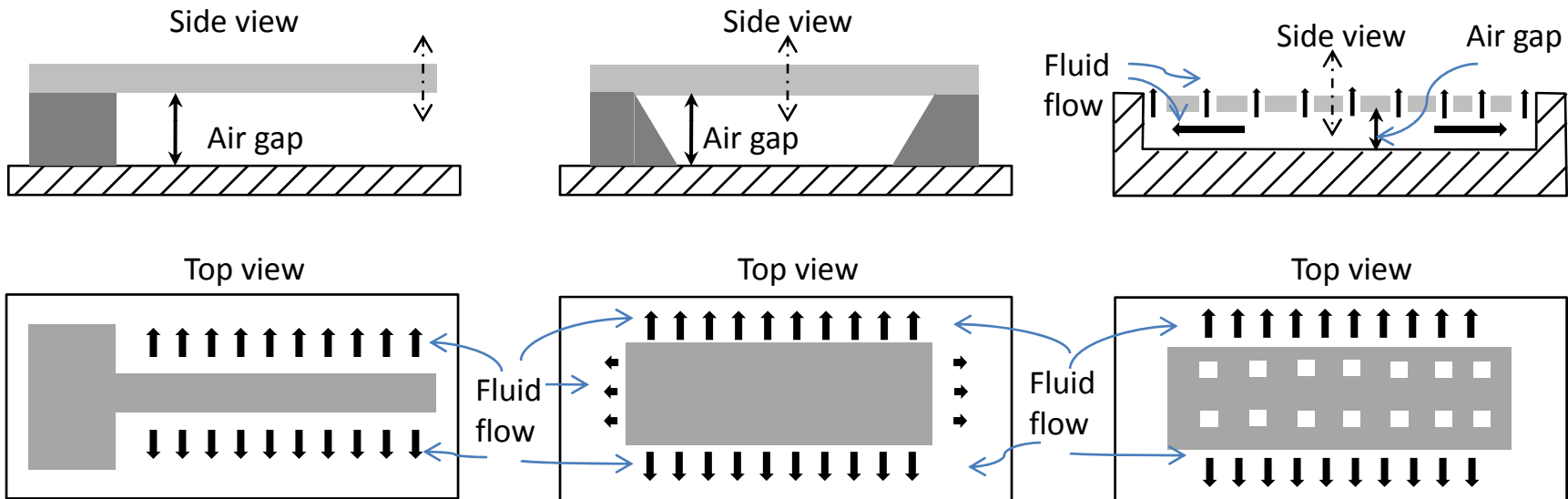
- $F = \int PdA$
- $F = \|F\| \exp(i(\omega t - \phi))$
- $F_s = \|F\| \cos(\phi)$
- $F_d = \|F\| \sin(\phi)$
- $K_{sq} = F_s / \delta h$
- $C_{sq} = F_d / \delta h \omega$



# Introduction : Squeeze Flow

## Introduction

Motivation  
SF in MEMS  
Modeling  
Solution Methods  
Results Interpretation  
Summary



# Introduction : Relevant Conditions for Squeeze Film Effects

Continuum Flow regime

Vibration normal to a fixed substrate\*

Si (High Q) based MEMS devices

$L, W \gg h$

Geometry aspect

Materials aspect

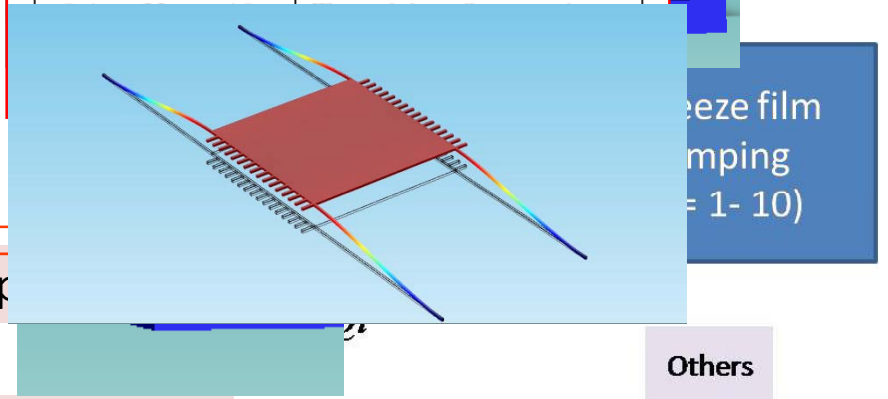
## Knudsen Number (Kn)

$$Kn = \frac{\lambda}{h}$$

$\lambda$  = mean free path  
 $h$  = characteristic flow length

## Flow Regime Division

Range of Kn	Flow regime
$Kn < 0.01$	Continuum flow regime
$0.01 < Kn < 0.1$	Slip flow regime



Surface

$Q = 10^4 - 10^5$

Support Losses

$10^5$

Squeeze film damping  
 $= 1 - 10$

Others

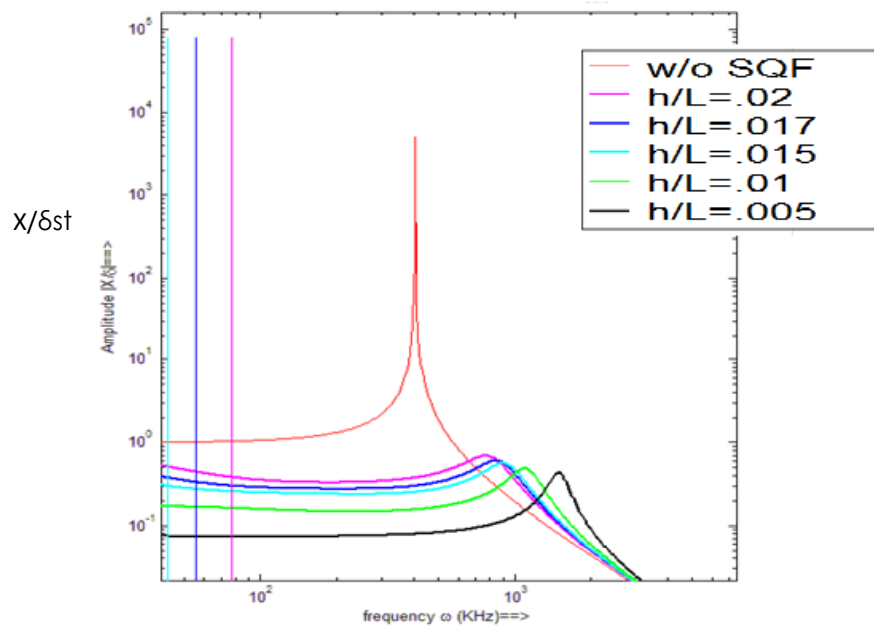
$Q > 10^7$

\* Animation ( MEMS Tuning Gyro ) Courtesy JP Reddy, CeNSE , IISC

# Motivation: Importance of squeeze film

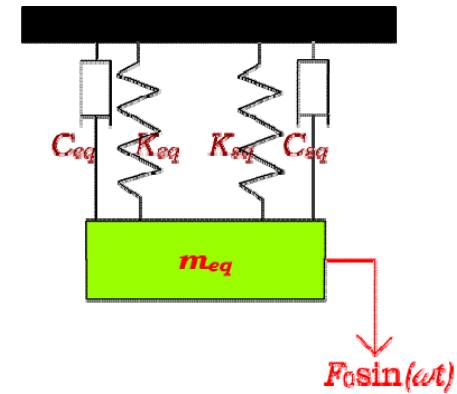
## Gap to length ratio\*

Shift of resonant peak at different h/L ratios



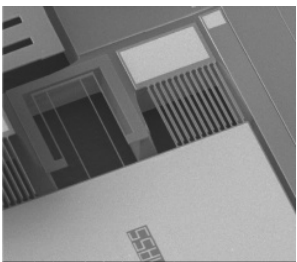
## Change in effective stiffness and Damping \*

