Numerical Study of Motion of a Cylinder Filled with Water on an Inclined Plane using Scilab

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Abstract: The velocity of the rolling motion is influenced by the shape of the object and its rotating axis. The cylinder motion on inclined plane has been investigated by number of research. However, the water filled cylinder need to be investigated further especially on the possibility moving sliding and rolling. Numerical study has been carried out on water filled cylinder modelling of frictionless sliding motion of point object, frictionless rolling motion, and rolling motion with friction on an inclined plane. By using the Euler method, data processing is carried out with the Scilab application. The resulting graph from running Scilab coding is a graph of \( v \text{ vs } t \) and \( x \text{ vs } t \). We found the frictionless sliding motion produces the greatest velocity and distance because it is not influenced by friction and the object’s moment of inertia. Solid cylinder rolling with friction on an inclined plane produces the smallest velocity and distance due to the influence of friction and the moment of inertia of the object. These results indicate that a water filled cylinder can be considered a solid cylinder if ignoring all internal motion of water inside the cylinder.

Keywords: Cylinder; Rolling; Inclined plane; Scilab

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II. METHOD

A. Cylindrical Motion on Inclined Plane

Fig. 1 shows a diagram of the force on a cylinder filled with water rolling on an inclined plane. In translational motion, for cylinder that move on an inclined plane based on Newton’s Second Law as described in Eqs. 1 and 2.

\[
\sum F = ma \tag{1}
\]

\[
m g \sin \theta - f = ma \tag{2}
\]

where \( m \) is the mass of the cylinder, \( g \) is the acceleration due to gravity of the earth, \( a \) is the acceleration of the motion of the cylinder, \( \theta \) is the inclined plane angle of the path, and \( f \) is the friction force between the plane and the cylinder.

Rotational motion occurs when a working object has a quantity called the moment of force or torque (\( \tau \)). Torque produces rotational acceleration. For a rotational motion to
the center of mass of a cylinder, the torque whose direction is perpendicular to the axis of rotation is expressed as Eq. 3.

\[
\tau = rf
\]  

(3)

Newton’s second law of rotational motion is expressed by Eq. 4.

\[
\tau = I\alpha
\]  

(4)

The angular acceleration (\(\alpha\)) in the rotational motion of an object with radius \(r\) is given by Eq. 5.

\[
\alpha = \frac{a}{r}
\]  

(5)

The moment of inertia of an object with mass \(m\) and radius \(r\) is generally expressed as

\[
I = kmr^2
\]  

(6)

with \(k\) is the moment of inertia coefficient, for the solid cylinder is \(\frac{1}{2}\). By substituting Eqs. 5 and 6 into Eq. 4, then connecting with Eq. 3, we get Eq. 7.

\[
f = \frac{1}{2}ma
\]  

(7)

Eq. 7 is substituted into Eq. 2, then it will be obtained Eq. 8.

\[
a = \frac{2}{3}g\sin\theta
\]  

(8)

Since acceleration \(a\) is the derivative of velocity to time, Eq. 8 can be expressed as Eq. 9.

\[
\frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{2}{3}g\sin\theta
\]  

(9)

Another approach to study the motion, the energy conservation analysis can be performed. This is the model of frictionless sliding motion. Based on the law of conservation of mechanical energy on the motion of an object on an inclined plane, the object that is moving with an initial velocity equal to zero will satisfy energy conservation as described in Eq. 10.

\[
\frac{1}{2}mv^2 = mgh
\]  

(10)

where \(m\) is the object’s mass, \(v\) is the object’s velocity when it arrives underneath, and \(h\) is the initial height of the object. The \(h\) is expressed as Eq. 11.

\[
h = l\sin\theta
\]  

(11)

where \(l\) is the length of the object’s path. Then, by substituting Eq. 11 to Eq. 10, we obtained Eq. 12.

\[
\frac{1}{2}v^2 = gl\sin\theta
\]  

(12)

As it is known that the acceleration of an object moving on an inclined plane is constant, so the kinematic equation that describes the acceleration of an object moving from rest in the constant acceleration approach is describes as Eq. 13.

\[
a = g\sin\theta
\]  

(14)

Eq. 14 can be expressed as

\[
\frac{dv}{dt} = g\sin\theta
\]  

(15)

The motion of cylinder on inclined plane can be studied more detail involving the density and the friction force. For the solid cylinder rolling on an inclined plane in the liquid as shown in Fig. 1, it is stated by Verekar [4] as

\[
(1.4\rho + C_a)\frac{dv}{dt} = (\rho - 1)g\sin\theta - C_d\frac{3v^2}{4D}
\]  

(16)

The equation is basically the equation of motion as described by Newton Law. It consist of gravity force acting on mass of cylinder and the drag force. The \(\rho\) is the ratio between the density of the cylinder and the density of the liquid, \(C_a\) is the coefficient of added mass, \(C_d\) is the coefficient of drag, and \(D\) is the diameter of the cylinder. For a cylinder filled with water rolling in the air, the equation of motion is Eq. 17. Hence, the \(\rho\) is the ratio between the density of the cylinder and the density of air.

\[
(1.4\rho)\frac{dv}{dt} = (\rho - 1)g\sin\theta
\]  

(17)

\[
\frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{(\rho - 1)g\sin\theta}{1.4\rho}
\]  

(18)

The assuming condition is that there is no frictional force between the water and the cylinder wall. This means that water does not rotate. Cylinders are considered solid with water as the filling material.
B. Numerical Study Using Scilab

Scilab is a software developed for numerical computation and data visualization needed in the field of science and engineering. The main advantage of Scilab is that it can be downloaded for free (freeware) under the CeCILL license, and is available for various operating systems such as Windows, Mac OS/X, Unix and Linux. Scilab is available on GNU/Linux, Mac OS X and Windows operating systems. Scilab provides hundreds of mathematical functions. This software has a high level programming language and can access data structures, 2D plots, 3D plots and graphical functions.

