The accurate and comprehensive model of thin fluid flows with inertia on curved substrates

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Abstract

Consider the 3D flow of a viscous Newtonian fluid upon a curved 2D substrate when the fluid film is thin as occurs in many draining, coating and biological flows. We derive a comprehensive model of the dynamics of the film, the model being expressed in terms of the film thickness $\eta$ and the average lateral velocity $\bar{u}$. Based upon centre manifold theory, we are assured that the model accurately includes the effects of the curvature of substrate, gravitational body force, fluid inertia and dissipation. The model may be used to resolve wave-like phenomena in the dynamics of viscous fluid flows over arbitrarily curved substrates such as cylinders, tubes and spheres. We briefly illustrate its use in simulating drop formation on cylindrical fibres, wave transitions, Faraday waves, viscous hydraulic jumps, and flow vortices in a compound channel. These models are the most complete models for thin film flow of a Newtonian fluid; many other thin film models can be obtained by different truncations of the dynamical equations given herein.

Contents

1 Introduction 2

2 The orthogonal curvilinear coordinate system 7

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1 Introduction

Mathematical models and numerical simulations for the flow of a thin film of fluid have important applications in industrial and natural processes [37, 35, 38, 39, 7, 12, 23, 10]. The dynamics of a thin fluid film spreading or retracting from the surface of a supporting liquid or solid substrate has long been active areas of research because of its impact on many technological fields, for example, coating flows [37]: applications of coating flows range from a single decorative layer on packaging, to multiple layer coatings on photographic film; coated products include adhesive tape, surgical dressings, magnetic and optical recording media, lithographic plates paper and fabrics. A wide variety of thin fluid film models have been reviewed in detail by Oron et al. [24]. In this Introduction, we summarise some of the results on mathematical models for three dimensional thin fluid film flows on a solid curved substrate and relate these to the new model derived herein.

In a three dimensional and very slow flow, a “lubrication” model for the evolution of the thickness η of a film on a general curved substrate was shown by Roy et al. [36] to be

\[
\frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} \approx -\frac{1}{3} \mathcal{W} \nabla \cdot \left[ \eta^2 \zeta \nabla \kappa - \frac{1}{2} \eta^4 (\kappa I - K) \cdot \nabla \kappa \right],
\]

Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018
1 Introduction

where \( \zeta = \eta - \frac{1}{2} \kappa \eta^2 + \frac{1}{3} k_1 k_2 \eta^3 \) is proportional to the amount of fluid locally "above" a small patch of the substrate; \( \tilde{\kappa} \) is the mean curvature of the free surface of the film due to both substrate and fluid thickness variations (\( \tilde{\kappa} \approx \kappa + \nabla^2 \eta \)); \( K \) is the curvature tensor of the substrate; \( k_1, k_2 \) and \( \kappa = k_1 + k_2 \) are the principal curvatures and the mean curvature of the substrate respectively (positive curvature is concave); \( W \) is a Weber number characterising the strength of surface tension; and the differential operator \( \nabla \) is defined in a coordinate system on the curved substrate. Based upon a systematic analysis of the continuity and Navier-Stokes equations for a Newtonian fluid, this model accounts for any general curvature of the substrate and that of the surface of the film. Décré and Baret [10] found good agreement between a linearised version of lubrication models such as (1) and experiments of flow over various shaped depressions in the substrate.

In many applications the lubrication model (1) of slow flow of a thin fluid film has limited usefulness; instead a model expressed in terms of both the fluid layer thickness and an overall lateral velocity or momentum flux is needed to resolve faster wave-like dynamics in falling films [7, p110], wave transitions [8], higher Reynolds number flows [27, Eqn.(19)], in rising film flow and a slot coater [17, Eqn.(37)], and in general flows [14, 34]. Roberts [34] derived such a model for two dimensional flow, approximately

\[
\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} \approx -\nabla \cdot (\eta \bar{u}) , \tag{2}
\]

\[
\mathcal{R} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t} \approx - \left[ \frac{\pi^2}{4} \frac{\bar{u}}{\eta^2} + 3 \kappa \frac{\bar{u}}{\eta} \right] + \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left( \frac{W \tilde{\kappa} \eta^2}{\nabla^2 \eta^3} + \mathcal{G}_s \right) , \tag{3}
\]

where \( \mathcal{R} \) is a Reynolds number of the flow, \( \bar{u} \) is the lateral velocity averaged over the fluid thickness, and \( \mathcal{G}_s \) is the lateral component of gravity. Here we greatly extend the model (2–3) by deriving in §5 the approximate model for the flow of a three dimensional thin liquid layer of an incompressible, Newtonian fluid over an arbitrary solid, stationary and curved substrate, such as the flow about a cylinder shown in Figures 1 and 2. The derived accurate model (52–53) for the film thickness \( \eta \) and a weighted average lateral velocity \( \bar{u} \), see (43), is to low order and analogous to (2–3)\(^1\)

\[
\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} \approx -\nabla \cdot (\eta \bar{u}) , \tag{4}
\]

\[
\mathcal{R} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t} \approx - \left[ \frac{\pi^2}{4} \frac{\bar{u}}{\eta^2} + (2 K + \kappa I) \cdot \frac{\bar{u}}{\eta} \right] + \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left( W \nabla \tilde{\kappa} + \mathcal{G}_s \right) , \tag{5}
\]

\(^1\)The approximate equality in the conservation of mass equation (4) becomes exact equality when \( \zeta \) replaces \( \eta \) on the left-hand side. The higher order analysis leading to (52) does this automatically.

Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018
Figure 1: around a nearly horizontal cylinder of radius $R = 2$ (not shown) we start with a fluid layer of thickness $\eta = 1$ except for a small bump discernible off top dead centre of the cylinder. With Reynolds number $\mathcal{R} = 10$ in a gravitational field with gravity number $\mathcal{G} = 0.5$ the fluid bump first slides around the cylinder to the bottom by time $t = 12$. The other sections of the fluid also slide down to the bottom of the cylinder, but not so fast.

where $\mathcal{G} g_s$ is the component of gravity tangential to the substrate. The conservation of fluid equation (4) is the natural generalisation of equation (2) to three dimensional flow. The momentum equation (5) similarly generalises (3) to three dimensional flow through a nontrivial effect of curvature upon drag. The important feature of this model, as in (2–3), is the incorporation of the dynamics of the inertia of the fluid, represented here by the leading order term $\mathcal{R} \partial \vec{u} / \partial t$, which enables the model to resolve wave-like behaviour. In contrast, the lubrication model of thin films (1) only encompasses a much more restricted range of dynamics. We base the derivation of model (4–5) upon a centre manifold approach established in §4. The approach is founded on viscosity damping all the lateral shear modes of the thin fluid film except the shear mode of slowest decay. Then all the physical interactions between spatial varying quantities, substrate curvature, surface tension and gravitational forcing are systematically incorporated into the modelling because the centre manifold is made up of the slowly evolving solutions of the Navier-Stokes and continuity equations; for example, all these physical effects take
Figure 2: around the nearly horizontal cylinder of radius $R = 2$ (not shown but at angle 0.1 radians to the horizontal) the fluid lump now, $t = 24$, at the bottom of the cylinder slowly pulls in fluids from the two ends of the cylinder under surface tension of Weber number $\mathcal{W} = 20$. By times $t = 48$ and 60 surface tension forms a large off-centre bead which slowly slides along the cylinder, surrounded by a thin layer, $\eta \approx 0.1$, still covering the cylinder.

part in the particular simulation shown in Figures 1 and 2. For example, the $\pi^2/12$ coefficient in the models such as (3.5) is not 1: the coefficient of these terms would be 1 in modelling based upon the heuristic of cross sectional averaging; but $\pi^2/12 = 0.8224$ is correct because it must be $\frac{1}{3}$ of the viscous decay rate $\pi^2/4$ in order to match the leading $\frac{1}{3}$ coefficient in the lubrication model (1). In this approach the model is based upon actual solutions of the Navier-Stokes equations and so gets all coefficients correct to a controllable order of accuracy.

Before we undertake the construction we introduce in $\S$ 2 an orthogonal curvilinear coordinate system fitted to the substrate. The analysis then starts from the incompressible Navier-Stokes equations and boundary conditions recorded in $\S$ 3 for this special coordinate system. Thus we derive the model for a completely general curving substrate.

The derived model (52–53) reduces to a model for three dimensional fluid flow on flat substrates upon setting the principle curvatures $k_1$ and $k_2$ equal
to zero. For example, the low order model (5) becomes simply
\[ R \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t} \approx -\frac{\pi^2}{4} \frac{\bar{u}}{\eta^2} + \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left( \mathcal{W} \nabla^3 \eta + \mathcal{G} g_s \right). \] (6)

The higher order accurate version of this model, recorded in §6.1 as (59–61), extends to three dimensional fluid flows the models for two-dimensional fluids on flat substrates that were derived in [34, 14]. In §6.1 we report on the linearised dynamics, \( \eta = 1 + h \) where both \( h \) and \( \bar{u} \) are small. One result is that
\[ R \tilde{\omega}_t = -\frac{\pi^2}{4} \tilde{\omega} + \nabla^2 \tilde{\omega}, \] (7)
where \( \tilde{\omega} = \tilde{v}_x - \tilde{u}_y \) is a measure of the mean vorticity normal to the substrate in the flow of the film. Thus mean normal vorticity just dissipates due to drag and diffusion. However, letting \( \tilde{\delta} = \tilde{u}_x + \tilde{v}_y \), which measures the mean divergence of the flow of the film and hence indicates whether the film is thinning or thickening, we find
\[ R \tilde{\delta}_t = -\frac{\pi^2}{4} \tilde{\delta} + \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left[ \mathcal{G} g_n \nabla^2 h + \mathcal{W} \nabla^4 h \right] + (1 + \varpi) \nabla^2 \tilde{\delta}, \] (9)

where \( \varpi = 3.0930 \). Observe that this divergence diffuses with a larger coefficient, namely \( 1 + \varpi \), than that of pure molecular diffusion; this effect is analogous to the enhanced Trouton viscosity of deforming viscous sheets [28, p143, e.g.]. The enhanced viscous dissipation is due to interactions with the shear flow similar to those giving rise to enhanced dispersion of a passive tracer in pipes [21, e.g.]. From (9) see that the divergence of the film’s velocity is simply driven by gravity and surface tension acting on variations of the film’s thickness and is dissipated by substrate drag and the enhanced lateral diffusion. Nonlinearities and substrate curvature modify this simple picture of the dynamics.

Circular cylinders are a specific substrate of wide interest. For example, Jensen [15] studied the effects of surface tension on a thin liquid layer lining the interior of a cylindrical tube and derived a corresponding evolution equation. Whereas Atherton & Homsy [2], Kalliadasis & Chang [16] and Kliakhandler et al. [18] considered coating films flow down vertical fibres and gave nonlinear lubrication models. Thus in §6.2 we also record the accurate model for flow both inside and outside a cylinder as used in the simulations for Figures 1 and 2. Axisymmetric flows are often of interest in coating flows. Using \( s \) as the axial coordinate, to low order a model for axisymmetric film
flow along a cylinder of radius $R$ is

$$
\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \eta \pm \frac{\eta^2}{2R} \right) = -\frac{\partial (\eta \bar{u})}{\partial s},
$$

(10)

$$
\mathcal{R} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t} \approx -\frac{\pi^2}{4} \frac{\bar{u}}{\eta^2} \pm \frac{\bar{u}}{R\eta} - 0.6487 \frac{\bar{u}}{R^2} 
+ \frac{\pi^2}{12} \mathcal{W} \left( \frac{1}{R^2} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial s} + \frac{\partial^3 \eta}{\partial s^3} \right) + \mathcal{G} \left( \frac{\pi^2}{12} g_s \pm 0.4891 \frac{g_s}{R} \right),
$$

(11)

where the upper/lower sign corresponds to flow on the outside/inside surfaces of the cylinder. Observe that the curvature of the substrate: modifies the expression of conservation of mass; drives a beading effect through $\eta_s/R^2$; and modifies the drag terms. These are just some special cases of those recorded in (6).

The centre manifold approach we use to derive low-dimensional dynamical models such as (4–5) has the advantage that its simple geometric picture leads to a complete low-dimensional model [21, e.g.]. Algebraic techniques have been developed for the derivation of a low-dimensional model [33], the correct modelling of initial conditions [9, 30] and boundary conditions [31]. However, we limit our attention to deriving the basic differential equations of the dynamical flow. Other aspects of modelling remain for further study. But further, at the end of (5) we investigate high order refinements of the basic linearised surface tension driven dynamics of (7–9) and determine that the model (52–53) derived here requires that spatial gradients are significantly less than the limit $|\nabla \eta| < 1.9$, for example, see (57). This quantitative indication of the extent of the model’s spatial resolution is better than that for lubrication models such as (1) which require the surface slope to be significantly less than 0.74 instead. Such quantitative estimates of the range of applicability are found through the systematic nature of the centre manifold approach to modelling.