$$m_{eq}\ddot{x} + (C_{eq} + C_{sq})\dot{x} + (K_{eq} + K_{sq})x = F_0 \sin(\omega t)$$

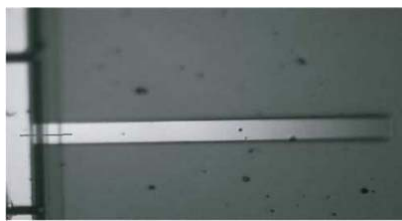


# Squeeze Film in MEMS devices

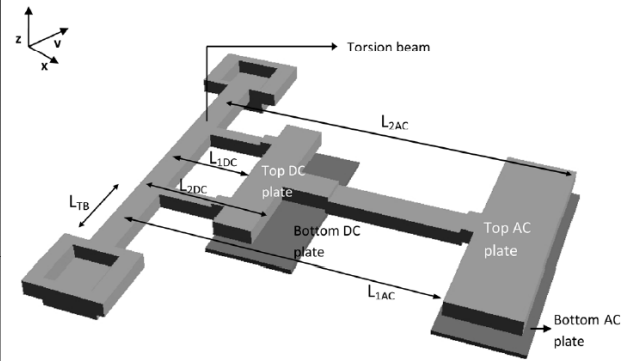
Accelerometer [1]



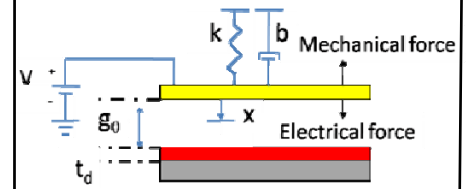
Cantilever resonator [3]



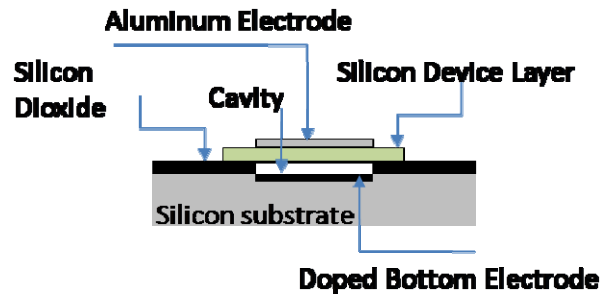
Varactor [5]



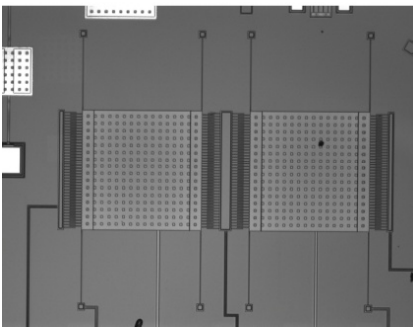
RF Switch [7]



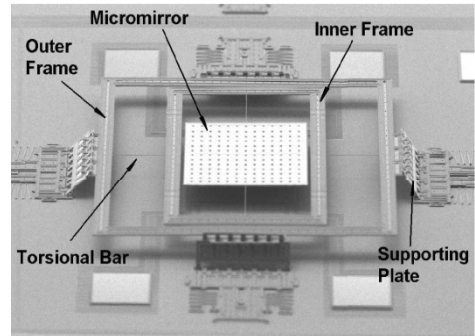
CMUT [4]



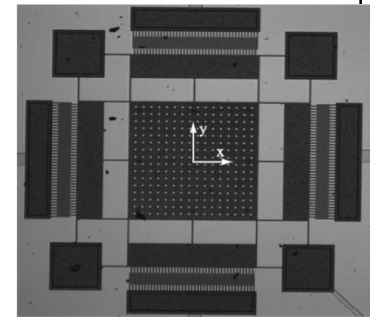
Gyroscope [2]



Torsion Mirror [6]



Yaw Rate sensor [8]



# Getting to the Reynolds Equation

Under continuum hypothesis fluid flow is modelled using the Navier Stoke's Equation

$$\rho \frac{Du_i}{Dt} = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x_i} + \rho g_i + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left[ 2\mu e_{ij} - \frac{2}{3}\mu(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u})\delta_{ij} \right] \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Assuming small temperature differences within fluid 'μ' can be treated as constant and we can rewrite (1) as

$$\rho \frac{Du_i}{Dt} = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x_i} + \rho g_i + \mu \left[ \nabla^2 u_i + \frac{1}{3} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) \right] \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Assuming **incompressible** flow we get from equation (2)

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

$$\rho \frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} = -\nabla p + \rho \mathbf{g} + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$



# Contd.

## Key equations

**Continuity**

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{u}) = 0$$

**Expanded Navier Stokes**

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right) = \rho g_x - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \mu \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} \right)$$

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} \right) = \rho g_y - \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \mu \left( \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial z^2} \right)$$

**Isothermal**

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \right) = \rho g_z - \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + \mu \left( \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial z^2} \right)$$

# Contd.

## Navier Stokes

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right) = \rho g_x - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \mu \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} \right)$$

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} \right) = \rho g_y - \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \mu \left( \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial z^2} \right)$$

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \right) = \rho g_z - \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + \mu \left( \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial z^2} \right)$$

Neglect Body forces

Neglect fluid inertia

Thin Film thickness

Small am.p of Osc.

Fully Developed flow

# Contd.

Thus we arrive at the 2D Reduced NS Eqn.

