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# Reduced-order modeling techniques for understanding printing and coating processes

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#### Motivation is coating and manufacturing application driven

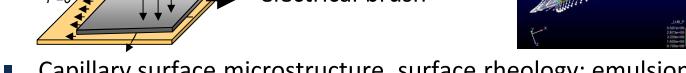


 Top-down nano-manufacturing: fluid distribution, printing, mold filling in largeaspect ratio regions



Thin-liquid film coating: film flow, metering flows,
 thin metering structures
 Tensioned web Slot





 Capillary surface microstructure, surface rheology: emulsions, surface rheometry, oil recovery



 Miscellaneous: surface microprobes (Moore et al., "Comment on Hydrophilicity and the Viscosity of Interfacial Water", Langmuir 27 (2011) 3211-3212).

#### What are reduced-order models?



Begin with general 3-D governing equation (e.g. mass conservation)

$$\frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z} = 0$$

• Integrate through one dimension under a set of assumptions

$$\int_0^h \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} dz + \int_0^h \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} dz + v_z|_0^h = 0$$

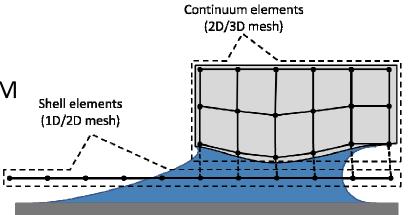
- Reduces 3-D equation to a 2-D equation
- Requires understanding of physics in the 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension

$$\frac{\partial \bar{v}_x}{\partial x}dz + \frac{\partial \bar{v}_y}{\partial y}dz + \bar{v}_z(h) - \bar{v}_z(0) = 0$$

$$\bar{v}_i(x,y) = \int_0^h v_i(x,y,z)dz$$

Solve equations using shell elements with FEM

$$\nabla_{\mathrm{II}} f = (\mathbb{I} - nn) \cdot \nabla f$$



## Underlying assumptions of reduced-order models



#### Key assumptions:

- Material parameters (e.g. viscosity) are constant across the thickness
- The film is thin  $(\frac{\partial h}{\partial x} \ll 1)$  and the flow is laminar
- Intertial forces are negligible
- Need models for 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension:
  - Lubrication: Velocity profile is combination of Couette and Poisuelle flow,  $v_x(z) = C_0 + C_1 z + C_2 z^2$
  - Porous flow: Flow in the z dimension is understood by a bundle of capillary tubes,  $v_z=\frac{p_{gas}-p_{cap}-p_{lub}}{Sh}$
  - Models need to be specifically adapted for each application

#### Reduced-order models



- Confined lubrication hydrodynamics
  - Roberts, Noble, Benner, & Schunk. Comp. Fluids, doi: 10.1016/j.compfluid.2012.08.009

$$\nabla_{\text{II}} \cdot \left( \frac{h^3}{12\mu} \nabla_{\text{II}} p + \frac{h}{2} \left( v_x(h) + v_x(0) \right) \right) = \frac{\partial h}{\partial t}$$

- Thin-film hydrodynamics
  - Tjiptowidjojo & Schunk, in preparation

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} - \nabla_{\text{II}} \cdot \left( \frac{h^3}{3\mu} \nabla_{\text{II}} p - h v_x(0) \right) = 0 \qquad p + \sigma \nabla_{\text{II}}^2 h = 0$$

- Porous flow through thin media
  - Roberts & Schunk, in preparation

$$-h\phi \frac{\partial S}{\partial t} = -\frac{h}{\mu} \nabla_{II} \cdot \mathbb{K}_{II} \cdot \nabla_{II} p + \frac{1}{\mu} \mathbb{K}_n \nabla_n p \bigg|_{z=0}$$

Energy transport through thin media

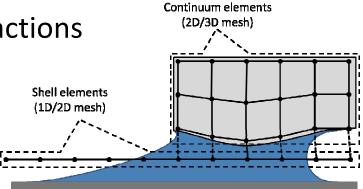
$$h\rho C_p \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + \boldsymbol{v}_{II} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nabla}_{II} T \right) - hK \boldsymbol{\nabla}_{II} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nabla}_{II} T + Q = 0$$

# Coupling to reduced-order models



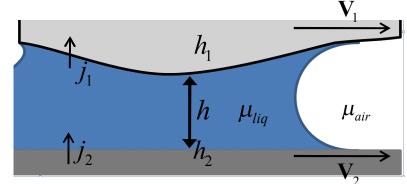
Fluid-structural interactions

$$h = h_0 + \boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{d}$$

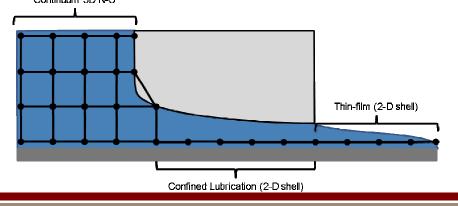


Multiphase interfaces

$$rac{\partial f}{\partial t} = oldsymbol{v} \cdot |oldsymbol{
abla}_{ ext{II}} f|$$



