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Four-Quadrant Multi-Fluid Pump/Motor

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Overview

- What is a four-quadrant multi-fluid pump/motor?
- Operating strategies
- Digital displacement control benefits
- Mechanically actuated prototype
- Model validation
- What are the next steps to develop an improved solution?



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Mechanically actuated valve prototype

Background

Digital Four Quadrant Multi-fluid Pump/Motor

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- Digital: utilizes digital displacement control
 On/off valves at inlet and outlet of each piston
- Four-quadrant: capable of pumping and motoring each in CW and CCW rotation
- Multi-fluid: pump lubrication does not depend on operating fluid



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Operating Strategies

• Flow Diverting

- Excess flow taken into the chamber is diverted back to the low pressure port
- Flow Limiting
 - Amount of flow taken into the chamber is limited to the desired flow
- Sequential (Diverting or Limiting)
 - Individual cylinders are operated at full or zero displacement



Digital displacement control

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Digital displacement control

Benefits of Digital Displacement



Digital displacement control on/off valve placement

Digital Pump/Motor Advantages

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- Higher efficiency across operating range
 - Eliminates valve plate and port plate
 - Leakages scale closely with displacement
- Pumping of non-conventional fluids (water)
- Valves can open against high pressure
 - Self starting in motoring
- Freedom in operating strategies
- Lower cost
 - No need for pilot pressure
 - No electrical energy needed

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Mechanically Actuated Valves

- First prototype use electrical actuation of on/off valves
- Mechanical actuation advantages
 - Fast and consistent
 - No electrical energy needed
 - No sensors or embedded controls
 - Actuation repeatability is increased
 - Critical for efficiency



Implementation



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Prototype

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Experimental Test Stand

Multi-piston digital pump/motor test stand



- 3-piston digital pump
- One on/off valves per piston
- One check valve per piston
- Three 2,000 Hz pressure transducers
- Two accumulators

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Experimental Testing



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Results for Mechanical Actuation



Overall hydraulic efficiency for pumping at 300rpm (left), 500rpm (right)

- Partial flow diverting only operating strategy tested
- Efficiency does not fall below 40%

GT Suite Overview

- 1D multi-physics system simulation software
- GT-Suite Tools
 - CAD modeling and preparation
 - Converting 3D CAD model into GT model
 - Model building and run control
 - Post processing
- Hydraulics applications
 - System and component level models
 - Existing piston pump and valve component templates
 - Accurate pressure wave dynamics
 - Advanced features such as DoE and optimization



GT-

SpaceClaim

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GT-P

OST



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MAV Inline Schematic



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Converting to GT Components



Split into individual parts

Converted into pipes and flow-splits

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Model Geometry



GT-ISE components

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MAV Inline Simulation



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One Piston Simulation



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Inlet

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One Piston Simulation



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One Piston Simulation



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One Piston Simulation



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One Piston Simulation



On/off valve

- Valve opening area
- Poppet parameters



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Inlet

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One Piston Simulation



End Environment

- Constant pressure
- Initial temperature and fluid conditions
- Represent constant pressure of accumulator

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MAV Inline Simulation



103 bar, 500 rpm, 100% displacement



103 bar, 500 rpm, 25% displacement

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Inline Simulation Results



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Next Generation MAV

- Optimal design, open-ended best system
- Requirements
 - One cam assembly for all pistons
 - Minimal gearing
 - Smaller physical size
 - Four quadrant capability

Radial Piston Orientation Center

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Benefits

- Access to valves
- Thru-shaft
- Modular and compact design

(1)

• Fewer moving parts

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Summary and Future Work

- Tested inline unit on existing digital pump/motor test stand
 - Results provided proof of concept for mechanical actuation
- Modeled and simulated inline unit
 - Validated modeling techniques
- Next steps
 - Model and simulate radial unit
 - Use simulation to determine optimal pump parameters





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