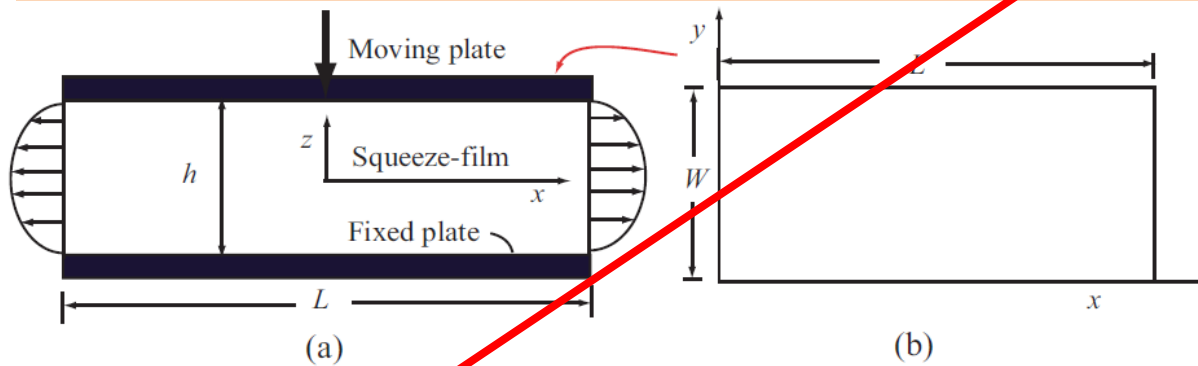
$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \mu \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right), \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \mu \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} \right)$$



No Slip – BC

$$u = 0, v = 0 \text{ at } z = \pm h/2$$

a) SFD Flow - normal motion b) plate Top view\*



Velocities

$$u = \frac{1}{2\mu} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} (z^2 - h^2/4)$$

$$v = \frac{1}{2\mu} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} (z^2 - h^2/4)$$

Flow rates

$$q_x = -\frac{h^3}{12\mu} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x}, \quad \text{and} \quad q_y = -\frac{h^3}{12\mu} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y}$$

\* Source [2]

# Contd.

Using Velocities

$$u = \frac{1}{2\mu} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} (z^2 - h^2/4)$$

&

$$v = \frac{1}{2\mu} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} (z^2 - h^2/4)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{ph^3}{\mu} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \frac{ph^3}{\mu} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \right) = 12 \frac{\partial(ph)}{\partial t}$$

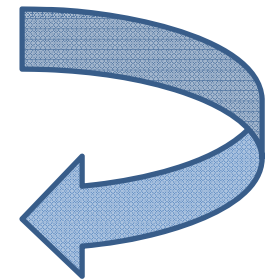
$$q_x = -\frac{h^3}{12\mu} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x}, \quad \text{and} \quad q_y = -\frac{h^3}{12\mu} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y}$$

&

Isothermal Flow

$$p \propto \rho$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{ph^3}{\mu} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \frac{ph^3}{\mu} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \right) = 12 \frac{\partial(ph)}{\partial t}$$



# The Reynolds Equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{ph^3}{\mu} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \frac{ph^3}{\mu} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \right) = 12 \frac{\partial(ph)}{\partial t}$$

Nonlinear compressible Reynolds Equation

$$\left[ \frac{\partial^2 \hat{p}}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \hat{p}}{\partial y^2} \right] = \frac{12\mu}{P_a h_a^3} \left[ h_a \frac{\partial \hat{p}}{\partial t} + P_a \frac{\partial \hat{h}}{\partial t} \right]$$

Linearized compressible Reynolds Equation

$$\left[ \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial X^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial Y^2} \right] = \sigma \left[ \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \tau} + \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial \tau} \right]$$

Linearized Non dimensional compressible Reynolds Equation

Squeeze Number



# The Squeeze number

$$\sigma = 12 \mu_{\text{eff}} \frac{1}{p_0} \left( \frac{L}{h} \right)^2 \omega$$

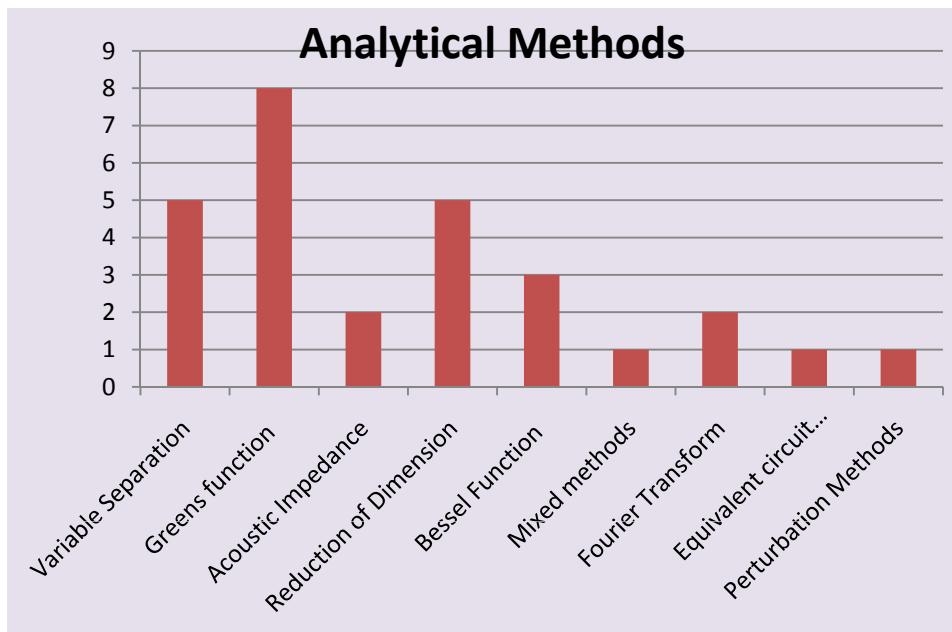
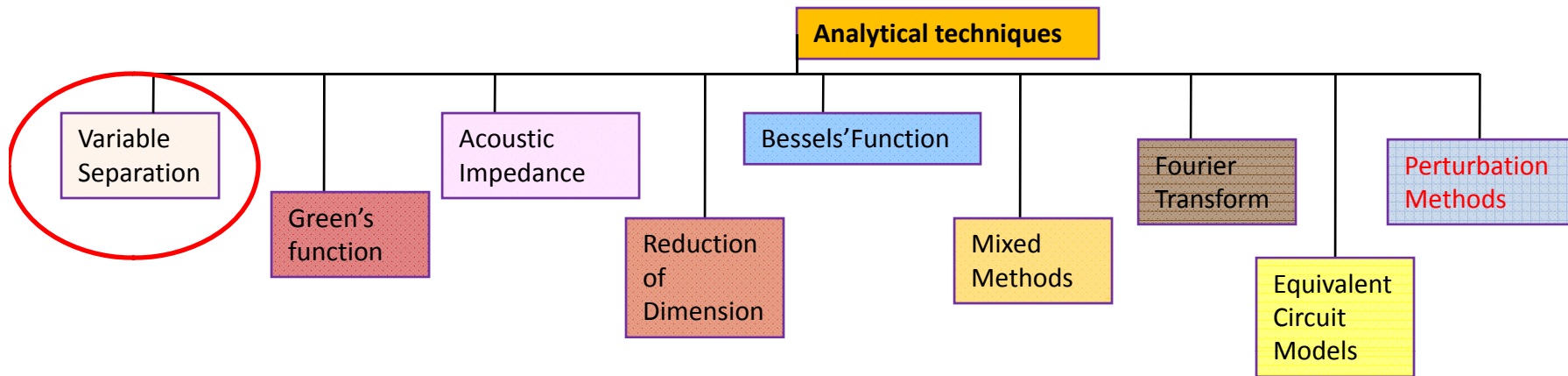
Rarefaction