2 The orthogonal curvilinear coordinate system

In this section, we describe the general differential geometry necessary to consider flows in general non-Cartesian geometries. First, we introduce the geometry on the substrate, then extend it out into space and establish the orthogonal curvilinear coordinate system used to describe the fluid flow.
Let $S$ denote the solid substrate. When $S$ has no umbilical point, that is, there is no point on $S$ at which the two principal curvatures coincide, then there are exactly two mutually orthogonal principal directions in the tangent plane at every point in $S$ \cite[Theorem 10-3]{13}. Let $e_1$ and $e_2$ be the unit vectors in these principal directions, and $e_3$ the unit normal to the substrate to the side of the fluid so that $e_1$, $e_2$ and $e_3$ form a right-handed curvilinear orthonormal set of unit vectors. Such a coordinate system is called a Darboux frame \cite{13}. Let $x_1$ and $x_2$ be two parameters such that the unit tangent vector of a parameter curve $x_2={\text{constant}}$ is $e_1$, the unit tangent vector of a parameter curve $x_1={\text{constant}}$ is $e_2$, and let $y$ measure the normal distance from the substrate. Then on the substrate, points $P \in S$,

$$e_i = \frac{1}{m_i} \frac{\partial P}{\partial x_i},$$

(12)

with substrate scale factor

$$m_i = \left| \frac{\partial P}{\partial x_i} \right|.$$  

(13)

Further, we deduce how the normal varies along the substrate:

$$\frac{\partial e_3}{\partial x_i} = -m_i k_i e_i.$$

(14)

Note that the unit vectors $e_i$ are independent of $y$. At any point in the fluid, written as

$$X(x_1, x_2, y) = P(x_1, x_2) + ye_3(x_1, x_2),$$

the scale factors of the spatial coordinate system are, since positive curvature corresponds to a concave coordinate curve,

$$h_i = \left| \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_i} \right| = m_i(1 - k_i y), \quad h_3 \left| \frac{\partial X}{\partial y} \right| = 1.$$ 

The spatial derivatives of the curvilinear unit vectors are \cite[p598]{3}

$$\frac{\partial e_i}{\partial x_i} = -\frac{h_i, e_i'}{h_i} e_i', \quad \frac{\partial e_i}{\partial y} = 0,$$

$$\frac{\partial e_3}{\partial x_i} = -m_i k_i e_i,$$

$$\frac{\partial e_i}{\partial x_i'} = \frac{h_i', e_i'}{h_i} e_i'.$$

where $i' = 3 - i$ is the complementary index of $i$ and $h_{i,j}$ denotes $\partial h_i/\partial x_j$.

A fundamental quantity for the problem is the free-surface mean curvature $\bar{\kappa}$ which is involved in the effects of surface tension through the energy
stored in the free-surface. As derived by Roy et al. [36, eqn(37)], the mean curvature of the free-surface

\[
\tilde{\kappa} = \frac{1}{h_1 h_2} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left( \tilde{h}_2^2 \eta_{x_1} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \left( \tilde{h}_1^2 \eta_{x_2} \right) \right] + \frac{1}{\mathcal{A}} \left[ \left( \tilde{h}_1^2 + \eta_{x_1}^2 \right) m_2 k_2 \frac{\tilde{h}_1^2 \eta_{x_1}}{h_1} + \left( \tilde{h}_2^2 + \eta_{x_2}^2 \right) m_1 k_1 \frac{\tilde{h}_2^2 \eta_{x_2}}{h_2} \right],
\]

where \( \tilde{h}_i = 1 - k_i \eta \) are the metric coefficients evaluated on the free surface (indicated by the tilde), and where

\[
\mathcal{A} = \sqrt{\tilde{h}_1^2 \tilde{h}_2^2 + \tilde{h}_2^2 \eta_{x_1}^2 + \tilde{h}_1^2 \eta_{x_2}^2},
\]

is proportional to the free-surface area above a patch \( dx_1 \times dx_2 \) of the substrate.

In the analysis we assume the film of fluid is thin. Conversely, viewing this on the scale of its thickness, the viscous fluid is of large horizontal extent on a slowly curving substrate. Thus we treat as small the spatial derivatives of the fluid flow and the curvatures of the substrate; Decré & Baret [10, p162] report experiments showing that apparently rapid changes in the substrate may be treated as slow variations in the mathematical model. Then an approximation to the curvature of the free surface is

\[
\tilde{\kappa} = \nabla^2 \eta + \frac{k_1}{1 - k_1 \eta} + \frac{k_2}{1 - k_2 \eta} + \mathcal{O}(\kappa^3 + \nabla^3 \eta),
\]

(15)

where the Laplacian is evaluated in the substrate coordinate system as

\[
\nabla^2 \eta = \frac{1}{m_1 m_2} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left( m_2 \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x_1} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \left( m_1 \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x_2} \right) \right].
\]

(16)

For later use, also observe that on the free-surface the unit tangent vectors \( \tilde{t}_i \) and unit normal vector \( \tilde{n} \) are

\[
\tilde{t}_i = \left( \tilde{h}_i e_1 + \eta_{x_i} e_3 \right)/\sqrt{\tilde{h}_i^2 + \eta_{x_i}^2},
\]

(17)

\[
\tilde{n} = \left( -\tilde{h}_2 \eta_{x_1} e_1 - \tilde{h}_1 \eta_{x_2} e_2 + \tilde{h}_1 \tilde{h}_2 e_3 \right)/\mathcal{A}.
\]

(18)

We describe the dynamics of the fluid using these formula in a coordinate system determined by the substrate upon which the film flows.
3 Equations of motion and boundary conditions

Having developed the intrinsic geometry of general three dimensional surfaces, we proceed to record the Navier-Stokes equations and boundary conditions for a Newtonian fluid in this curvilinear coordinate system.

Consider the Navier-Stokes equations for an incompressible fluid flow moving with velocity field $\mathbf{u}$ and with pressure field $p$. The flow dynamics are driven by pressure gradients along the substrate which are caused by both surface tension forces, coefficient $\sigma$, the forces varying due to variations of the curvature of the free surface of the fluid, and a gravitational acceleration, $g$, of magnitude $g$ in the direction of the unit vector $\hat{g}$. Then the continuity and Navier-Stokes equations are

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

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p + \frac{\mu}{\rho} \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{g}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (19)

(20)

We adopt a non-dimensionalisation based upon the characteristic thickness of the film $H$, and some characteristic velocity $U$: for a specific example, in a regime where surface tension drives a flow against viscous drag the characteristic velocity is $U = \sigma/\mu$ and the Weber number $\mathcal{W} = \sigma/(U \mu) = 1$. Reverting to the general case, the reference length is $H$, the reference time $H/U$, and the reference pressure $\mu U/H$. Then the non-dimensional fluid equations are

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

$$\mathcal{R} \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} \right] = -\nabla p + \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathcal{G} \hat{g},$$

$$G = \frac{\rho H^2}{\mu U}$$

$$\mathcal{G} = \frac{\mathcal{R}}{\mathcal{F}}$$

where $\mathcal{R} = U H \rho / \mu$ is a Reynolds number characterising the importance of the inertial terms compared to viscous dissipation, and $\mathcal{G} = \rho H^2 / (\mu U)$ is a gravity number analogously measuring the importance of the gravitational body force compared to viscous dissipation; the gravity number $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{R} / \mathcal{F}$ for Froude number $\mathcal{F} = U^2 / g H$ so that when we choose the reference velocity to be the shallow water wave speed $U = \sqrt{g H}$ then $\mathcal{F} = 1$ and the gravity number $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{R}$.

In the curvilinear coordinate system defined in $\S 2$ the non-dimensional continuity and Navier-Stokes equations for the velocity field $\mathbf{u} = u_1 \mathbf{e}_1 +$
Equations of motion and boundary conditions

\[ u_2 e_2 + v e_3 \] are as follows (adapted from [3, p599]):

\[
\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}(h_2 u_1) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}(h_1 u_2) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(h_1 h_2 v) = 0 ,
\]

\[
\mathcal{R} \left\{ \frac{\partial\mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + e_1 \left[ \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla u_1 + \frac{u_2}{h_1 h_2} \left( u_1 \frac{\partial h_1}{\partial x_2} - u_2 \frac{\partial h_2}{\partial x_1} \right) - m_1 k_1 v u_1 \right] + e_2 \left[ \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla u_2 + \frac{u_1}{h_1 h_2} \left( u_2 \frac{\partial h_2}{\partial x_1} - u_1 \frac{\partial h_1}{\partial x_2} \right) - m_2 k_2 v u_2 \right] + e_3 \left[ \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla v + m_1 k_1 \frac{u_1^2}{h_1} + m_2 k_2 \frac{u_2^2}{h_2} \right] \right\} = -\nabla p - \nabla \times \omega + \mathcal{G} \mathbf{g} ,
\]

where \( \omega \) is the vorticity of the fluid given by the curl

\[
\omega = \nabla \times \mathbf{u} = \frac{e_1}{h_2} \left[ \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_2} - \frac{\partial (h_2 u_2)}{\partial y} \right] + \frac{e_2}{h_1} \left[ \frac{\partial (h_1 u_1)}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} \right] + \frac{e_3}{h_1 h_2} \left[ \frac{\partial (h_2 u_2)}{\partial x_1} - \frac{\partial (h_1 u_1)}{\partial x_2} \right] ,
\]

and where

\[
\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla = \frac{u_1}{h_1} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} + \frac{u_2}{h_2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} + v \frac{\partial}{\partial y} .
\]

These partial differential equations are solved with the following boundary conditions.

1. The fluid does not slip along the stationary substrate, that is

\[
\mathbf{u} = 0 \quad \text{on } y = 0 .
\]

2. The fluid satisfies the free surface kinematic boundary condition

\[
\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} = v - \frac{u_1}{h_1} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x_1} - \frac{u_2}{h_2} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x_2} \quad \text{on } y = \eta .
\]

3. The normal surface stress at the free surface is caused by surface tension, in non-dimensional form

\[
\mathbf{\hat{n}} \cdot \mathbf{\hat{T}} \cdot \mathbf{\hat{n}} = \bar{p} + \mathcal{W} \bar{\kappa} ,
\]

where \( \mathbf{\hat{T}} \) is the deviatoric stress tensor on free surface, \( \bar{p} \) is the fluid pressure at the surface relative to the assumed zero pressure of the negligible medium above the fluid, and \( \mathbf{\hat{n}} \) is the unit normal to the free surface.

Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018
4. The free surface has zero tangential stress

$$\tilde{t} \cdot \tilde{\tau} \cdot \tilde{n} = 0$$, \hspace{1cm} (28)

where $\tilde{t}$ is any tangent vector to the free surface. We use the two linearly independent tangent vectors in (17) to ensure the boundary condition is satisfied for all tangent vectors.

In this curvilinear coordinate system the components of the nondimensional deviatoric stress tensor $\tau$ are [3 \text{ p599}]

$$\begin{align*}
\tau_{ii} &= 2 \left( \frac{1}{h_i} \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_i} + \frac{h_{i,i'}}{h_i} u_{i'} - \frac{m_i k_i}{h_i} \right), \\
\tau_{12} &= \frac{1}{h_2} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_2} + \frac{1}{h_1} \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_1} - \frac{h_{1,2}}{h_1 h_2} u_1 - \frac{h_{2,1}}{h_1 h_2} u_2, \\
\tau_{i3} &= \frac{1}{h_i} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial y} + \frac{m_i k_i}{h_i} u_i, \\
\tau_{33} &= 2 \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}.
\end{align*}$$ \hspace{1cm} (29)

4 The centre manifold analysis of the dynamics

We adapt the governing fluid equations (23–24) and the four boundary conditions (25–28) to a form suitable for the application of centre manifold theory and techniques to generate a low-dimensional dynamical model with firm theoretical support.

Three mathematical tricks place the equations within the centre manifold framework; these tricks fit the parameter regime of viscous flow varying relatively slowly over the substrate.

1. First we introduce the small parameter $\epsilon$ to characterise both the slow gradients along the substrate, $\partial/\partial x_i$, and the small curvatures of the substrate (as curvatures are the partial derivatives of unit normal with respect to $x_i$). $\epsilon$ either may be viewed at face value as a mathematical artifice or may be viewed as being equivalent to the multiple-scale assumption of variations occurring only on a large lateral length scale (large compared to the thickness of the fluid). The two viewpoints provide exactly the same results. In either case, let the lateral variations
scale with the parameter $\epsilon$:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} = \epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i^*}, \quad k_1 = \epsilon k_1^*, \quad k_2 = \epsilon k_2^*, \quad \kappa = \epsilon \kappa^*,$$

where $^*$ denotes quantities which have been scaled by $\epsilon$.

2. Second, the presumed small gravitational forcing is treated as a perturbing “nonlinear” effect by introducing the parameter $\beta$ such that the gravity number $G = \beta^2$.

3. Third, as introduced by Roberts [34], we also modify the tangential stress condition \([28]\) on free surface, using a parameter $\gamma$: at $\gamma = 0$ the lateral shear mode of slowest decay actually becomes a marginally stable mode; whereas at $\gamma = 1$ the modification vanishes to restore the physical stress-free boundary condition \([28]\). The modification to \([34]\) is necessary to create the necessary three modes of the centre manifold model. Subsequently, evaluating at $\gamma = 1$ removes the modification to obtain a model for the physically correct dynamics.