■ Continuum-to-reduced-order model regions



 $q_{\text{continuum}} = q_{\text{lubrication}}$ 

# Specific applications of reduced-order models

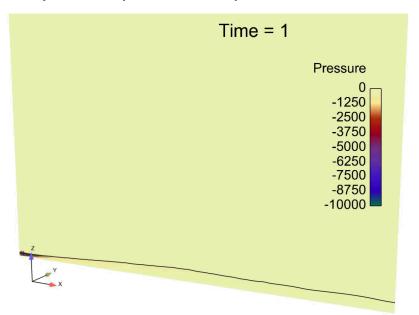


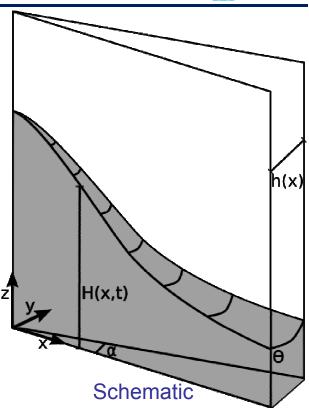
- Capillary rise of liquids
- Deformable bearings / coating processes
- Thin-film flow over patterned substrates
- Nano-imprint lithography
- Wicking porous materials
- Others ...

## Capillary rise of liquids



- Classic problem of capillary rise of liquids between two plates at a small angle (Taylor (1712))
- Small gap would make continuum simulations extremely difficult, due to small elements required.
- Lubrication theory allows a 2-D shell mesh and more expedient calculations
- Short-time dynamics and long-time near-steady-state profiles captured





Movie of liquid rise dynamics

## Deformable bearings / coating processes

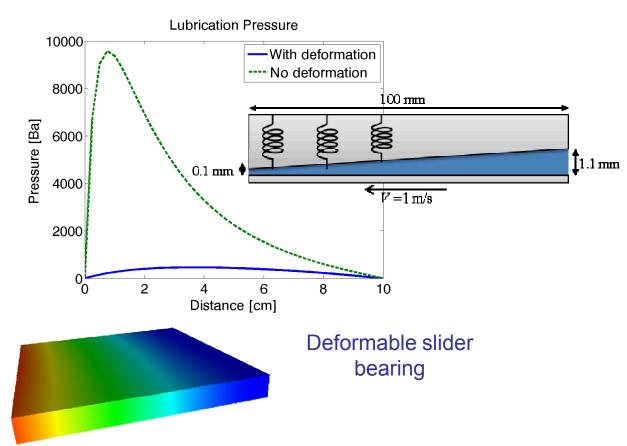


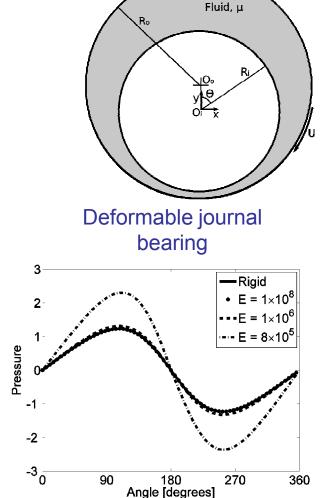
Prototypical coating process: slot coating on tensioned web

At high speeds and small gaps, mechanical deformation important

Lubrication model coupled with solid mechanics (FSI)