Ambient pressure

Length to air gap ratio

Oscillation frequency

# Analytical Techniques for solution of Reynolds Equation

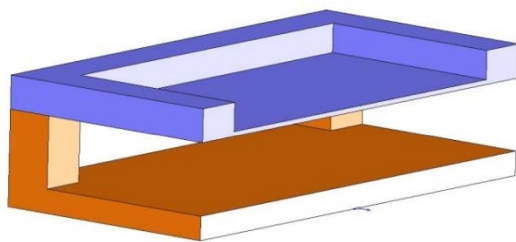
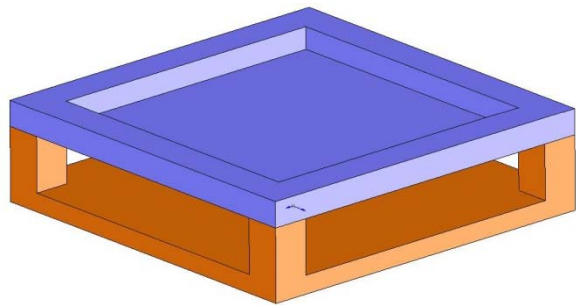


Based on – **28 papers surveyed**

# Problem definition : Variable flow boundary: All sides clamped plate

Structural BC – all sides clamped

Rectangular plate – all sides open



## Geometry – flow B.C.'s

OOOO



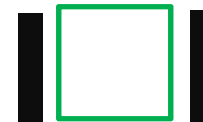
OOOC



OOCC



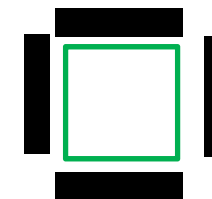
OCOC



OCCC



CCCC





# Separation of Variables : Eigen Expansion

We are solving linearized Reynolds eqn.

$$\nabla^2 P - \alpha^2 \frac{\partial P}{\partial t} = \alpha^2 \frac{\partial H}{\partial t} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Consider homogeneous form of (1)

$$\nabla^2 P - \alpha^2 \frac{\partial P}{\partial t} = 0 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Using eigen expansion and separation of variables we assume

$$P = u(x, y, t) \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

Where

$$u = \sum_{m,n} f(x, y)_{mn} T(t) \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

Thus from (2), (3), and 4 we get

$$\frac{\nabla^2 f}{f} = \frac{\alpha^2 \frac{\partial T}{\partial t}}{T} = -k_{mn}^2 \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

Now assume the following

$$k_{mn}^2 = k_m^2 + k_n^2 \quad \text{--- (6)}$$

$$f_{mn} = a_{mn} \psi_{mn}(x, y) \quad \text{--- (7)}$$

# Solution: Contd.

Thus we get

$$P = \sum_{m,n} a_{mn} \psi_{mn}(x, y) T(t) \quad \text{---} \quad (8)$$

Assuming harmonic source term

$$H = \delta \phi e^{i\omega t} \quad \text{---} \quad (9)$$

Thus choosing

$$T(t) = e^{i\omega t} \quad \text{---} \quad (10)$$

Using (8),(9),(10) and Reynolds Eqn

$$\sum_{m,n} -a_{mn} k_{mn}^2 \psi_{mn}(x, y) e^{i\omega t} - a_{mn} \alpha^2 \psi_{mn}(x, y) i\omega e^{i\omega t} = \delta \phi e^{i\omega t} \quad \text{---} \quad (11)$$

Multiplying both sides of (11) by

$$\psi_{pq}(x, y) \quad \text{---} \quad (12)$$

And using orthogonality

$$\int \int \psi_{mn}(x, y) \psi_{pq}(x, y) dx dy = \delta_{mn} \delta_{pq} \quad \text{---} \quad (13)$$

# Solution: Contd.

We get

$$a_{mn} = \delta \frac{\int_0^L \int_0^W i\omega\alpha^2 \phi \psi_{mn} dy dx}{\int_0^L \int_0^W [-k_{mn}^2 - i\omega\alpha^2] \psi_{mn}^2 dy dx} \quad \text{--- (14)}$$

Kinematic BCs are satisfied

Now the first mode shape of the plate can be approximated as

$$\phi(x, y) = \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right)^2 \sin\left(\frac{\pi y}{W}\right)^2 \quad \text{--- (15)}$$

Thus the solution is given by (8)

$$P = \sum_{m,n} a_{mn} \psi_{mn}(x, y) T(t)$$

Where

$$\psi_{mn}(x, y)$$

Is an admissible eigen function

Open Boundary



$$P = 0$$

Closed Boundary



$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial n} = 0$$

# Kinematic BC's

Mode shape

$$\phi(x, y) = \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right)^2 \sin\left(\frac{\pi y}{W}\right)^2$$

Satisfies



No deflection at fixed edges



$$\phi(x, y) = 0 @ \boxed{x = L, y = W}$$



Maximum deflection at center



$$@ \boxed{x = \frac{L}{2}, y = \frac{W}{2}}$$

$$\phi_x(x, y) = 0 \text{ and } \phi_y(x, y) = 0$$

$$\phi_{xx}(x, y)\phi_{yy}(x, y) - \phi_{xy}(x, y)^2 > 0$$

$$\phi_{xx}(x, y) < 0$$

# Admissible Eigen Functions: 0000

From separation of variables for P

$$\nabla^2 \psi_{mn} + k_{mn}^2 \psi_{mn} = 0$$

Assuming

$$\psi_{mn}(x, y) = X_m(x)Y_n(y)$$

$$k_{mn}^2 = k_m^2 + k_n^2$$

We get

$$X_m'' Y_n + X_m Y_n'' + k_{mn}^2 X_m Y_n = 0$$

Separating variables we get the x and y equations

$$X_m = A \sin(k_m x) + B \cos(k_m x)$$

$$Y_n = C \sin(k_n y) + D \cos(k_n y)$$

Applying zero pressure BCs, we get

$$\psi_{mn}(x, y) = \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi y}{W}\right)$$

# Solution for the All sides open case : 0000

All sides open



Zero pressure B.C.'s

$$P(0, y) = P(L, y) = 0$$

$$P(x, 0) = P(x, W) = 0$$

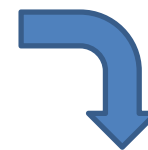
Admissible eigen function

$$\psi_{mn}(x, y) = \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi y}{W}\right)$$

And using

$$\phi(x, y) = \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right)^2 \sin\left(\frac{\pi y}{W}\right)^2$$

with



$$P = \sum_{m,n} a_{mn} \psi_{mn}(x, y) T(t)$$

in

with

$$T(t) = e^{i\omega t}$$

$$a_{mn} = \delta \frac{\int_0^L \int_0^W i\omega\alpha^2 \phi \psi_{mn} dy dx}{\int_0^L \int_0^W [-k_{mn}^2 - i\omega\alpha^2] \psi_{mn}^2 dy dx}$$