Now rewrite the governing fluid equations according to the above tricks. For convenience, we drop the “$^*$” superscript on all re-scaled variables hereafter. Equations \([23–24]\) become

$$\epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} (h_2 u_1) + \epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} (h_1 u_2) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (h_1 h_2 v) = 0,$$

\[\mathcal{R} \left\{ \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + e_1 \left[ \frac{u_1}{h_1} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_1} + \frac{u_2}{h_2} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_2} + v \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial y} + \epsilon \frac{u_2}{h_1 h_2} \left( \frac{\partial h_1}{\partial x_2} - u_2 \frac{\partial h_2}{\partial x_1} \right) \right] \right. + e_2 \left[ \epsilon \frac{u_1}{h_1} \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_2} + v \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial y} + \epsilon \frac{u_2}{h_1 h_2} \left( \frac{\partial h_1}{\partial x_1} - u_1 \frac{\partial h_2}{\partial x_2} \right) \right] \right. + e_3 \left[ \frac{u_1}{h_1} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \epsilon m_1 k_1 \frac{u_2^2}{h_1} + \epsilon m_2 k_2 \frac{u_2^2}{h_2} \right] \right\} = -\epsilon e_1 \frac{\partial p}{\partial x_1} - \epsilon e_2 \frac{\partial p}{\partial x_2} - \epsilon e_3 \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \frac{1}{h_1} \left[ \frac{\partial \omega_3}{\partial x_1} - \frac{\partial \omega_2}{\partial x_2} \right] e_1 + \frac{1}{h_1} \left[ \frac{\partial \omega_1}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial \omega_3}{\partial x_1} \right] e_2 + \epsilon \frac{1}{h_1 h_2} \left[ \frac{\partial \omega_2}{\partial x_1} - \frac{\partial \omega_1}{\partial x_2} \right] e_3 + \beta^2 \mathbf{g}, \quad (31)$$

where the scale factors are $h_i = m_i (1 - \epsilon k_i y)$, and the components of the vorticity are

$$\omega_i = \frac{(-1)^i}{h_i} \left[ \epsilon \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_i} - \frac{\partial (h_i u_i)}{\partial y} \right], \quad \omega_3 = \frac{\epsilon}{h_1 h_2} \left[ \frac{\partial (h_2 u_2)}{\partial x_1} - \frac{\partial (h_1 u_1)}{\partial x_2} \right].$$

Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018
The boundary conditions \cite{15,23} become

\[ u = 0 \quad \text{on} \quad y = 0, \quad (32) \]

\[ \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} = v - \epsilon \frac{u_1}{h_1} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x_1} - \epsilon \frac{u_2}{h_2} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x_2} \quad \text{on} \quad y = \eta, \quad (33) \]

\[ \tilde{t}_i \cdot \tilde{\tau} \cdot \tilde{n} = (1 - \gamma) \frac{m_i m_1 m_2 u_i}{\eta l_i l} \quad \text{on} \quad y = \eta, \quad (34) \]

\[ \tilde{n} \cdot \tilde{\tau} \cdot \tilde{n} = \tilde{p} + \mathcal{W} \tilde{\kappa}, \quad (35) \]

where

\[ l_i = \sqrt{\tilde{h}_{i2}^2 + \epsilon^2 \eta_{i2}^2}, \quad l = \sqrt{(\epsilon \tilde{h}_{22} \eta_{2x_1})^2 + (\epsilon \tilde{h}_{12} \eta_{1x_2})^2 + (\tilde{h}_{11} \tilde{h}_{22})^2}, \]

and the unit tangent vectors \( \tilde{t}_i \) and unit normal vector \( \tilde{n} \) are

\[ \tilde{t}_i = (\tilde{h}_i e_i + \epsilon \eta_{ix} e_3)/l_i, \quad \tilde{n} = (-\epsilon \tilde{h}_{22} \eta_{x_1} e_1 - \epsilon \tilde{h}_{12} \eta_{x_2} e_2 + \tilde{h}_{11} \tilde{h}_{22} e_3)/l. \]

The asymptotic expressions for the deviatoric stress \( \tilde{\tau} \) on the free surface are

\[ \tilde{\tau}_{ii} = 2 \epsilon \left( \frac{1}{m_1} \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_i} + \frac{h_{i2}}{m_1 m_2} u_i - k_i v \right) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2), \]

\[ \tilde{\tau}_{12} = \epsilon \left( \frac{1}{m_2} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_2} + \frac{1}{m_1} \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_1} - \frac{h_{12}}{m_1 m_2} u_1 - \frac{h_{21}}{m_1 m_2} u_2 \right) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2), \quad (36) \]

\[ \tilde{\tau}_{i3} = \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial y} + \epsilon \left( k_i u_i + \frac{1}{m_i} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_i} \right) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2), \]

\[ \tilde{\tau}_{33} = 2 \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}, \]

and the mean curvature of the free surface \( \tilde{\kappa} \), expanded in powers of \( \epsilon \), is

\[ \tilde{\kappa} = \epsilon \kappa + \epsilon^2 [\nabla^2 \eta - \kappa_2 \eta] + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^3), \]

where \( \nabla^2 \eta \) is the same as that in \((16)\) and \( \kappa_2 = k_1^2 + k_2^2 \).

The tangential stress boundary condition \((34)\) has been modified by the introduction of the artificial parameter \( \gamma \). The physically correct boundary condition is recovered when \( \gamma = 1 \). But when \( \gamma = 0 \) the boundary condition \((34)\) linearises to

\[ \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial y} = \frac{u_i}{\eta}, \quad \text{on} \quad y = \eta, \]

Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018
which gives two neutral horizontal shear modes, \( u_i \propto y \). The above equations have generalised the physical equations by introducing the extra parameters \( \epsilon, \gamma \) and \( \beta \). Then by adjoining the trivial equations

\[
\frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial t} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \gamma}{\partial t} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial t} = 0,
\]

we obtain a new dynamical system in the variables \( u, \eta, p, \epsilon, \gamma \) and \( \beta \). The original system will be recovered by setting \( \epsilon = 1, \gamma = 1 \) and \( \beta = \sqrt{\mathcal{G}} \). However, the two systems are quite different from the view of centre manifold theory. The theory now treats all terms that are multiplied by the three introduced parameters as nonlinear perturbing effects on the system. So the dynamics we describe will be suitable only when there are slow lateral variations in \( x_i \) of the curvatures of the substrate, of \( u, p \) and \( \eta \), small \( \epsilon \), and a relatively weak gravitational forcing on the system, small \( \mathcal{G} \). In §5 we argue that evaluating at \( \gamma = 1 \) is sound, and towards the end of §5 we give evidence that lateral variations are slow enough if their logarithmic derivative is less than \( 1.9/\eta \). We now proceed to use centre manifold techniques to develop a model of the dynamics.

A linear picture of the dynamics is fundamental to the application of centre manifold techniques to derive a low-dimensional model. The linear part of system (30–31), that is omitting all terms multiplied by a small parameter \( \epsilon, \gamma \) or \( \beta \), is

\[
\frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0, \quad \mathcal{R} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + e_3 \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0,
\]

with the boundary conditions (32–35) linearised to

\[
\begin{align*}
    u &= 0 \quad \text{on } y = 0, \\
    \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} - v &= 0 \quad \text{on } y = \eta, \\
    \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial y} - \frac{u_i}{\eta} &= 0 \quad \text{on } y = \eta, \\
    2 \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} - p &= 0 \quad \text{on } y = \eta.
\end{align*}
\]

Note that there are no curvature nor lateral variations in the above linear equations, such variations are not included in the leading order approximation to the physical system. The linear dynamical system has three types of
solutions: first, a motionless film of constant thickness $u = v = p = 0$, $\eta =$ constant; second, the family of lateral shear modes $u_i \propto \sin(\chi y/\eta) \exp(\lambda t)$ where
\begin{equation}
\lambda = -\frac{\chi^2}{R\eta^2}, \quad \text{such that} \quad \chi = \tan \chi; \tag{41}
\end{equation}
and third, the trivial $\epsilon, \gamma$ and $\beta$ being independently constant. Thus, the six modes corresponding to zero eigenvalues, the so-called critical modes, are the four modes with $\eta, \epsilon, \gamma$ and $\beta$ arbitrarily constant, and the two modes with $u_i \propto y$ (obtained in the limit $\chi \to 0$). All other modes correspond to negative eigenvalues given by (41) — they are damped by viscosity. Consequently the centre manifold model which we create has six modes: three corresponding to critical physical modes; and three corresponding to trivial parameter modes.

Centre manifold techniques are justifiably applied to infinite dimensional dynamical systems whose linearisation has only non-positive eigenvalues and such that the nonlinear perturbation terms in the system are smooth and bounded, see Gallay \[11\]. The perturbation terms in system (30–31), involving spatial derivatives, are strictly speaking unbounded so the rigorous theory does not apply. Nonetheless, by restricting attention to slowly varying solutions only, the derivatives remain bounded and the resulting model is expected to be accurate [29]. With this proviso, a low-dimensional model of the system may be derived using centre manifold theory.

Denote the physical fields by $\mathbf{v}(t) = (\eta, u_1, u_2, v, p)$. Centre manifold theory guarantees that there exist functions $\mathbf{V}$ and $\mathbf{G}$ of the critical modes where the critical modes evolve in time, that is
\begin{equation}
\mathbf{v}(t) = \mathbf{V}(\eta, \bar{u}_1, \bar{u}_2), \quad \text{such that} \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} \eta \\ \bar{u}_1 \\ \bar{u}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{G}(\eta, \bar{u}_1, \bar{u}_2), \tag{42}
\end{equation}
where there is implicit dependence upon the parameters ($\epsilon, \gamma, \beta$), which are treated as small constants, and where $\bar{u}_i$ are depth-averaged lateral velocities defined precisely as
\begin{equation}
\bar{u}_i = \frac{1}{\eta} \int_0^\eta u_i(1 - k_i y) dy. \tag{43}
\end{equation}
This definition ensures that the fluid flux over a point on the substrate is simply $\eta \bar{u}$. We proceed to find functions $\mathbf{V}$ and $\mathbf{G}$ such that $\mathbf{v}(t)$ as described by (42) are actual solutions of the physical equations (30–31) satisfying boundary conditions (32–35). We calculate $\mathbf{V}$ and $\mathbf{G}$ by an iteration using computer algebra [33], see Appendix A. In outline, suppose that an approximation $\tilde{\mathbf{V}}$ and $\tilde{\mathbf{G}}$ has been found, and let $\mathbf{V}'$ and $\mathbf{G}'$ denote corrections
we seek to improve $\tilde{V}$ and $\tilde{G}$. Substituting
\[ \mathbf{v} = \tilde{V} + \mathbf{V}', \quad \partial_t \begin{bmatrix} \eta \\ \bar{u}_1 \\ \bar{u}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \tilde{G} + \mathbf{G}' \]
into (30-31) and its boundary conditions then rearranging, dropping products of corrections, and using the linear approximation wherever factors multiply corrections (see [33] for more details), we obtain a system of linear equations for the corrections. The resulting system of equations is in the homological form
\[ \mathcal{L}V' + A\mathbf{G}' = \tilde{R}, \quad (44) \]
where $\mathcal{L}$ is the linear operator on the left hand side of system (38–40), $A$ is a matrix, and $\tilde{R}$ is the residual of the governing equations (30–31) and boundary conditions (32–35) using the reigning approximations $\tilde{V}$ and $\tilde{G}$. The procedure for solving the homological equation (44) is as follows: first, choose $\mathbf{G}'$ such that $\tilde{R} - A\mathbf{G}'$ is in the range of $\mathcal{L}$; second, solve $\mathcal{L}V' = \text{r.h.s. making the solution satisfy the boundary conditions (32–35) and the definitions (43)}$. Then regard $\tilde{V} + V'$ and $\tilde{G} + G'$ as the new approximation $\tilde{V}$ and $\tilde{G}$ respectively. Repeat the iteration until satisfied with the approximation.

The ultimate purpose is to make the residual $\tilde{R}$ become zero to the required order of error, then the Approximation Theorem [6] in centre manifold theory assures us that the low-dimensional model has the same order of error. The computer algebra program listed in Appendix A performs the computations.

5 The high order model of film flow

The computer algebra program listed in Appendix A gives the physical fields of slowly varying thin film fluid flow, and also describes the evolution thereon as a set of coupled partial differential equations for the evolution of the film thickness $\eta$ and the averaged lateral velocities $\bar{u}$.

Computing to low order in the small parameters, it gives the following fields in terms of the parameters and a scaled normal coordinate $Y = y/\eta$:
\[ p = \begin{align*}
&= -\varepsilon \mathcal{W}\kappa - \varepsilon^2 \mathcal{W} \nabla^2 \eta + \varepsilon \eta^{-1} \nabla \eta \cdot \bar{u}(Y - 1)(2 + \gamma/2) - \varepsilon^2 \mathcal{W} \eta \kappa_2 \\
&\quad + \varepsilon \nabla \cdot \bar{u}(\gamma(Y - 3)/2 - 2(Y + 1)) + \mathcal{G} \eta g_n(Y - 1) \\
&\quad + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^3 + \bar{u}^3 + \beta^3, \gamma^2); \\
\end{align*} \]
\[ u = \bar{u} \left( 2Y - \gamma(Y^3 - Y/2) \right) + \eta^2 \left( \varepsilon^2 \mathcal{W} \nabla \kappa + \mathcal{G} g_s \right) \left( \frac{3}{80} \gamma Y^5 \right) \]

Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018
The high order model of film flow

\[ + \frac{23}{240} \gamma Y^3 - \frac{17}{480} \gamma Y + \frac{1}{4} Y^3 - \frac{1}{2} Y^2 + \frac{5}{24} Y \]

\[ + \epsilon \eta \kappa \bar{u} \left( \frac{3}{20} \gamma Y^5 - \frac{1}{2} \gamma Y^4 - \frac{23}{60} \gamma Y^3 + \frac{1}{4} \gamma Y^2 + \frac{13}{120} \gamma Y \right) \]

\[ - \frac{1}{2} Y^3 + Y^2 + \frac{11}{12} Y \]

\[ + \epsilon \eta \mathbf{K} \cdot \bar{u} \left( \frac{3}{10} \gamma Y^5 + \frac{17}{60} \gamma Y^3 \right) \]

\[ - \frac{19}{60} \gamma Y - Y^3 - \frac{5}{6} Y \]

\[ + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^3 + \bar{u}^3 + \beta^3, \gamma^2) ; \quad (46) \]

\[ v = \epsilon \nabla \eta \cdot \bar{u} \left( \gamma(-3Y^4 + Y^2)/4 + Y^2 \right) \]

\[ + \epsilon \eta \nabla \cdot \bar{u} \left( \gamma(Y^4 - Y^2)/4 - Y^2 \right) \]

\[ + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^3 + \bar{u}^3 + \beta^3, \gamma^2) ; \quad (47) \]

where \( g_n \) is the component of gravity in the direction normal to the substrate.