Deformation can reduce/shift pressure distribution

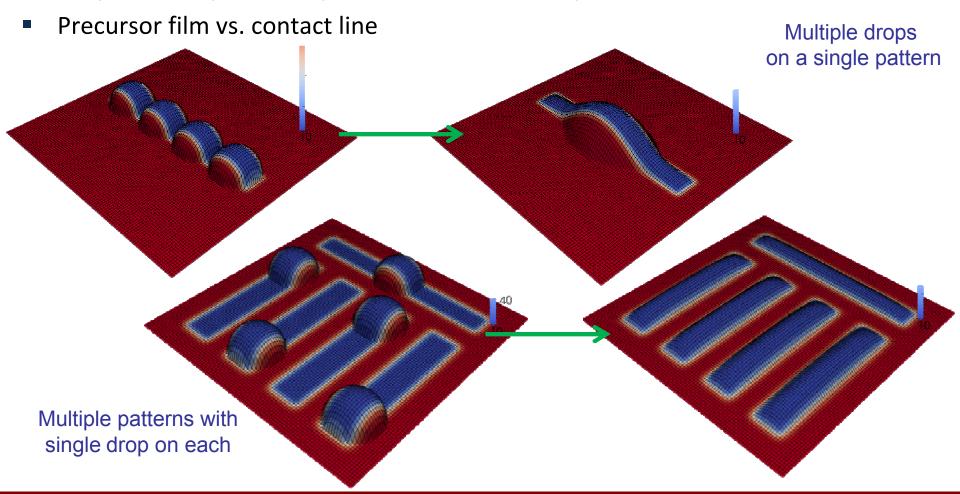




# Thin-film flow over patterned substrates



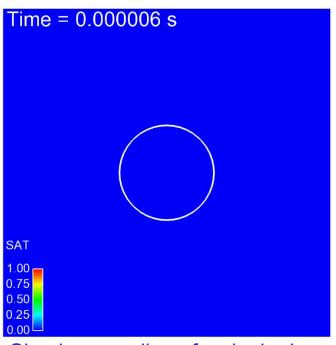
- Substrate chemically patterned with areas of varying wettability
- Patterns are not meshed in, but an external field variable
- Drop size and pattern aspect ratio affect final liquid distribution



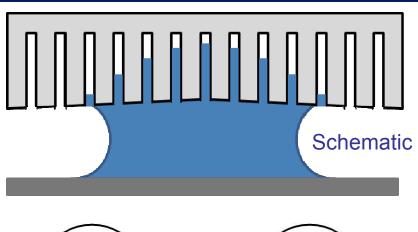
## Nano-imprint lithography

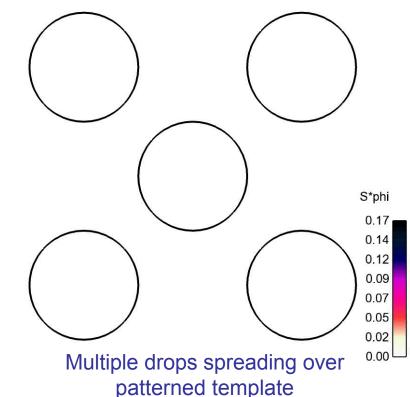


- Structured, patterned, porous mask squeezed into an array of liquid drops.
- Involves lubrication and porous reduced-order models.
- Patterns in pore size and density gives different filling behaviors.



Simple spreading of a single drop

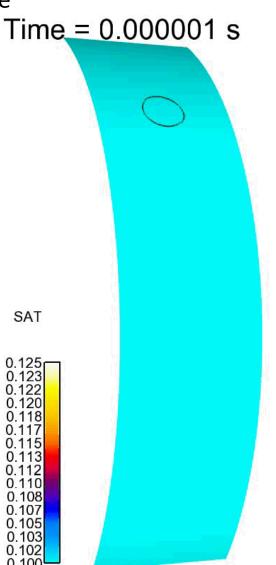




## Wicking porous materials



- Schematic: Drop rolling down a curved, porous substrate
- Competing effects:
  - Rolling motion under gravity
  - Liquid absorbing into porous medium
- Porous structure continues to redistribute liquid, even after drop disappears



#### Reduced-order models: What works, what doesn't



#### **Advantages / Pros**

- Enables solving complex problems rendered impossible in 3D due to:
  - Small / poorly formed elements
  - Too many 3D elements
- Computationally expedient:
  - 2D shell meshes
  - Better scaling than 3D iterative
- Simplified physics for certain problems
- Can capture complex shapes through fields rather than complex meshes

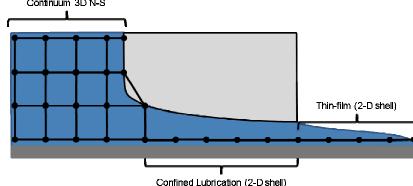
#### **Disadvantages / Cons**

- Equations / models complex to derive and code
- Models are specific to problem
  - Code changes required to change many problem parameters
  - Multiple code options / logic
- Extremely nonlinear / stiff
  - Requires more nonlinear iterations
- Shell elements not widely / completely supported in many codes

## Future directions in reduced-order modeling



- Coupling confined lubrication flow to free-film flow
  - Example: Slot coating
- 3D fluid to lubrication/film coupling



- Multilayer coatings / processes
  - Multiple equations on a single shell element can represent multilayers
  - Can create custom models to handle interactions between multiple sets of reducedorder physics (lubrication, porous flow)
- Continued focus on image-to-mesh: Representing complex shapes through variations in a single field variable (height, porosity, etc.)

#### Close-up



 Final thoughts: Reduced-order models in the FEM can be enabling for problems involving fluid-flow in thin geometries. However, nonlinearities and equation complexities makes implementation non-trivial.

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• Questions?