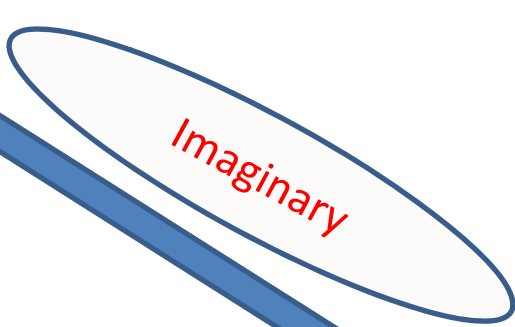
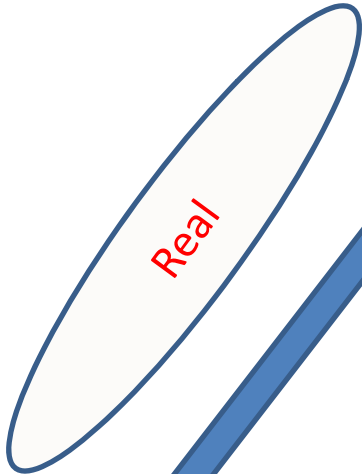
# Solution for the All sides open case : 0000

Non dimensional pressure

$$P = -64\delta \sum_{m,n \in \text{odd}} \frac{[i\pi^2\sigma(m^2\beta^2 + n^2) + \sigma^2] \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi y}{W}\right)}{[\pi^4(m^2\beta^2 + n^2)^2 + \sigma^2] mn\pi^2(m^2 - 4)(n^2 - 4)}$$

Total Force

$$F_{tot} = \int \int P_a P(x, y, t) dx dy$$

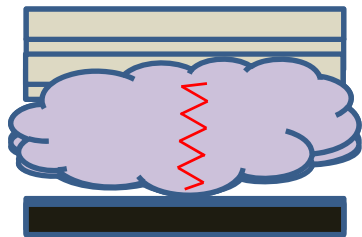
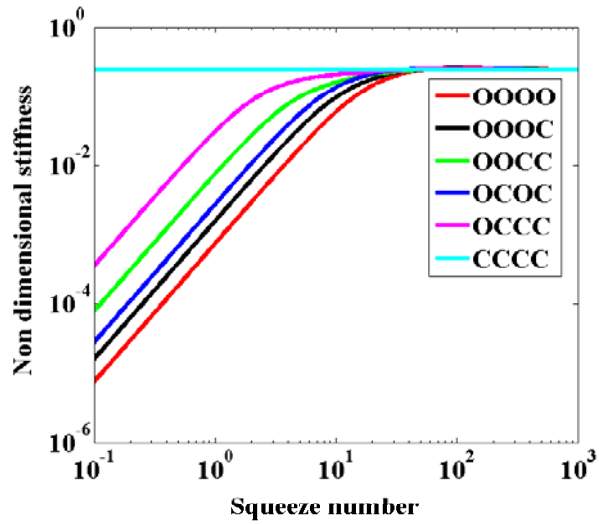


$$F_s = \frac{-256\delta\sigma^2}{\pi^4} \sum_{m,n \in \text{odd}} \frac{1}{m^2 n^2 (m^2 - 4)(n^2 - 4) [\pi^4(m^2\beta^2 + n^2)^2 + \sigma^2]}$$

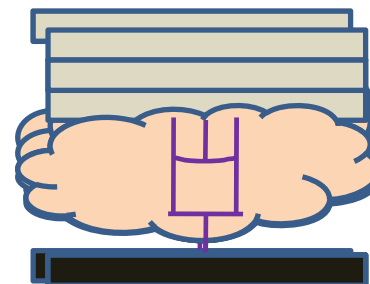
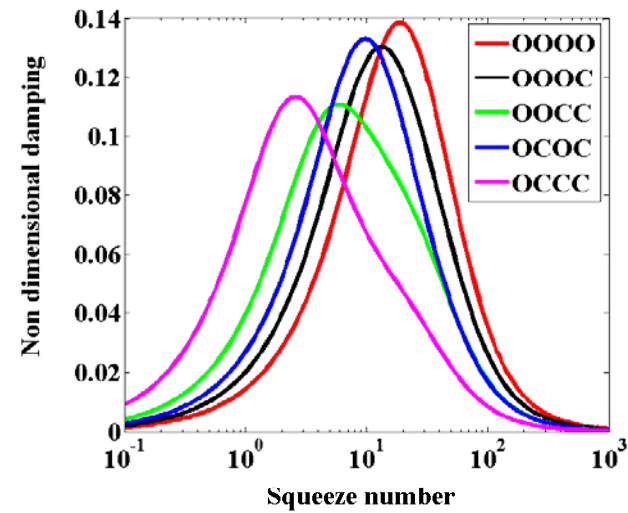
$$F_d = \frac{-256\delta\sigma}{\pi^2} \sum_{m,n \in \text{odd}} \frac{m^2\beta^2 + n^2}{m^2 n^2 (m^2 - 4)(n^2 - 4) [\pi^4(m^2\beta^2 + n^2)^2 + \sigma^2]}$$