The error terms in these expressions involve \( \bar{u} = \| \bar{u} \| \), and then \( \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^p + \bar{u}^q + \beta^m, \gamma^n) \) is used to denote terms \( s \) for which either \( s/(\epsilon^p + \bar{u}^q + \beta^m) \) is bounded as \( (\epsilon, \bar{u}, \beta) \to 0 \), or \( s/\gamma^n \) is bounded as \( \gamma \to 0 \). The corresponding evolution to this order of accuracy is

\[ \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} = -\epsilon \nabla \cdot (\eta \bar{u}) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^3 + \bar{u}^3 + \beta^3, \gamma^2), \quad (48) \]

\[ R \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t} = (\epsilon^2 W \nabla \kappa + \mathcal{C} g_s) \left( \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{10} \gamma \right) - \epsilon \eta^{-1} \mathbf{K} \cdot \bar{u} \left( 3 - \frac{6}{5} \gamma \right) \]

\[ - \epsilon \eta^{-1} \bar{u} \left( \frac{3}{2} - \frac{3}{5} \gamma \right) - 3 \eta^{-2} \bar{u} \gamma \]

\[ + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^3 + \bar{u}^3 + \beta^3, \gamma^2). \quad (49) \]

Throughout \( \mathbf{K} \) is the curvature tensor which in the special coordinate system chosen to fit the substrate takes the diagonal form

\[ \mathbf{K} = \begin{pmatrix} k_1 & 0 \\ 0 & k_2 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (50) \]

Although derived in the special coordinate system, the above and later results are all written in a coordinate free form. The differential operators that appear are those of the substrate. In the special orthogonal coordinate system they involve the substrate scale factors \( m_i \) as in the Laplacian \( \Delta \).

To recover the original model, we need to set \( \gamma = 1 \) so that \( (34) \) reverts to the physically correct boundary condition. In the above asymptotic expansions every coefficient is a series in \( \gamma \), and the ratios of the coefficients of \( \gamma^{n-1} \) to \( \gamma^n \) in all such series appear to be greater than about 1.5 for \( n > 2 \).
The high order model of film flow

\[ \bar{u}/\eta^2 = g_s = \bar{u}/\eta \]

| \( \gamma \) | \( \bar{u}/\eta^2 \) | \( g_s \) | \( \bar{u}/\eta \) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 0 | +0.75000 | -1.50000 |
| 2 | -3.00000 | +0.10000 | +0.60000 |
| 3 | +0.60000 | -0.03286 | -0.10286 |
| 4 | -0.06857 | +0.00571 | 0 |
| 5 | 0 | -0.00032 | +0.00321 |
| 6 | +0.00128 | -0.00009 | -0.00024 |
| 7 | -0.00008 | +0.00002 | -0.00014 |
| 8 | -0.00004 | +0.00000 | +0.00003 |

Table 1: some higher order terms in the series expansions in \( \gamma \) of selected coefficients in the low-dimensional model (53) showing that these expansions are effectively summed at \( \gamma = 1 \).

from further calculation. That is, the radii of convergence of the various series’ in \( \gamma \) are greater than about 1.5. Table 1 shows the coefficients of the \( \gamma \) series of some terms in a higher order version of the low-dimensional model (49). Evidently the convergence of at least these series’ is very good—we may expect five decimal place accuracy from the shown terms and similar for the other coefficients. A similar argument on the convergence of such series is reported in [34, 32]. Hence we justifiably substitute \( \gamma = 1 \) into the series of every coefficient to obtain the physical model. Here we generally calculate every coefficient in the evolution from the terms in the series up to and including those of order \( \gamma^7 \). We also now set \( \epsilon = 1 \) to recover the unscaled model of the original dynamics. With higher order corrections in \( \gamma \) the low-dimensional model (49) then becomes the model (5) discussed briefly in the Introduction.

The low order expressions (45–47), when \( \gamma = \epsilon = 1 \), give approximations to the physical state of the fluid flow corresponding to a given \( \eta \), \( \bar{u}_1 \) and \( \bar{u}_2 \). Higher order expressions for the normal structure of the lateral velocity \( u \) are plotted in Figure 3. The solid curve shows the fundamental structure of the lateral velocity in the normal direction; qualitatively it is dominantly parabolic, but it differs in detail. It is indistinguishable from the trigonometric \( \frac{\pi}{2} \sin(\pi Y/2) \) expected from the correct linear problem [32], and thus is slightly faster at the free surface than the parabolic profile with the same flux. The dashed curve shows that in order to maintain the flux \( \bar{u} \) the flow \( u_i(Y) \) along a trough, \( k_i > 0 \), has to be proportionally faster. The dot-dashed curve shows that flow curving upwards, around an internal corner, is slower at the free surface and conversely faster for flow around an external

Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018
Figure 3: the normal structure of the lateral velocity field: solid, component $\propto \bar{u}$; dashed, component $\propto k_i u_i$; dot-dashed, component $\propto k_i u_i$; and dotted, $10 \times$ component $\propto W\nabla \kappa + G g_s$.

corner; part of this effect could be attributed to solid body rotation being the dissipation free mode for turning a corner. Lastly, the dotted curve, exaggerated by a factor of ten, shows the very small adjustment made to the profile when the flow is driven by gravity or lateral pressure gradients—observe the velocity at the free-surface will decrease slightly so that when lateral forces exactly balance the drag on the substrate the profile will be then the familiar parabolic Pouiseille flow. These show how just some of the physical processes affect the details of the physical fields and thus indirectly influence the evolution.

The shear stress on the substrate is of interest:

$$\tau_y = 2.467 \frac{\bar{u}}{\eta} + 0.1775 \eta (W\nabla \kappa + G g_s) + (\kappa I - 3.609 K) \cdot \bar{u}$$

$$+ \mathcal{O}(\partial^3 + \bar{u}^3 + G^{3/2}) .$$

The first term is just the viscous drag on a flat substrate. The next is the enhanced stress transmitted to the substrate when the fluid is driven
by a body force or pressure gradients, equivalently. The third and last term accounts for the effects of curvature on the velocity field affecting the velocity profile near the bed.

**Higher order model.** With computer algebra we readily compute a more accurate, more comprehensive higher order model. Atherton & Homsy [1] and Lange [19] have similarly considered high order models of thin film flows obtained via computer algebra but only in the lubrication approximation. Computing to the next order in spatial gradients $\epsilon$, velocity field $\bar{u}$, and gravitational forcing $\beta$, the model is written as follows:\(^2\)

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} &= -\nabla \cdot (\eta \bar{u}), \\
R \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t} &= -\left[ \frac{\pi^2}{4} \bar{u} + (2K + \kappa I) \cdot \frac{\bar{u}}{\eta} \right] \\
&\quad+ (3.2974 K \cdot K - 1.1080 \kappa K + 0.6487 \kappa_2 I) \cdot \bar{u} \\
&\quad+ \mathcal{W} \left[ \frac{\pi^2}{12} \nabla (\kappa + \eta \kappa_2 + \nabla^2 \eta) + 1.0779 \eta K \cdot \nabla \kappa - 0.4891 \eta \kappa \nabla \kappa \right] \\
&\quad+ \mathcal{G} \left[ \frac{\pi^2}{12} (g_s + g_n \nabla \eta) + 0.2554 \eta K \cdot g_s - 0.4891 \eta \kappa g_s \right] \\
&\quad- \mathcal{R} \left[ 1.3464 \bar{u} \cdot \nabla \bar{u} + (0.1483 \bar{u} \cdot \nabla \eta/\eta + 0.1577 \nabla \cdot \bar{u}) \bar{u} \right] \\
&\quad+ \frac{4.0930}{\eta^{0.8348}} \nabla \left[ \eta^{0.4886} \nabla \cdot \left( \eta^{0.3461} \bar{u} \right) \right] \\
&\quad- \frac{1}{\eta^{0.4377}} \nabla \times \left[ \frac{1}{\eta^{1.0623}} \nabla \times \left( \eta^{3/2} \bar{u} \right) \right] \\
&\quad+ 0.9377 \frac{1}{\eta} \nabla \eta \times (\nabla \times \bar{u}) - 2.4099 \frac{\bar{u}}{\eta^{0.8299}} \nabla^2 \left( \eta^{0.8299} \right) \\
&\quad+ \mathcal{O}(\nabla^4 + \bar{u}^4 + \bar{g}^2),
\end{align*}
\]

where the differential operators are those of the substrate coordinate system, noting in particular that [3] p599

\[
\nabla \times \bar{u} = e_3 \frac{1}{m_1 m_2} \left[ \frac{\partial (m_2 \bar{u}_2)}{\partial x_1} - \frac{\partial (m_1 \bar{u}_1)}{\partial x_2} \right],
\]

\[
\nabla \times (e_3 \omega) = e_1 \frac{1}{m_2} \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial x_2} - e_2 \frac{1}{m_1} \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial x_1},
\]

---

\(^2\)Some of the constants that appear here are tentatively identified: $1.0779 = (\pi^2 + 16)/24$, $0.4891 = (\pi^2 - 4)/12$, $2.4099 = \pi^2/7 + 1$ and perhaps $4.0930 = (8\pi^2 + 7)/21$.
\[ \bar{u} \cdot \nabla \bar{u} = e_1 \left[ \bar{u} \cdot \nabla \bar{u}_1 + \frac{\bar{u}_2}{m_1 m_2} \left( \frac{\partial m_1}{\partial x_1} - \frac{\partial m_2}{\partial x_2} \right) \right] \]
\[ + e_2 \left[ \bar{u} \cdot \nabla \bar{u}_2 + \frac{\bar{u}_1}{m_1 m_2} \left( \frac{\partial m_2}{\partial x_1} - \frac{\partial m_1}{\partial x_2} \right) \right]. \]

Observe that fluid is conserved by (52). In the above model (53) for the average velocity field we identify the apparent physical source of the terms in the various lines by the cryptic words to the left of the lines. Generally the viscous drag on the bed, surface tension forces and gravitational forcing show some subtle effects of the curvature of the substrate. In faster flows of higher Reynolds number, the most usually modelled part of the advection terms, the self-advection term \( \bar{u} \cdot \nabla \bar{u} \), has the definite coefficient 1.3464. But note that some of the self-advection is also encompassed within the \( (\nabla \cdot \bar{u}) \bar{u} \) term.

This modelling settles, see for example [27, Eqn.(19)] or [26, Eqn.(23)], the correct theoretical value for this and other coefficients. The lateral damping via viscosity seems most natural to express in a mixed form involving both the general grad-div operator and the curl-curl operator (recall the vector identity \( \nabla^2 \bar{u} = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \bar{u}) - \nabla \times (\nabla \times \bar{u}) \)). The involvement of fractional powers of the film thickness within the scope of these operators is a convenient way to reduce the number of terms within the equation; as yet we have not discerned any interesting physical significance to this arrangement. You may truncate the above model in a variety of consistent ways depending upon the parameter regimes of the application you are considering.

**Lubrication models** such as (1) may be derived from (52–53). Obtain simple low order accurate models simply by balancing the drag terms, dominantly \( (\pi^2/4) \bar{u}/\eta^2 \), against the driving forces expressed by the surface tension and gravity terms. This then expresses the average velocity field \( \bar{u} \) as a function of the film thickness \( \eta \). This is substituted into the conservation of fluid equation (52) to form a lubrication model. Higher order, more sophisticated models are formed by then taking into account the consequent time dependence of the weaker previously neglected terms in (53). Any resultant lubrication model is correct because rational mathematical modelling is transitive: a coarser model of a model of some dynamics is the same as the coarser model derived directly.

**Slower flow** occurs when in a specific application the velocity field is predominantly driven by surface tension acting because of curvature gradients, whence \( \bar{u} = \mathcal{O}(\nabla \kappa) \). The lateral velocities are significantly damped by vis-
cons drag on the substrate. In this case truncate (53) to

$$\mathcal{R} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t} = - \left[ \frac{\pi^2}{4} \frac{\bar{u}}{\eta^2} + (2K + \kappa I) \cdot \bar{u} \right]$$

$$+ \mathcal{W} \left[ \frac{\pi^2}{12} \nabla \kappa + 1.0779 \eta K \cdot \nabla \kappa - 0.4891 \eta \kappa \nabla \kappa \right]$$

$$+ \mathcal{G} \left[ \frac{\pi^2}{12} (g_s + g_n \nabla \eta) + 0.2554 \eta K \cdot g_s - 0.4891 \eta \kappa g_s \right]$$

$$+ \mathcal{O}(\nabla^4 + \bar{u}^2 + \mathcal{G}^2), \quad (54)$$

That is, you may adjust the dynamical model (53) to suit a particular application by choosing an appropriate consistent truncation.

**Order one gradients are encompassed** by the model (53). ‘Long wave’ models such as (53) and (54) are based upon the assumption that the lateral spatial gradients are small. We here quantify what a ‘small gradient’ means in this context following similar arguments for the Taylor model of shear dispersion [20, 42]. We modify a simpler version of the computer algebra derivation of Appendix A to find the centre manifold model of the linear dynamics about a stationary constant thickness fluid with surface tension but no gravity: $\eta = \eta_0 + \alpha \eta' + \mathcal{O}(\alpha^2)$ and $u = \alpha u' + \mathcal{O}(\alpha^2)$ where

$$\frac{\partial \eta'}{\partial t} = - \eta_0 \nabla \cdot \bar{u}' + \mathcal{O}(\alpha), \quad (55)$$

$$\frac{\partial \bar{u}'}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{\eta_0^2} \left[ -2.47 + 4.09 \eta_0^2 \nabla^2 + 0.734 \eta_0^4 \nabla^4 + 0.0611 \eta_0^6 \nabla^6 + 0.0223 \eta_0^8 \nabla^8 \right] \bar{u}'$$

$$+ \frac{\mathcal{W}}{\eta_0^3} \left[ .822 \eta_0^3 \nabla^3 + .116 \eta_0^5 \nabla^5 + .00168 \eta_0^7 \nabla^7 + .00298 \eta_0^9 \nabla^9 \right] \eta'$$

$$+ \mathcal{O}(\alpha, \nabla^{10}). \quad (56)$$

Evidently the linear dynamics are a formal expansion in $\eta_0^2 \nabla^2$. This expansion will converge when the lateral gradients are not too steep. Suppose locally a solution has spatial structure approximated by an exponential variation, say $\eta' \propto e^{\nu x}$, then the above expansions become power series expansion in $\eta_0^2 \nu^2$. The Domb-Sykes plot [20] of the ratio of successive coefficients in Figure 4 suggests that the power series converges for $\eta_0^2 \nu^2$ less than something roughly in the range 1/0.15 to 1/0.35. The constant sign of the coefficients

3The coefficients in the linear model (56) come from evaluating at $\gamma = 1$ an expansion with errors $\mathcal{O}(\gamma')$. The coefficients used here should be accurate as discussed earlier and demonstrated in Table II.

Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018
Figure 4: Domb-Sykes plot of the formal expansions \((56)\) extended to \(O(\nabla^{20})\), \(\times\) and +, showing that the radius of convergence, \(1/n \rightarrow 0\), may be roughly in the range \(1/0.15\) to \(1/0.35\). The \(\oplus\) Domb-Sykes plot is for the analogous lubrication model \((58)\) showing its radius of convergence is \(1/1.83\).

in \((56)\) indicates the convergence limiting singularity occurs for real steep gradients. But the strong period 3 oscillations in the Domb-Sykes plot of the ratio indicates a complex conjugate pair of singularities occur at an angle of \(\pm \pi/3\) to the real axis at nearly the same ‘distance’. The generalisation of the Domb-Sykes plot to cater for multiple comparable limiting singularities \([12]\) indicates that the three singularities are at a distance about \(1/0.28\); that is, for any quantity \(w\), the magnitude of the logarithmic derivative of the lateral structure

\[
|\nabla(\log w)| = \left| \frac{\nabla w}{w} \right| < \frac{1.9}{\eta},
\]

for the model to converge. For example, apply this limit to the surface thickness, \(w = \eta\), to deduce that the steepness of the fluid variations \(|\nabla \eta| < 1.9\), and that accurate approximation is achieved for steepnesses significantly less than this rough limit. Hence, steepnesses up to about one should be reasonably well represented by those low order terms appearing in the model \((53)\).

For interest, we also investigated the analogous but poorer spatial resolution of the lubrication model \([1]\) of thin film flow \([36]\) e.g.]. The analogous
high order but linear model is
\[
\frac{\partial \eta'}{\partial t} = \mathcal{W} \left[ -0.333 \eta^3 \nabla^4 + 0.4 \eta^5 \nabla^6 - 1.09 \eta^7 \nabla^8 - 2.00 \eta^9 \nabla^{10} - 3.67 \eta^{11} \nabla^{12} \right] \eta' + \mathcal{O}(\alpha, \nabla).
\]  
(58)

Continuing this expansion to errors $\mathcal{O}(\nabla^{30})$ see in its Domb-Sykes plot in Figure 4 that this power series converges only for much less rapid variations than the model (53). For example, the fluid thickness steepness $|\nabla \eta| < 0.74$, and so should be less than about a third, say, in order for the usual first term in the lubrication model $\eta_t = \frac{1}{3} \mathcal{W} \nabla \cdot (\eta^3 \nabla \eta)$ to be reasonable. Thus expect the model (53) developed here to resolve spatial structure roughly three times as fine as a lubrication model.

6 The model on various specific substrates

The model (52–53) is quite sophisticated. It is not obvious how it will appear in any particular geometry. Thus in this section we record the model for four common substrate shapes: flat, cylindrical, channel and spherical. The models are given in terms of elementary derivatives rather than vector operators for easier use in specific problems.

6.1 Flow on a flat substrate resolves a radial hydraulic jump

The simplest example is the flow on a flat substrate. We: show 1D wave transitions; simulate Faraday waves; explore divergence and vorticity in the linearised dynamics; and lastly demonstrate that modelling the inertia enables us to resolve hydraulic jumps in a radial flow.

On a flat substrate use a Cartesian coordinate system $(x, y)$ and let the mean lateral velocity $\bar{u}$ have components $\bar{u}$ and $\bar{v}$ respectively (note that in this subsection $y$ is a tangential coordinate, not a normal coordinate). The substrate has scale factors $m_1 = m_2 = 1$, and curvatures $k_1 = k_2 = 0$. The model (52–53) becomes, where $g_n$ is the direction cosine of gravity normal to the substrate into the fluid layer and where subscripts on $\eta$ denote partial derivatives,

\[
\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} \approx -\frac{\partial(\eta \bar{u})}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial(\eta \bar{v})}{\partial y},
\]  
(59)
The model on various specific substrates

\[ \mathcal{R} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t} \approx -\frac{\pi^2}{4} \frac{\bar{u}}{\eta^2} + \frac{\pi^2}{12} [\mathcal{G}(g_x + g_n \eta_x) + \mathcal{W}(\eta_{xx} + \eta_{xy})] \\
- \mathcal{R} \left[ 1.5041 \bar{u} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial x} + 1.3464 \bar{v} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial y} + 0.1577 \bar{u} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial y} + 0.1483 \bar{u} (\bar{u} \eta_x + \bar{v} \eta_y) \right] \\
+ \left[ 4.0930 \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}}{\partial y^2} + 3.0930 \frac{\partial^2 \bar{v}}{\partial x \partial y} + 4.8333 \frac{\eta_x \partial \bar{u}}{\eta} + \frac{\eta_y \partial \bar{u}}{\eta} + 1.9167 \frac{\eta_x \partial \bar{v}}{\eta} + 1.9167 \frac{h_y \partial \bar{u}}{\eta} \right] \\
+ \left( -0.5033 \frac{\eta_x^2}{\eta^2} - \frac{\eta_{yy}}{2\eta} + 0.1061 \frac{\eta_y^2}{\eta^2} - 0.5834 \frac{\eta_{xx}}{\eta} \right) \bar{u} \\
+ \left( 0.6094 \frac{\eta_y \eta_x}{\eta^2} - 0.0833 \frac{\eta_{xy}}{\eta} \right) \bar{v} \right], \quad (60)

\[ \mathcal{R} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial t} \approx -\frac{\pi^2}{4} \frac{\bar{v}}{\eta^2} + \frac{\pi^2}{12} [\mathcal{G}(g_y + g_n \eta_y) + \mathcal{W}(\eta_{xy} + \eta_{yy})] \\
- \mathcal{R} \left[ 1.3464 \bar{v} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial x} + 1.5041 \bar{v} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial y} + 0.1577 \bar{v} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial x} + 0.1483 \bar{v} (\bar{u} \eta_x + \bar{v} \eta_y) \right] \\
+ \left[ \frac{\partial^2 \bar{v}}{\partial x^2} + 4.0930 \frac{\partial^2 \bar{v}}{\partial y^2} + 3.0930 \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}}{\partial x \partial y} + 4.8333 \frac{\eta_y \partial \bar{v}}{\eta} + \frac{\eta_x \partial \bar{v}}{\eta} + 1.9167 \frac{\eta_x \partial \bar{u}}{\eta} + 1.9167 \frac{h_y \partial \bar{u}}{\eta} \right] \\
+ \left( -0.5033 \frac{\eta_x^2}{\eta^2} - \frac{\eta_{xx}}{2\eta} + 0.1061 \frac{\eta_y^2}{\eta^2} - 0.5834 \frac{\eta_{yy}}{\eta} \right) \bar{v} \\
+ \left( 0.6094 \frac{\eta_y \eta_x}{\eta^2} - 0.0833 \frac{\eta_{xy}}{\eta} \right) \bar{u} \right], \quad (61)

Observe that the substrate drag, gravitational and surface tension terms are quite straightforward. However, the self-advection terms exhibit subtle interactions between the components of the velocity fields due to the specific shape of the velocity profiles. Further subtleties occur in the viscous terms which not only show explicitly a differential lateral dispersion of momentum, but also a complex interaction with variations in the free surface shape.
Figure 5: two instants of a 2D fluid falling down a vertical plane substrate with Reynolds number $R = 20$, gravity and Weber number $G = W = 3$. The fluid thickness $\eta$ as a function of distance $x$ shows that white noise at the inlet $x = 0$ is selectively amplified to solitary pulses that move and merge: the close pair of pulses near $x \approx 130$ in (a) at time $t = 145$ move and merge to the large pulse at $x \approx 165$ in (b) at time $t = 160$.

**Wave transitions:** this model resolves 1D wave transitions such as those reported by Chang, Demekhin and Saprikin [8]. Their parabolicised Navier-Stokes equation (1) corresponds to our non-dimensional Navier-Stokes equation (22) with $G = W = 3$ and our Reynolds number $R = 15\delta$ for Chang et al’s $\delta$. See the corresponding simulations of our model (59–60) restricted to 2D flow (as in [22]) and forced by white noise at the inlet, although the forcing here is a little larger than that of Chang et al. [8]: the evolution and merger of the solitary pulses are qualitatively the same as that simulated by Chang et al. The only noticeable difference is that the retained dissipation in our modelling almost entirely removes the surface tension waves in front of the solitary pulses.

**Faraday waves** Vigorous vertical vibration of a layer of fluid on a flat plate leads to a rich repertoire of spatio-temporal dynamics [22, 25, e.g.], such as those shown in Figure 6. We choose the reference velocity to be the shallow water wave speed $U = \sqrt{gH}$ then the non-dimensional parameters $R =$
Figure 6: two instants of unsteady waves on a vertically vibrating flat plate simulating the Faraday waves vacillating between ordered patterns (left) and irregular patterns (right): for mean fluid thickness 1, no surface tension, \( R = G = 40 \), and normal gravity modulated by the factor \( 1 + 0.55 \sin(2.2t) \).

\( \mathcal{G} \). Achieve the vertical vibration simply by modulating the normal gravity in (50–51) by, for example, the factor \( 1 + 0.55 \sin(2.2t) \). This frequency is roughly twice that of waves with wavelength 5 and see in Figure 6 that these waves are generated by a Mathieu-like instability. But involved nonlinear interactions lead to complex evolution of the spatial pattern of waves.

**Vorticity and divergence** We explore some more of the dynamics described by the model (59–61). Consider the linearised dynamics of small variations on a film of nearly constant thickness: \( \eta = 1 + h(x, y, t) \) where \( h \) and the lateral velocity \( \mathbf{u} \) are small. The linearised versions of (59–61) are:

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} &= -\bar{u}_x - \bar{v}_y, \\
R \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t} &= -\frac{\pi^2}{4} \bar{u} + \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left[ G(g_x + g_n h_x) + \mathcal{W}(h_{xxx} + h_{xyy}) \right] \\
&\quad + (1 + \varpi) \bar{u}_{xx} + \bar{u}_{yy} + \varpi \bar{v}_{xy}, \\
R \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial t} &= -\frac{\pi^2}{4} \bar{v} + \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left[ G(g_y + g_n h_y) + \mathcal{W}(h_{xxy} + h_{yyy}) \right] \\
&\quad + \bar{v}_{xx} + (1 + \varpi) \bar{v}_{yy} + \varpi \bar{u}_{xy},
\end{align*}
\]

where \( \varpi = 3.0930 \) (the name \( \varpi \) is chosen because its value is coincidentally close to \( \pi \)).

- First take \( \partial_y \) of the second from \( \partial_x \) of the third to deduce equation (7) governing the mean normal vorticity \( \bar{\omega} = \bar{v}_x - \bar{u}_y \). Observe that linearly it is decoupled from the other components of the fluid dynamics: the mean normal vorticity simply decays by drag on the substrate and by lateral diffusion.

*Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018*
Conversely, the first of the linearised equations together with the divergence of the second two equations decouple from the mean normal vorticity to give (8–9) for the film thickness and the mean flow divergence
\[ \dot{\delta} = \bar{u}_x + \bar{v}_y \]
as discussed briefly in the Introduction. A little analysis shows that in the absence of gravity (\( G = 0 \)) this model predicts damped waves for lateral wavenumbers
\[ a > a_c = \frac{\pi/2}{\sqrt{\pi} \sqrt{RW/3 - (1 + \omega)}}. \]

Numerical solutions of the physical eigenvalue problem agree closely with this for \( RW > 30 \) even though the critical wavenumber is as large as \( a_c \approx 0.65 \). Recall that the limit (57) on logarithmic derivatives in this model implies the wavenumber must be less than \( 1.9/\eta \); here the critical \( a_c \approx 0.65 \) on a fluid of depth near 1 is comfortably within the limit. Waves cannot be captured by the single mode of a lubrication model such as (1).

Lastly, in this linear approximation, lateral components of gravity just induce a mean flow in the direction of the lateral component.

Substrate curvature and the nonlinear effects of advection and large-scale variations in the thickness modify this description of the basic dynamics of the fluid film.