Numeric is a symbol or a collection of symbols that represent a number. By using Eqs. 9, 15, and 18, an analysis is carried out in the Scilab program using the Euler method of first order differential equation models. Eq. 9 is used for modelling the rolling cylinder motion on an inclined plane, Eq. 15 is used for linear acceleration of a sliding point, and Eq. 18 is used for rolling motion of a cylinder filled with water.

Numerical data processing requires the support of a computer with specifications that match the program used, namely Scilab. There are several choices of types of Scilab programs that can be downloaded, namely 32 bit and 64 bit types.

Numerical completion method using Euler’s method. Euler’s method is a method used to solve ordinary differential equations. This method also known as the one-step method and mathematically is represented as

\[ y_{i+1} = y_i + mh \]  \hspace{1cm} (19)

The slope \( m \) is used to extrapolate the old value \( y_i \) to the new value \( y_{(i+1)} \) in the interval \( h \). The gradient is

\[ m = f(x_i, y_i) \]  \hspace{1cm} (20)

So that the gradient in Eq. 19 can be written as

\[ y_{i+1} = y_i + f(x_i, y_i)h \]  \hspace{1cm} (21)

So the new \( y \)-value is estimated based on the slope of the curve, equal to the first derivative at point \( x \), to extrapolate the old \( y \)-value linearly over the interval \( h \) to the new \( y \)-value.

Based on Eqs. 9, 15, and 18 which will be analyzed numerically in the Scilab program using the Euler method, the obtained equation is

\[ v_{i+1} = v_i + \frac{2}{3}g \sin \theta \Delta t \]  \hspace{1cm} (22)

\[ v_{i+1} = v_i + g \sin \theta \Delta t \]  \hspace{1cm} (23)

\[ v_{i+1} = v_i + \frac{(\rho - 1)g \sin \theta}{1.4\rho} \Delta t \]  \hspace{1cm} (24)

From Eqs. 22, 23, and 24, the results will be compared based on the graph analysis of velocity versus time obtained. Eq. 22 is Euler’s approximation for the motion of a frictionless rolling solid cylinder, Eq. 23 is an approximation for the motion of a frictionless sliding point object, while Eq. 24 is an approximation for a rolling cylinder motion with friction. To graph distance versus time, we use Eq. 25.

\[ x_{i+1} = x_i + v_i \Delta t \]  \hspace{1cm} (25)
FIG. 4: The graph of $v$ versus $t$, for rolling motion of a frictionless solid cylinder, frictionless sliding point object, and rolling motion of a cylinder with friction.

FIG. 5: The graph of $x$ versus $t$, for rolling motion of a frictionless solid cylinder, frictionless sliding point object, and rolling motion of a cylinder with friction.

### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Numerical data processing uses the Euler method in the Scilab program for modeling data. Motion of a cylinder filled with water on an inclined plane uses the data for Earth’s gravity $g = 9.807 \text{ m/s}^2$, angle $\theta = 15^\circ$, initial velocity $v_0 = 0.1 \text{ m/s}$, $a = 0.1 \text{ s}$, $\rho = 2.5568$, and $l = 1 \text{ m}$. The value of $\rho$ was obtained from Ariefka’s research in 2019. The flow chart of numerical data processing is shown in Fig. 2 and 3. After running Scilab coding, the graph of $v$ versus $t$ is obtained as shown in Fig. 4.

The velocity of cylinder of three different approach are shown in Fig. 4. From these results, it can be seen that for a frictionless sliding point object on an inclined plane has a greater speed than others because it is unaffected by friction and moment of inertia of the object. Meanwhile, motion of a frictionless rolling solid cylinder that rolls on an inclined plane produces a smaller velocity and the moment of inertia of the object. Furthermore, for a cylinder rolling on an inclined plane with friction produces the lowest speed compared to the other two motion objects. This is due to the friction factor and density of the cylinder. The graphical profile of $x$ versus $t$ from running Scilab coding is shown in Fig. 5.

The position as function time can be graphed as shown in Fig. 5. From these results, it is known that there are similarities in the results regarding the velocity and distance obtained from the three conditions being modeled. Since there is no friction and no rolling motion, the point object sliding on an inclined plane has a greater distance than others. The rolling cylinder model generates result of position less than the position of frictionless sliding motion model. This is due to the moment of inertia of cylinder. The involvement of friction on the model produce the least distance compared to the others model. Hence, the water filled cylinder can be modeled by frictionless sliding point object motion, frictionless rolling solid cylinder motion, and the rolling solid cylinder motion with friction. The energy consumed by friction and rolling motion play important role in acceleration. The velocity and the position are determined by the behavior of the acceleration of each model. However, the profile of velocity and position need to be verified by experimental results.

### IV. SUMMARY

Based on the results of a numerical study using a Scilab, it is found that the water filled cylinder can be modeled by frictionless sliding point object motion, frictionless rolling solid cylinder motion, and the rolling solid cylinder motion with friction. The frictionless sliding cylinder on an inclined plane has a greatest velocity and distance because they are unaffected by friction and moment of inertia. These results indicate that the water filled cylinder can be considered a solid cylinder if we neglecting all internal motion of water inside the cylinder.

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