# Results : Stiffness and Damping

## Stiffness



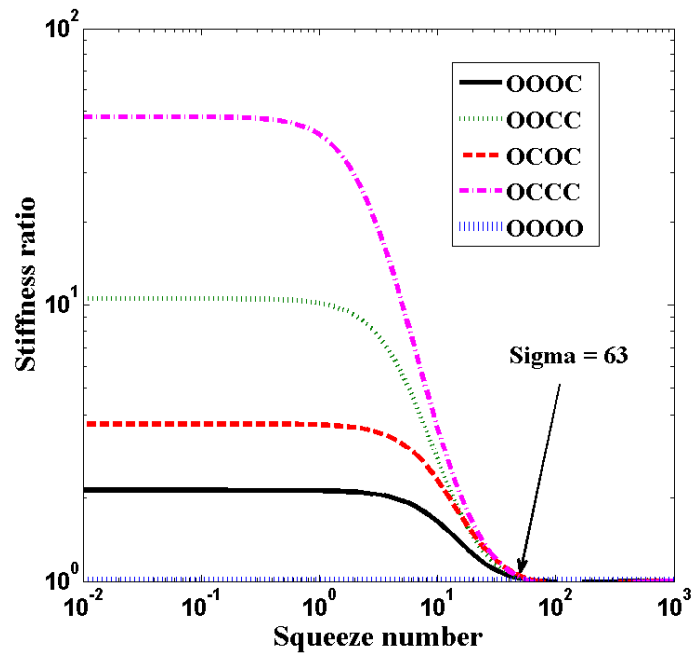
## Damping



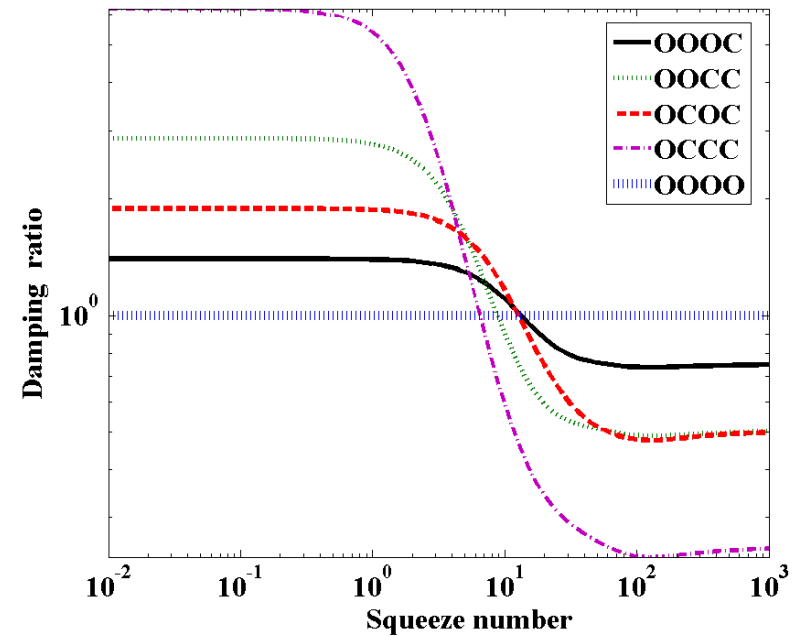


# Results : Stiffness and Damping Relative comparison among flow BCs

### Stiffness Ratios

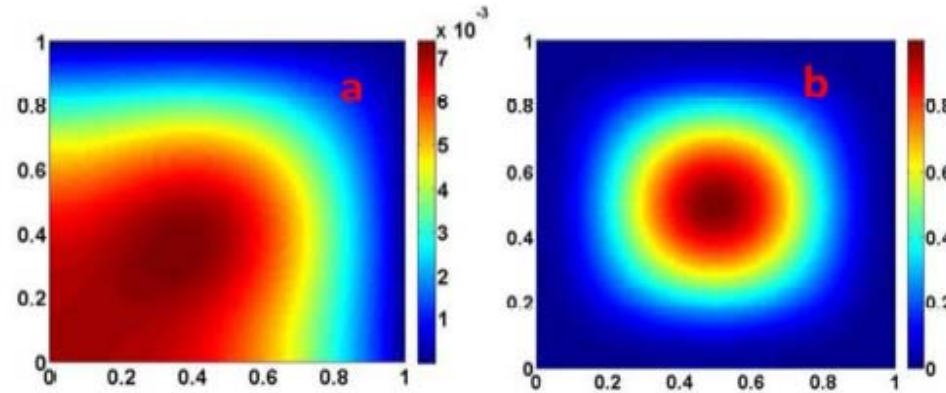


### Damping Ratios



# Results : Pressure and Phase variation: OCC

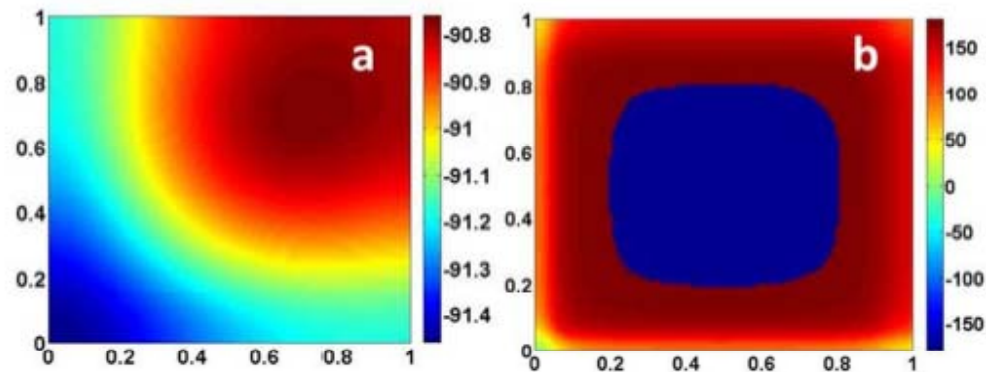
Pressure variation : a)  $\sigma = 0.1$ , b)  $\sigma = 1000$



OCC

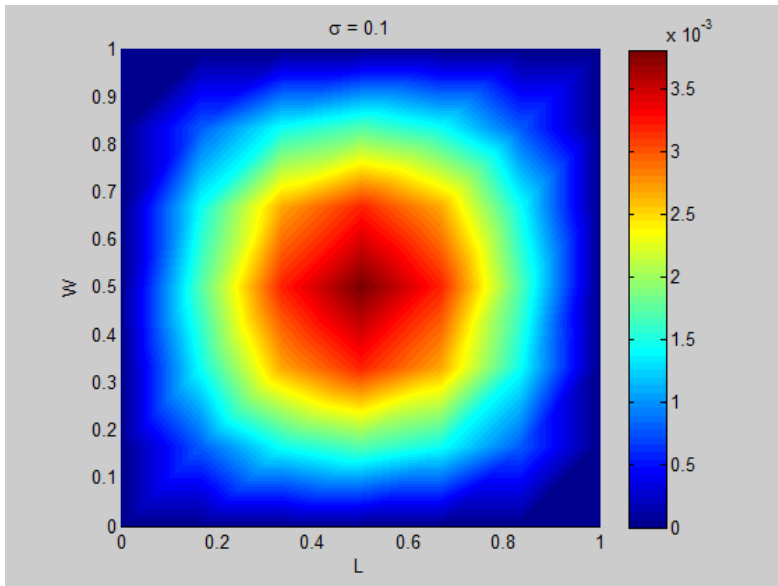


Phase variation : a)  $\sigma = 0.1$ , b)  $\sigma = 1000$

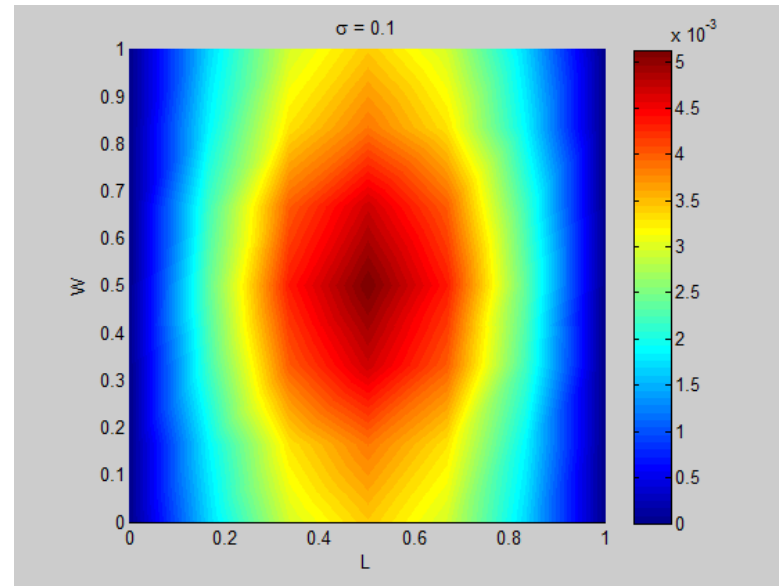


# Pressure Profiles varying with Squeeze number

0000



0C0C



# Summary

- We have seen when and where squeeze film effects occur.
- We discussed modeling aspects and solution methods.
- Variation of squeeze film parameters with squeeze number was shown.
- Effect of flow boundary conditions were discussed.
- Pressure and phase variation with squeeze number were shown.