**Radial flow with axisymmetry:** turn on a tap producing a steady stream into a basin with a flat bottom: you will see the flow spreads out in a thin layer, then at some radial distance it undergoes a hydraulic jump to a thicker layer spreading more slowly [41, e.g.]. A model with inertia is essential for modelling such a hydraulic jump. Here use polar coordinates \((r, \theta)\), whence the substrate has zero curvature \( k_1 = k_2 = 0 \), but scale factors \( m_1 = 1 \) and \( m_2 = r \). Then describe axisymmetric dynamics by neglecting angular flow and variations while retaining the radial velocity \( \bar{u} \):

\[
\eta_t = -\frac{1}{r} \partial_r (r \bar{u} \eta),
\]

\[
\mathcal{R} \ddot{\bar{u}}_t = \frac{\pi^2}{4} \frac{\bar{u}}{\eta^2} + 1.4167 \frac{\eta}{r^2} \bar{u} + \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left[ \mathcal{G} \bar{n} \eta_r + \mathcal{W} \partial_r \left( \frac{1}{r} \partial_r (r \eta_r) \right) \right]
\]

\[
- \mathcal{R} \left[ 1.5041 \bar{u} \ddot{u}_r + 0.1577 \frac{1}{r} \bar{u}^2 + 0.1483 \frac{\eta}{\eta} \ddot{u}_r \right]
\]

\[
+ \left[ 4.0930 \partial_r \left( \frac{1}{r} \partial_r (r \bar{u}) \right) + 4.8333 \frac{\eta}{\eta} \bar{u}_r + \left( 0.1061 \frac{\eta^2}{\eta^2} - 0.5834 \frac{\eta_{rr}}{\eta^2} \right) \bar{u} \right]
\]

Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018
Figure 7: steady axisymmetric radial flow on a flat substrate: (a) free surface thickness \( \eta \) and mean velocity \( \bar{u} \) versus radius \( r \); (b) streamlines showing a recirculation under the hydraulic jump at \( r \approx 33 \). The Reynolds number \( \mathcal{R} = 15 \), gravity number \( \mathcal{G} = 1 \) and no surface tension, \( \mathcal{W} = 0 \).

The above equations may be integrated in time to see evolving dynamics in a radial flow. Here we focus only upon steady solutions obtained by fixing an inlet condition of flow leaving the faucet with prescribed thickness and velocity; in Figure 7 the flow has \( \eta = 2.25 \) and \( \bar{u} = 2.62 \) at radius \( r = 5 \), and exiting the domain with some prescribed mean velocity at large distance, \( \bar{u} = 0.16 \) at \( r = 50 \) in Figure 7. Newton iteration then finds the solutions for fluid thickness \( \eta(r) \) and mean velocity \( \bar{u}(r) \) shown in Figure 7(a). See the flow spreads out in a thin (\( \eta \approx 1 \)) fast flow before undergoing a hydraulic jump at distance \( r \approx 33 \) to a thick (\( \eta \approx 4 \)) slow flow. The streamlines in Figure 7(b), obtained from the velocity fields (46–47), show the presence of a recirculation under the jump as also seen in the experiments cited by Watanabe, Putkaradze and Bohr [41]. Our model expressed in depth averaged quantities resolves such nontrivial internal flow structures.

The steady flow in Figure 7 is near the limit of applicability of the model. Although the free surface looks steep in the figure, the slope is everywhere
less than 1.08 which, although less than the limit identified earlier, is about as large as one could reasonably use. For interest, other lateral derivatives have the following ranges: \( \eta_{rr} \in [-0.88, 0.74] \), \( \tilde{u}_r \in [-0.15, 0] \) and \( \tilde{u}_{rr} \in [-0.08, 0.11] \). We also find the hydraulic jump with recirculation in less extreme flows than the one shown in Figure 4. However, we have not yet found any flows with an extra eddy at the surface of the hydraulic jump as reported for experiments with larger jumps [41 §2.1].

6.2 Flow outside a cylinder resolves evolving beads

Thin film flow on the outside or the inside of circular cylinders or tubes are important in a number of biological and engineering applications. For example, Jensen [15] studied the effects of surface tension on a thin liquid layer lining the interior of a cylindrical and curving tube and derived a corresponding evolution equation in the lubrication approximation. Our model [52, 53] could be used to extend his modelling to flows with inertia. Similarly, Atherton & Homsy [2], Kalliadasis & Chang [16] and Kliakhandler et al. [18] considered coating flow down vertical fibres and similarly derived nonlinear lubrication models. Here we record the model [52, 53] as it appears in full for flows both inside and outside a circular cylinder. The specific model for a circular tube which is bent and twisted is left for later work.

Use a coordinate system with \( s \) the axial coordinate and \( \theta \) the angular coordinate; denote the averaged axial and angular velocities by \( \tilde{u} \) with components by \( \tilde{u}_r \) and \( \tilde{v}_\theta \), respectively. The substrate has scale factors \( m_1 = 1 \) and \( m_2 = R \) where \( R \) is the radius of the cylinder, and curvatures \( k_1 = 0 \) and \( k_2 = \mp 1/R \) where the upper/lower sign is for flow outside/inside of the cylinder. Then the model on a cylinder is, where here \( \zeta = \eta \pm \eta^2/(2R) \),

\[
\frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} \approx -\frac{\partial(\eta \tilde{u})}{\partial s} - \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial(\eta \tilde{v})}{\partial \theta},
\]

\[
\mathcal{R} \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{u}}{\partial t \partial s} \approx -\frac{\pi^2}{4} \frac{\tilde{u}}{\eta^2} \pm \frac{\tilde{u}}{R \eta} - 0.6487 \frac{\tilde{u}}{R^2} + \mathcal{W} \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left[ \frac{1}{R^2} \eta_s + \eta_{ss} + \frac{1}{R^2} \eta_{s\theta} \right]
\]

\[
+ \mathcal{G} \left[ \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left( g_s + g_n \eta_s \right) \pm 0.4891 \frac{g_s \eta}{R} \right]
\]

\[
- \mathcal{R} \left[ 1.5041 \frac{\tilde{u}}{\eta} \frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial s} + 1.3464 \frac{\tilde{v}}{R} \frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial \theta} + 0.1577 \frac{\tilde{u}}{R} \frac{\partial \tilde{v}}{\partial \theta} \right]
\]

\[
+ 0.1483 \frac{\tilde{u}}{\eta} \left( \tilde{u}_n + \frac{\tilde{v}}{R} \eta_\theta \right)
\]

\[
+ \left[ 4.0930 \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{u}}{\partial s^2} + \frac{1}{R^2} \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{u}}{\partial \theta^2} + 3.0930 \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{v}}{\partial s \partial \theta} \right]
\]
The model on various specific substrates

\[
\begin{align*}
\eta s & \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} + \frac{\eta s}{R^2 \eta} \frac{\partial v}{\partial \theta} + 1.9167 \frac{\eta s}{R \eta} \frac{\partial v}{\partial \theta} + 1.9167 \frac{\eta s}{R \eta} \frac{\partial v}{\partial s} \\
+ \left( -0.5033 \frac{\eta^2}{R^2 \eta^2} - \frac{\eta s}{2R^2 \eta} + 0.1061 \frac{\eta^2}{\eta^2} - 0.5834 \frac{\eta s}{\eta} \right) & \ddot{u} \\
+ \left( 0.6094 \frac{\eta s}{R \eta} - 0.0833 \frac{\eta s}{R \eta} \right) & \ddot{v},
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\mathcal{R} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial t} \approx - \frac{\pi^2}{4} \frac{\bar{v}}{\eta^2} \pm 3 \frac{\bar{v}}{R^2 \eta} - 2.8381 \frac{\bar{v}}{R^2} + \mathcal{W} \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left[ \frac{1}{R^2} \frac{\eta}{R} + \frac{1}{R} \frac{\eta s}{R} + \frac{1}{R^2} \frac{\eta s}{R} \right] \\
+ \mathcal{G} \left[ \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left( g_n + g_\theta \frac{\eta}{R} \right) \pm 0.2337 \frac{g_\theta \eta}{R} \right] \\
- \mathcal{R} \left[ 1.3464 \frac{\bar{v}}{R} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial s} + 1.5041 \frac{\bar{v}}{R} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial \theta} + 0.1577 \frac{\bar{v}}{R} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial s} \\
+ 0.1483 \frac{\bar{v}}{\eta} \left( \bar{u} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial \theta} + \bar{v} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial \theta} \right) \right] \\
+ \left[ \frac{\partial^2 \bar{v}}{\partial s^2} + 4.0930 \frac{1}{R^2} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{v}}{\partial \theta^2} + 3.0930 \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{v}}{\partial s \partial \theta} \\
+ 4.8333 \frac{\eta_\theta}{R^2 \eta} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\eta s}{\eta} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial s} + 1.9167 \frac{\eta s}{R \eta} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial \theta} + 1.9167 \frac{\eta s}{R \eta} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial s} \\
+ \left( -0.5033 \frac{\eta^2}{\eta^2} - \frac{\eta s}{2\eta} + 0.1061 \frac{\eta^2}{\eta^2} - 0.5834 \frac{\eta s}{\eta} \right) \ddot{u} \\
+ \left( 0.6094 \frac{\eta s}{R \eta} - 0.0833 \frac{\eta s}{R \eta} \right) \ddot{v} \right],
\]

For a nontrivial example, see the beading of fluid on a thin fibre in Figures 1 and 2: gravity first rather quickly moves a lump of fluid to below the horizontal cylinder of the fibre; thereafter, surface tension more slowly gathers more fluid into the beading fluid which beads both below and above the fibre; gravity causes the fluid bead to stabilise off the centre of the fibre (curiously, there is more in the bead above the fibre than in the original lump); and finally the bead slides along the fibre as it is angled downwards a little. The three time scales in this evolution, the fast gravity forced flow, the slower surface tension driven flow, and the even longer term sliding, are captured in this model.

Simply obtain axisymmetric flows by setting to zero any derivatives with respect to \( \theta \), and also setting \( g_n = g_\theta = 0 \) as non-zero values would break the symmetry. The equation for \( \bar{v} \) then just describes the decay of angular flow.
around the cylinder so also set $\bar{v} = 0$. Thus the axisymmetric model is

$$\frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} \approx -\frac{\partial (\eta \bar{u})}{\partial s},$$
(65)

$$\mathcal{R} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t} \approx -\frac{\pi^2 \bar{u}}{4 \eta^2} \pm \frac{\bar{u}}{R \eta} - 0.6487 \frac{\bar{u}}{R^2} + \mathcal{W} \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left[ \frac{1}{R^2} \eta_s + \eta_{ss} \right]$$

$$+ G \left[ \frac{\pi^2}{12} g_s \pm 0.4891 \frac{g_s \eta}{R} \right]$$

$$- \mathcal{R} \left[ 1.5041 \frac{\bar{u}}{s} + 0.1483 \frac{\bar{u}}{\eta} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial s} \right] + \left[ 4.0930 \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}}{\partial s^2} \right]$$

$$+ 4.8333 \frac{\eta_s}{\eta} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial s} + \left( 0.1061 \frac{\eta_s^2}{\eta^2} - 0.5834 \frac{\eta_{ss}}{\eta} \right) \bar{u} \right] ;$$
(66)

recall that the upper/lower sign is for flow outside/inside of the cylinder.

As in lubrication models [36, p254], see that surface tension on the cylinder acts through the term $\mathcal{W} \eta_s/R^2$ in (66) or (63) rather like a radially outwards body force such as the term $G g_n \eta_s$ in (63).

### 6.3 Flow about a small channel grows vortices

Consider the flow on a substrate with a small channel aligned downhill. We compare this viscous flow with the high Reynolds number experiments of Bousmar [5, 4] who modelled turbulent flow over flood plains and channels in a flume with water of variable depth but of the order of 5 cm deep.

First create the coordinate system. Bousmar’s channel and flood plain had constant shape along the stream, the depth only varied across the stream. Thus here let $s = x_1$ be the along stream coordinate, $r = x_2$ be the horizontal distance across the stream on the substrate, and $y$ measure distance normal to the substrate. The curved substrate is located a distance $d(r) > 0$ from the $sr$-plane in a normal direction, see the example $d(r)$ in the middle curve of Figure 8(a). Using, for this subsection, $\mathbf{j}$, $\mathbf{k}$ and $\mathbf{i}$ as the vertical and two horizontal unit vectors, the unit vectors, scale factors and curvature of the substrate coordinate system are

$$e_s = \mathbf{k}, \quad e_r = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + d'^2}} (\mathbf{i} - d' \mathbf{j}), \quad e_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + d'^2}} (d' \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j}),$$

4There is no good reason for using the variable name $r$ for distance horizontally across the stream, only that it is next to the letter $s$ in the alphabet. In this subsection the variable $r$ is not used to indicate any sort of radius.

5Useful relationships are: $m_s^2 = 1 + d'^2$, $d'' = -k_r m_r^3$, and $m_r' = -d' k_r m_r^2$.

Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018
\[ m_s = 1, \quad m_r = \sqrt{1 + d^2}, \]
\[ k_s = 0, \quad k_r = -\frac{d''}{(1 + d'^2)^{3/2}}. \]

This expression for the curvature \( k_r \) is well known. Note: the normal coordinate \( y \) is not the vertical coordinate, and so a flat fluid surface located at, say, the location of the reference \( sr \)-plane is represented by the varying \( y = d(1 + d'^2)^{1/2} \). Similarly nontrivial, as the channel slopes down at an angle \( \vartheta = 0.1 \) radians to the horizontal and not sideways tilted, the gravitational forcing is in the direction
\[ \hat{g} = \sin \vartheta \mathbf{e}_s + \frac{d'}{m_r} \cos \vartheta \mathbf{e}_r - \frac{1}{m_r} \cos \vartheta \mathbf{e}_n. \]  

This coordinate system suits any flow where the substrate is almost arbitrarily curved in only one direction, not just flow along a channel.\(^6\)

Second, computer algebra gives the model on this substrate as, where here \( \zeta = \eta - k_r \eta^2/2 \),
\[ \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} \approx -\frac{\partial (\eta \bar{u})}{\partial s} - \frac{1}{m_r} \frac{\partial (\eta \bar{v})}{\partial r}, \]  
\[ \mathcal{R} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t} \approx -\frac{\pi^2}{4} \frac{\bar{u}}{\eta^2} - k_r \frac{\bar{u}}{\eta} - 0.6487 k_r^2 \bar{u} \]
\[ + W \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left[ k_r^2 \eta_s + \eta_{sss} + \frac{1}{m_r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( \frac{1}{m_r} \frac{\partial \eta_s}{\partial r} \right) \right] \]
\[ + G \left[ \frac{\pi^2}{12} (g_s + g_n \eta_s) - 0.4891 k_r g_s \eta \right] \]
\[ - \mathcal{R} \left[ 1.5041 \bar{u} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial s} + 1.3464 \bar{v} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{m_r \partial r} + 0.1577 \frac{\bar{u}}{m_r} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial r} \right. \]
\[ + 0.1483 \frac{\bar{u}}{\eta} \left( \bar{u} \eta_s + \bar{v} m_r \eta_r \right) \]
\[ + \left[ 4.0930 \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}}{\partial s^2} + \frac{1}{m_r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( \frac{1}{m_r} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial r} \right) + 3.0930 \frac{1}{m_r} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{v}}{\partial s \partial r} \right. \]
\[ + 4.8333 \frac{\eta_s}{\eta} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial s} + \frac{\eta_r}{m_r^2 \eta} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial r} + 1.9167 \frac{\eta_s}{m_r \eta} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial r} + 1.9167 \frac{\eta_r}{m_r \eta} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial s} \]
\[ \mathcal{R} \left. \right]. \]

\(^6\)The model \((68–70)\) reduces to that for the flow outside/inside a cylinder, \((62–64)\), when \( r = \theta \) and the substrate scale factors are set to \( k_r = \mp 1/R \) and \( m_r = R \) (only the direction of gravity \((67)\) is incorrect). This algebraic connection occurs despite the cylinder not being strictly encompassed by a depth \( d(r) \) below any reference plane. Indeed the beading flow on a cylinder shown in Figures \[\text{1 and 2}\] was actually obtained using code for the model \((68–70)\) of this subsection.

Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018
\[ + \left( -0.5033 \frac{\eta_r^2}{m_r^2 \eta^2} - \frac{1}{2 \eta m_r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( \frac{\eta_r}{m_r} \right) \right) + 0.1061 \frac{\eta_r^2}{\eta^2} - 0.5834 \frac{\eta_{ss}}{\eta} \right) \bar{u} \\
+ \left( 0.6094 \frac{\eta_r \eta_s}{m_r \eta^2} - 0.0833 \frac{\eta_{sr}}{m_r \eta} \right) \bar{v} \right], \tag{69} \]

\[ \mathcal{R} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial t} \approx - \frac{\pi^2}{4} \frac{\bar{v}}{\eta^2} - k_r \frac{3 \bar{v}}{\eta} - 2.8381 k_r^2 \bar{v} + \mathcal{W} \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left[ \frac{k_r'}{m_r} + \frac{k_r^2}{m_r} \right] \\
+ \eta_{ssr} \frac{1}{m_r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( \frac{1}{m_r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left\{ \eta_r \right\} \right) + 2.7159 \frac{\eta k_r k_r'}{m_r} \\
+ \mathcal{G} \left[ \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left( g_r + g_n \frac{\eta_r}{m_r} \right) - 0.2337 k_r g_r \eta \right] \\
- \mathcal{R} \left[ 1.3464 \frac{\bar{v}}{\bar{s}} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial s} + 1.5041 \frac{\bar{v}}{m_r} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial r} + 0.1577 \bar{v} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial s} \\
+ 0.1483 \frac{\bar{v}}{\eta} \left( \bar{u} \eta_s + \bar{v} \frac{\eta_r}{m_r} \right) \right] \\
+ \left[ \frac{\partial^2 \bar{v}}{\partial s^2} + 4.0930 \frac{1}{m_r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( \frac{1}{m_r} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial r} \right) + 3.0930 \frac{1}{m_r} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}}{\partial s \partial r} \right] \\
+ 4.8333 \frac{\eta_r}{m_r^2 \eta^2} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial r} + \frac{\eta_s}{\eta} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial s} + 1.9167 \frac{\eta_s}{m_r \eta} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial r} + 1.9167 \frac{\eta_r}{m_r \eta} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial s} \\
+ \left( -0.5033 \frac{\eta_r^2}{\eta^2} - \frac{\eta_{ss}}{2 \eta} + 0.1061 \frac{\eta_r^2}{m_r \eta^2} - 0.5834 \frac{1}{\eta m_r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( \frac{\eta_r}{m_r} \right) \right) \bar{v} \\
+ \left( 0.6094 \frac{\eta_r \eta_s}{m_r \eta^2} - 0.0833 \frac{\eta_{sr}}{m_r \eta} \right) \bar{u} \right], \tag{70} \]

Lastly, as expected, simulations show that fast flow develops in the deeper channel and slow flow on the shallow regions, see Figure 8(a). However, the shear in the mean downstream velocity, Figure 8(a), is unstable to relatively weak horizontal vortices that grow in the shear and travel downstream, see them in the mean lateral velocity shown in Figure 8(b);\textsuperscript{7} analogous notable vortices were observed by Bousmar [5, 4] in their turbulent flows. As also noted by Bousmar, see that the vortices here similarly extend into the shallows, albeit weakly.

\textsuperscript{7}The vortices apparent in Figure 8(b) fill the computational domain and thus may be an artifact of the domain size. However, otherwise identical simulations on twice the channel length show twice as many vortices, whereas simulations in a domain half as long again show a rich modulation among vortices of roughly the shown length. We deduce that the displayed vortices are not solely an artifact of the computational domain.

Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018
Figure 8: (a) an example channel is three times as deep in the middle as the surrounding shallows, blue; the substrate has curvature $k_r$, green; and the fluid flow is nearly ten times as fast in the channel as in the shallows, red; (b) this base flow is unstable to superimposed travelling vortices on the shear near the sides of the channel as shown by the cross-channel velocity. Here $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{G} = 80$ on a substrate sloping down at angle $\vartheta = 0.1$ radians, and with no surface tension, $\mathcal{W} = 0$.

Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018
The simulation reported here has a change in depth of the substrate sufficiently big so that the nonlinear nature of the derived model is certainly essential: Decré & Baret [10, p155] comment that nonlinear theories are needed in viscous flow if the change in substrate profile is bigger than half the shallow fluid depth; here the factor is about three, that is, six times the linear limit identified by Decré & Baret.

6.4 Flow on the outside of a sphere

For flow on the outside of a sphere we use a coordinate system with $\theta$ the co-latitude coordinate, $\phi$ the azimuthal (longitude) coordinate, and co-latitude and azimuthal velocity components $\bar{u}$ and $\bar{v}$ respectively. The substrate has scale factors $m_1 = R$ and $m_2 = R \sin \theta$ where $R$ is the radius of the sphere, and curvatures $k_1 = k_2 = -1/R$. Note: on a sphere every point is an umbilical point; nonetheless, the earlier analysis is valid in this conventional spherical coordinate system. Then the model on a sphere is, where here $\zeta = \eta + \eta^2/R + \eta^3/(3R^2)$,

$$
\frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} \approx \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial (\eta \bar{u})}{\partial \theta} - \frac{1}{R \sin \theta} \frac{\partial (\cos \theta \eta \bar{v})}{\partial \phi},
$$

(71)

$$
R \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t} \approx \frac{\pi^2}{4} \frac{\bar{u}}{\eta^2} - 6.4718 \frac{\bar{u}}{R} + G \left[ \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left( g_\theta + \frac{g_n}{R} \eta \right) + 0.7228 \frac{g_\theta \eta}{R} \right]
$$

$$
+ \mathcal{W} \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left[ \frac{\cos 2\theta}{R^3 \sin^2 \theta} \eta \theta + \frac{1}{R^3 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\sin \theta \eta \theta) \right]
$$

$$
+ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \frac{1}{R^3 \sin^2 \theta} \eta \phi \phi \right)
$$

$$
- R \left[ 1.5041 \frac{\bar{u}}{R} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial \theta} + 1.3464 \left( \frac{\bar{v}}{R \sin \theta} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial \phi} - \frac{\cos \theta}{R \sin \theta} \bar{u}^2 \right) \right]
$$

$$
+ 0.1577 \left( \frac{\bar{u}}{R \sin \theta} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial \phi} + \frac{\cos \theta}{R \sin \theta} \bar{v} \right)
$$

$$
+ 0.1483 \frac{\bar{u}}{\eta} \left( \frac{\bar{u}}{R} \eta \theta + \frac{\bar{v}}{R \sin \theta} \eta \phi \right)
$$

$$
+ \left[ 4.0930 \frac{1}{R^2} \left( \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial \theta} - \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} \bar{u} \right) + \frac{1}{R^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}}{\partial \phi^2} \right]
$$

$$
+ 3.0930 \frac{1}{R^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{v}}{\partial \theta \partial \phi} - 5.0930 \frac{\cos \theta}{R^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial \phi} + 4.8333 \frac{\eta \theta}{R^2 \eta} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial \phi} + \frac{\eta \phi}{R^2 \eta} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial \phi} + 1.9167 \frac{\eta \phi}{R^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial \phi}
$$

Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018
The model on various specific substrates

\[ R \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial t} \approx - \pi^2 \frac{\bar{v}}{4 \eta^2} + \frac{4 \bar{v}}{R \eta} - 3.3788 \frac{\bar{v}}{R^2} - \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{R^2 \sin^2 \theta} \bar{v} \]

\[ + G \left[ \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left( g_\phi + g_\eta \frac{\eta}{R \sin \theta} \right) + 0.7228 \frac{g_\phi \eta}{R} \right] \]

\[ + W \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left[ \frac{2}{R^2 \sin \theta} - \frac{1}{R^3 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \eta \phi \phi \right) - \frac{1}{R^3 \sin^3 \theta} \eta \phi \right] \]

\[ - \mathcal{R} \left[ 1.3464 \frac{\bar{u} \partial \bar{v}}{R \partial \theta} + 1.5041 \left( \frac{1}{R \sin \theta} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial \phi} + \frac{\cos \theta}{R \sin \theta} \frac{\bar{u}}{R} \right) \bar{v} \right. \]

\[ + 0.1577 \frac{\bar{v}}{\eta} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial \theta} + 0.1483 \frac{\bar{v}}{\eta} \left( \frac{\bar{u}}{R \sin \theta} + \frac{\bar{v}}{R \sin \theta} \eta \phi \right) \]

\[ + \left[ \frac{1}{R^2 \partial \theta^2} + \frac{\cos \theta}{R^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial \theta} + 4.0930 \frac{1}{R^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{v}}{\partial \phi^2} \right. \]

\[ + 5.0930 \frac{\cos \theta}{R^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial \phi} + 3.0930 \frac{1}{R^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}}{\partial \theta \partial \phi} \]

\[ + 4.8333 \frac{\eta_\phi}{R^2 \sin^2 \theta \eta \phi \phi} + \frac{\eta_\eta}{R^2 \eta \theta \phi} + 1.9167 \frac{\eta_\theta}{R^2 \sin \theta \eta \phi} \]

\[ + 1.9167 \frac{\eta_\phi}{R^2 \sin \theta \eta \phi} \]

\[ + \left( -0.5033 \frac{\eta_\phi^2}{R^2 \eta^2} - \frac{\eta_\eta}{2R^2 \eta} + 0.1061 \frac{\eta_\phi^2}{R^2 \sin^2 \theta \eta} \right. \]

\[ - 0.5834 \frac{\eta_\phi \eta_\phi}{R^2 \sin^2 \theta \eta} - \frac{5 \cos \theta}{2R^2 \sin \theta \eta} \eta_\theta \right) \bar{v} \]

\[ + \left( 0.6094 \frac{\eta_\phi \eta_\theta}{R^2 \sin \theta \eta^2} - 0.0833 \frac{\eta_\phi \eta_\eta}{R^2 \sin \theta \eta} \right. \]

\[ + 4.9167 \frac{\cos \theta}{R^2 \sin^2 \theta \eta} \eta_\phi \right) \bar{u} \]
These models look horribly complicated but recall that depending upon the application, simpler truncations are often appropriate; two such examples are (5) and (54). These models have the assurance of centre manifold theory that all physical effects are included to the controllable specified accuracy.

7 Conclusion

We systematically analysed the Navier-Stokes equations for the flow of a thin layer of a Newtonian fluid over an arbitrarily curved substrate. The resulting general model (52–53) resolves the dynamical effects and interactions of inertia, surface tension, and a gravitational body force as well as the substrate curvature. We presented evidence towards the end of §5 that this model applies to flows where the lateral gradients of the fluid thickness are somewhat less than 2, see the more precise limit (57), and (in §4) where the time scales of the flow are reasonably longer than the decay of the second lateral shear mode, that is, longer than $0.045 \frac{\eta^2}{\nu}$. The centre manifold paradigm for dynamical modelling is based upon actual solutions of the governing Navier-Stokes equations, parametrised in terms of cross-layer averages. Further the paradigm implicitly arranges the interaction terms between various physical processes to support flexible truncation of the model as appropriate for different parameter regimes; thus the relatively complex model (52–53) may be justifiably simplified as needed by your application.

To illustrate a range of applications we briefly reported some simulations of: wave transitions on a sloping substrate, Faraday waves on a vibrating flat plate, and a viscous hydraulic jump in radial flow, see §6.1; the formation and sliding of beads on a cylindrical fibre with surface tension and gravity, see §6.2; and the generation of vortices in the shear flow between a channel and surrounding shallows, see §6.3. These simulations demonstrate the resolution of the complex interactions between the varied physical processes encompassed by the model.

Acknowledgment: we thank the Australian Research Council for a grant to help support this work.
A Computer algebra derives the model

The REDUCE\textsuperscript{8} program which performs the derivation of centre manifold model is listed below. A little explanation is usefully given first. Observe that program variables are typeset in \texttt{teletype} font.

- The physical coordinate system within the program is \((x_1, x_2, y) = (x, z, y)\) with scale factors \((h_1, h_2, h_3) = (h1, h2, 1)\), velocity field \((u_1, u_2, v) = (u, w, v)\) and pressure \(p = p\). Scale factors of the substrate are \(m_1 = m1\) and \(m_2 = m2\), whereas those evaluated on the free surface are \(\bar{h}_1 = \bar{h}1\) and \(\bar{h}_2 = \bar{h}2\).

Substrates with specific geometries, as discussed in \S\ref{sec:substrate}, may be derived simply by coding information about their curvatures \(k_i\) and scale factors \(m_i\) as shown for the three cases discussed in \S\ref{sec:substrate}.

- Expressions are written in terms of a stretched coordinate system \(X = x_1, Z = x_2, Y = y/\eta, T = t\) so that the free surface of the fluid film is simply \(Y = 1\). In the program we use \((X, Z, Y, T) = (xs, zs, ys, ts)\). Then spatio-temporal derivatives transform by the chain rule

\[
\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} = \frac{\partial}{\partial X} - \frac{Y}{\eta} \frac{\partial}{\partial Y}, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial Z} - \frac{Y}{\eta} \frac{\partial}{\partial Y},
\]

\[
\frac{\partial}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial T} - \frac{Y}{\eta} \frac{\partial}{\partial Y}, \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial y} = \frac{1}{\eta} \frac{\partial}{\partial Y},
\]

as coded.

- The amplitudes of the model are \((\eta, \bar{u}_1, \bar{u}_2) = (h, uu, ww)\) with \(h(m,n)\) denoting the spatial derivative \(\frac{\partial^{m+n}\eta}{\partial X^m \partial Z^n}\) and similarly for \(uu(m,n)\) and \(ww(m,n)\). The evolution of these quantities is given by

\[
\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} = gh, \quad \frac{\partial \bar{u}_1}{\partial t} = gu, \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial \bar{u}_2}{\partial t} = gw.
\]

The correctness of the results of this program depend only upon the correct coding of the physical equations. The algebraic machinations are repeated until the residual of the fluid differential equations and boundary conditions are zero to the requisite order.

\textsuperscript{8}At the time of writing, information about REDUCE was available from Anthony C. Hearn, RAND, Santa Monica, CA 90407-2138, USA. \texttt{mailto:reduce@rand.org}

Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018
A Computer algebra derives the model

Comment Constructs slowly-varying lubrication model of thin film 3D fluid flows on arbitrarily curved 2D substrates. Allows for large changes in film thickness. Incorporates surface tension, gravity, inertia, slip. The coordinate system is (x,z,y), velocity (u,w,v), scale factors (h1,h2,1).

Last updated 16 Sept 2003;
% improve printing appearance
on div; off alifac; on revpri;
factor d,h,uu,ww,gravity,betag,gr,we,k1,k2,sk;
% use operator h(m,n) to denote df(h,x,m,z,n)
operator h;
depend h, xs, zs, ts;
let { df(h(~m,~n),xs) => h(m+1,n) ,df(h(~m,~n),zs) => h(m,n+1) ,df(h(~m,~n),xs,zs) => h(m+1,n+1) ,df(h(~m,~n),ts) => df(gh,xs,m,zs,n) }; % principal curvatures of the substrate
operator k1;
depend k1, xs, zs;
let { df(k1(~m,~n),xs) => k1(m+1,n) ,df(k1(~m,~n),zs) => k1(m,n+1) }; operator k2;
depend k2, xs, zs;
let { df(k2(~m,~n),xs) => k2(m+1,n) ,df(k2(~m,~n),zs) => k2(m,n+1) }; operator uu; operator ww;
depend uu, xs, zs, ts;
depend ww, xs, zs, ts;
let { df(uu(~m,~n),xs) => uu(m+1,n) ,df(uu(~m,~n),zs) => uu(m,n+1) ,df(uu(~m,~n),ts) => df(gu,xs,m,zs,n) ,df(uu(~m,~n),y) => df(a,ys)/h(0,0) };
% use stretched coords: ys=y/h(x,z,t), xs=x, zs=z, ts=t
depend xs, x, y, z, t;
depend zs, x, y, z, t;
depend ys, x, y, z, t;
depend ts, x, y, z, t;
let { df(~a,x) => df(a,xs)-ys*h(1,0)/h(0,0)*df(a,ys) , df(~a,z) => df(a,zs)-ys*h(0,1)/h(0,0)*df(a,ys) , df(~a,t) => df(a,ts)-ys*gh/h(0,0)*df(a,ys) , df(~a,y) => df(a,ys)/h(0,0) };
% some abbreviations with appropriate scalings
kx:=d*k1(0,0)$ kz:=d*k2(0,0)$
eta:=h(0,0)$ etax:=d*h(1,0)$ etaz:=d*h(0,1)$

Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018
A Computer algebra derives the model

% scale factors of coord system: substrate, fluid & surface
depend m1,xs,zs;
depend m2,xs,zs;
h1:=m1*(1-kx*eta*ys)$
h2:=m2*(1-kz*eta*ys)$

% gravitational body force
depend g1,xs, zs;
depend g2, xs, zs;
depend g, y, xs, zs;

let { df(g1,xs) => -rh2*df(h1,z)*g2+m1*k1(0,0)*g 

, df(g1,zs) => rh1*df(h2,x)*g2 

, df(g2, xs) => -rh1*df(h2,x)*g1+m2*k2(0,0)*g 

, df(g2, zs) => rh2*df(h1,z)*g1 

, df(gy, xs) => -m1*k1(0,0)*g 

, df(gy, zs) => -m2*k2(0,0)*g2 

};

% computes mean across fluid layer
operator mean; linear mean;
let{ mean(ys^~n,ys)=> 1/(n+1) 

,mean(ys,ys)=>1/2 

,mean(1,ys)=>1 };

% solves -df(p,ys)=rhs s.t. sub(ys=1,p)=0
operator psolv; linear psolv;
let {psolv(ys^~n,ys) => (1-ys^(n+1))/(n+1) 

,psolv(ys,ys) => (1-ys^2)/2 

,psolv(1,ys) => (1-ys) }

% solves df(u,ys,2)=rhs s.t. sub(ys=0,u)=0 & mean(u)=0
% and df(v,ys,2)=rhs s.t. sub(ys=0,v)=0 & mean(v)=0
operator usolv; linear usolv;
let {usolv(ys^~n,ys) => (ys^(n+2)-2*ys/(n+3))/(n+2)/(n+1) 

,usolv(ys,ys) => (ys^3-2*ys/4)/3/2 

,usolv(1,ys) => (ys^2-2*ys/3)/2 }

% may derive model in special geometries if activated
if 0 then % flat substrate in Cartesian
let { k1(~p,"q")=>0, m1=>1 

,k2(~p,"q")=>0, m2=>1 }
else if 0 then % cylindrical substrate of radius rad
% x1 axial distance & x2 is angle around
% sk=+1 is flow outside cyl, sk=-1 is flow inside cyl
let { k1("p","q")=>0 , m1=>1 

,k2(0,0)=>-sk/rad , sk^2=>1 

,k2("p","q")=>0 when p+q>0 , m2=>rad }
else if 1 then begin % substrate depth(zs) below reference
% s=x1 longitudinal distance & r=x2 is cross stream location
% dd=df(depth,x2), m2=\sqrt{1+dd^2}, k2=-dd'/m2^3
depend dd,zs;
A Computer algebra derives the model

99 let { \( k_1(\bar{p}, \bar{q}) = 0 \), \( m_1 = 1 \)
100 \( k_2(\bar{p}, \bar{q}) = 0 \) when \( p > 0 \)
101 \( df(m_2, xs) = 0 \), \( df(m_2, zs) = -dd \cdot m_2^2 \cdot k_2(0, 0) \)
102 \( df(dd, zs) = -m_2^3 \cdot k_2(0, 0) \)
103 \( dd^2 = m_2^2 - 1 \) } end
104 else if 0 then % flat substrate in polar coords
105 % x1 radial distance & x2 is angle around
106 let { \( k_1(\bar{p}, \bar{q}) = 0 \), \( m_1 = 1 \)
107 \( k_2(\bar{p}, \bar{q}) = 0 \), \( m_2 = xs \) } end
108 else if 0 then % outside spherical coords \( xi = \text{colat} \) \( x2 = \text{long} \)
109 let { \( k_1(0, 0) = -1/rad \)
110 \( k_1(\bar{p}, \bar{q}) = 0 \) when \( p+q > 0 \), \( m_1 = \text{rad} \)
111 \( k_2(0, 0) = -1/rad \)
112 \( k_2(\bar{p}, \bar{q}) = 0 \) when \( p+q > 0 \), \( m_2 = \text{rad} \cdot \sin(xs) \) };
113
114 % Centre subspace and null evolution
115 u:=d*2*ys*uu(0,0); w:=d*2*ys*ww(0,0); v:=0; p:=0;
116 gh:=0; gu:=0; gw:=0;
117 % and linear approx to various reciprocals
118 % \( rh_1, rh_2 \) are the approx of \( 1/h_1, 1/h_2 \)
119 rh1:=1/m1$ rh2:=1/m2$ rhh1:=rh1$ rhh2:=rh2$
120
121 % Use \( d \) to count number of \( uu, ww \) and derivatives of \( x, z \)
122 % Throw away this order or higher in \( uu, ww, d/dx \) & \( d/dz \)
123 let {\( d^4 = 0, \) \( \text{gam}^8 = 0 \)}
124 gravity:=d^2*gr; % gravity is the coefficient/order of gravity terms
125 % Iterate until converges
126 it:=0$
127 repeat begin
128 write it:=it+1;
129 % Approximate mean curvature of the surface
130 curv:=sub(y=1,kx+kz +d*rh1*rh2*(df(h2*rh1*etax,x)
131 +df(h1*rh2*etaz,z)) +(kx^2+kz^2)*eta);
132 % Free-surface deviatoric stress (Batchelor, p600)
133 txx:=sub(y=1,2*d*(rhh1*df(u,x)+rhh1*rhh2*df(h1,z)*w
134 +rhh1*v*df(h1,y)));
135 txz:=sub(y=1,d*(rhh2*df(u,z)+rhh1*df(w,x)
136 -rhh1*rh2*df(h1,z)*u+df(h2,x)*w)));
137 txy:=sub(y=1,hh1*df(h1*u,y)+rhh1*d*df(h1,v,x))
138 tzz:=sub(y=1,2*d*(rhh2*df(w,z)+rhh1*rh2*df(h2,x)*u
139 +rhh2*v*df(h2,y)));
140 tzy:=sub(y=1,hh2*df(h2*w,y)+rhh2*d*df(h2,v,z))
141 tyy:=sub(y=1,2*d*df(v,y))
142 % \( \omega = \text{curl}(q) \) => \( \text{del}^2 q = -\text{curl}(\omega) \) (Batchelor p599)
143 o1:=rh2*(d*df(v,z)-df(h2*w,y))
144 o2:=rh1*(df(h1*u,y)-d*df(v,x))
145 oy:=rh1*rh2*(d*df(h2*w,x)-d*df(h1*u,z))
146 % Vertical momentum & normal surface stress
147 begin scalar veq, ns;

Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018
A Computer algebra derives the model

148 \[ \text{veq}:\text{re}*(\text{df}(v,t)+d*u*rh1*df(v,x)+v*df(v,y) \]
149 \[ +d*w*rh2*df(v,z)+d*m1*k1(0,0)*rh1*u^2 \]
150 \[ +d*m2*k2(0,0)*rh2*u^2 \]
151 \[ +d*p(y)-\text{gravity}+\text{rh1}\text{rh2}*d*(df(h2*o2,x)-df(h1*o1,z)) \]
152 \[ \text{ns}:=(\text{hh2}^2*\text{etax}^2*\text{txx}+2*\text{hh1}\text{hh2}^2*\text{etax}*\text{txz} \]
153 \[ -2*\text{hh1}\text{hh2}^2*\text{etax}*\text{txy} -2*\text{hh1}^2*\text{hh2}\text{etax}*\text{tz}y \]
154 \[ +\text{hh1}^2*\text{etax}^2*\text{tz}z+\text{hh1}\text{hh2} \]
v:=v+eta*int(ceq,ys);
end;
%
% uu and ww represent weighted mean velocity
begin scalar ueq,weq;
ueq:=uu(0,0)*d-mean(u*h2,ys)/m2;
weq:=ww(0,0)*d-mean(w*h1,ys)/m1;
ok:=if ok and(weq=0)and(ueq=0) then 1 else 0;
u:=u+2*ys*ueq;
w:=w+2*ys*weq;
end;
%
% refine approx of h1 and h2
h1eq:=rh1*h1-1$ rh1:=rh1-h1eq/m1; rhh1:=sub(ys=1,rh1);
h2eq:=rh2*h2-1$ rh2:=rh2-h2eq/m2; rhh2:=sub(ys=1,rh2);
write ok:=if ok and(h1eq=0)and(h2eq=0) then 1 else 0;
%
% kinematic BC on FS
gh:=sub(ys=1,v-u*rh1*etax-w*rh2*etaz);
showtime;
end until ok or(it>19);
if 0 then begin % get shear stress on the substrate
  txy:=sub(ys=0,hh1*df(rh1*u,y)+rhh1*d*df(v,x))$
  tzy:=sub(ys=0,hh2*df(rh2*w,y)+rhh2*d*df(v,z))$
  gam:=1;
  on rounded;
  print_precision 4;
  coeffn(txy,d,1);
  coeffn(tzy,d,1);
  coeffn(txy,d,2);
  coeffn(tzy,d,2);
  coeff(gu,d);
  coeff(gw,d);
end;
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Tony Roberts, October 30, 2018
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