## Other aspects in squeeze film modeling

### Complexities

Rarefaction  
Compressibility  
Inertia  
Perforations  
Non trivial BC's  
Complex geometries

### Coupled Domains

Structural  
Fluid  
Electrostatic

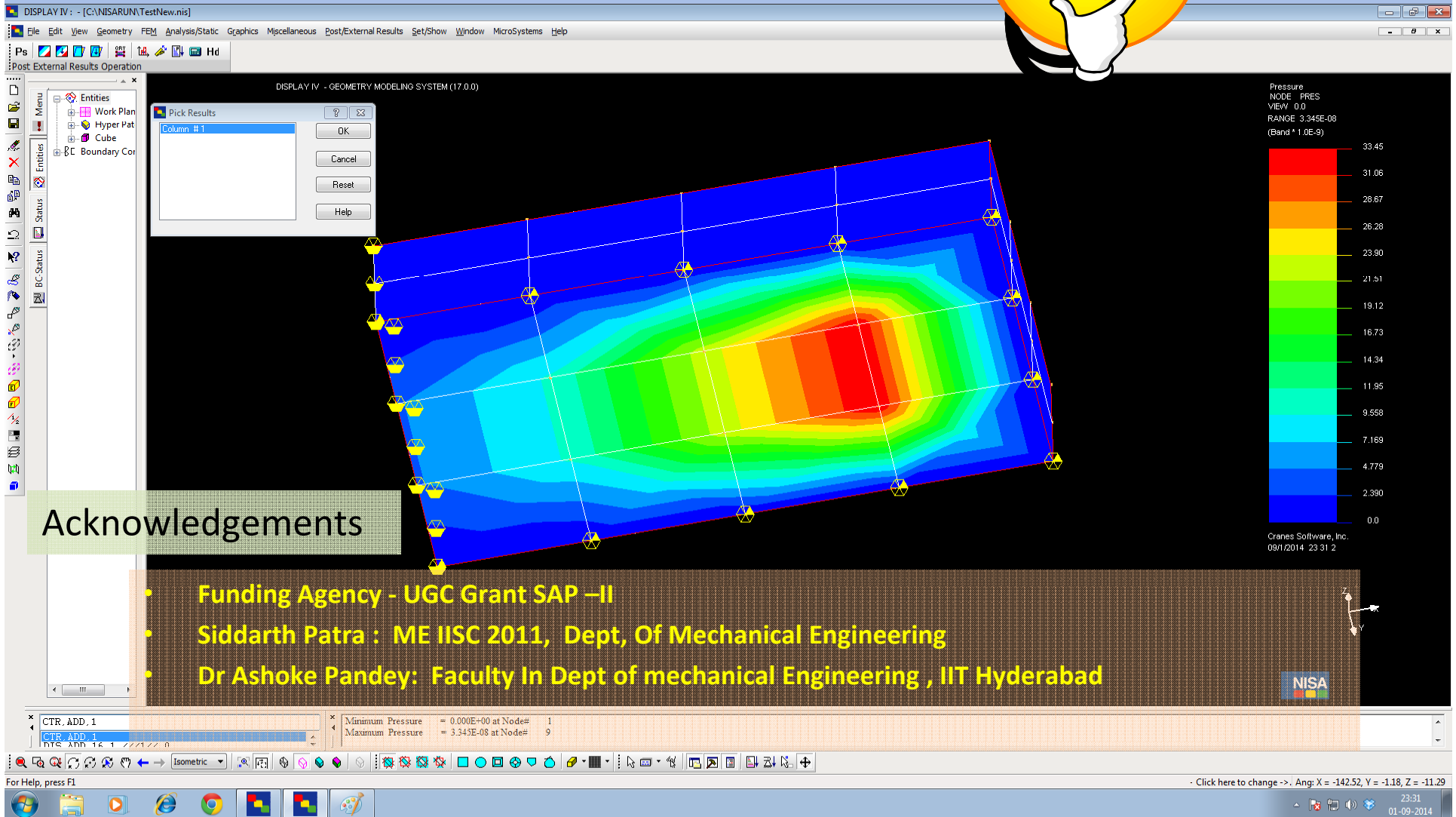
### Commercial Software for Modeling Squeeze Film

ANSYS  
COMSOL  
NISA

# References

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# Thank You!



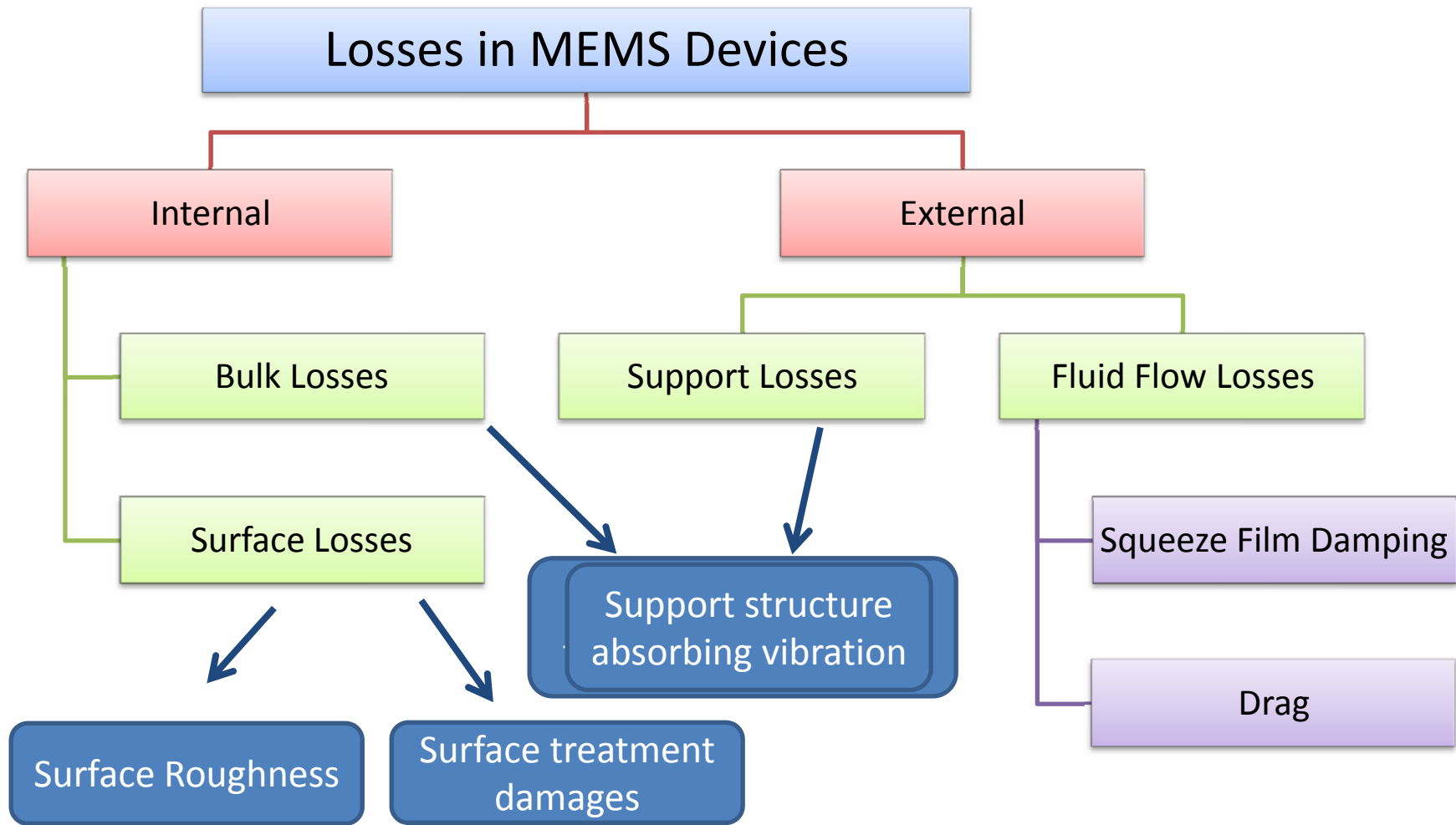
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Help Slides

# Losses in MEMS devices



**Total Quality factor** for a system is given as :

$$\frac{1}{Q_{total}} = \sum_i \frac{1}{Q_i}$$



# Definitions and Basic Terminology

## Number Density of molecules (n)

$$n = \frac{P}{k_B T}$$

P = Pressure

$k_B$  ( Boltzmann Const) =  $1.3805 \times 10^{23}$

T = Temperature

### Under standard conditions

P =  $1.013 \times 10^5$  Pa (1 atm )

T = 273.15 K

**n =  $2.69 \times 10^{25}$  x m<sup>-3</sup>**

## Mean Free Path $\lambda$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\pi d^2 n}$$

Average distance travelled by a molecule between two successive collisions

### Under ambient conditions

T = 300 K

d ~  $3.7 \times 10^{-10}$  m

n =  $2.41 \times 10^{20}$  x P m<sup>-3</sup>

**$\lambda = 0.0068/P$**  and for P =  $1.013 \times 10^5$  Pa (1 atm )  **$\lambda = 67$  nm**

## Molecular diameter(d)

Under STP using Hard sphere model

**d ~  $3.7 \times 10^{-10}$  m**

## Characteristic flow length (h)

Characteristic length of the flow channel in case of Squeeze film it is the gap thickness

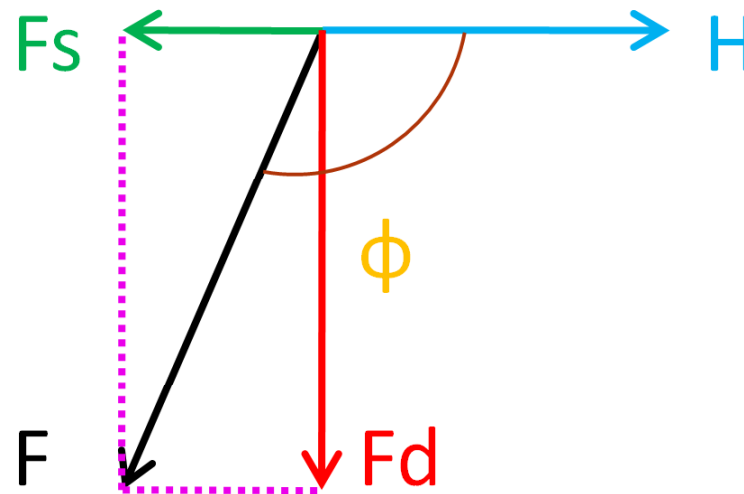
# Effective Viscosity\*

Author	Reference	Effective Viscosity ( $\mu^*$ )	Derived from
Burgdorfer	1959 [17]	$\frac{\mu}{1+6K_n}$	Navier-Stokes equation
Hsia et al.	1983 [18]	$\frac{\mu}{1+6K_n+6K_n^2}$	Experimental data fitting
Fukui et al.	1988 [19]	$\frac{D}{6Q(D)} ; D = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2K_n}$	Boltzmann equation
Seidel et al.	1993 [6]	$\frac{0.7\mu}{K_n}$	Experimental data fitting
Mitsuya	1993 [20]	$\frac{\mu}{1+6\left(\frac{2-\alpha}{\alpha}\right)K_n+\frac{8}{3}K_n^2}$	Navier-Stokes equation
Veijola et al.	1995 [8]	$\frac{\mu}{1+9.638K_n^{1.159}}$	Approximation of Fukui's model
C.-L Chen	1996 [21]	$\frac{\mu}{1+6\alpha K_n}$	Navier-Stokes equation

\* MS Thesis, J Young, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1998

# Vector Diagram – Force and Displacement\*

- $F = \int P dA$
- $F = \|F\| \exp(i(\omega t - \phi))$
- $F_s = \|F\| \cos(\phi)$
- $F_d = \|F\| \sin(\phi)$
- $K_{sq} = F_s / \delta h$
- $C_{sq} = F_d / \delta h / \omega$



\* Slide courtesy S Patra

# Discussion – Analytical

We have

$$\nabla^2 P - \alpha^2 \frac{\partial P}{\partial t} = \alpha^2 \frac{\partial H}{\partial t}$$

$$P = \sum_{m,n} a_{mn} \psi_{mn}(x, y) T(t)$$

$$P = \tilde{P} e^{i\omega t}$$

$$\nabla_{X,Y}^2 \tilde{P} - i\sigma \tilde{P} = \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{P}}{\partial X^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{P}}{\partial Y^2} - i\sigma \tilde{P} = i\sigma \delta \psi$$

For low  $\sigma$

$$i\sigma \tilde{P}$$

- Is negligible resulting in differential pressure to be small and out of phase  $90^\circ$  with displacement

For high  $\sigma$

$$i\sigma \tilde{P}$$

- Is dominant term and pressure profile approximately matches displacement profile and pressure profile is  $\pm 180^\circ$  out of phase with displacement