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Modeling of a fluid-structure coupled system using port-Hamiltonian formulation

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Abstract: The interactions between fluid and structural dynamics are an important subject of study in several engineering applications. In airplanes, for example, these coupled vibrations can lead to structural fatigue, noise and even instability. At ISAE, we have an experimental device that consists of a cantilevered plate with a fluid tank near the free tip. This device is being used for model validation and active control studies. This work uses the port-Hamiltonian systems formulation for modeling this experimental device. Structural dynamics and fluid dynamics are independently modeled as infinite-dimensional systems. The plate is approximated as a beam. Shallow water equations are used for representing the fluid in the moving tank. The global system is coupled and spatial discretization of the infinite-dimensional systems using mixed finite-element method allows to obtain a finite-dimensional system that is still Hamiltonian.

Keywords: Port-Hamiltonian systems, fluid-structure interactions, mixed finite-element method.

1. INTRODUCTION

The coupling between structural dynamics and fluid dynamics is a major concern in several engineering applications. A popular example is the aerodynamics and structural dynamics coupling which can lead to instability and structural failure in systems as diverse as airplanes and suspension bridges.

This paper is part of ongoing research on fluid-structure interactions modeling and control. We have an experimental set up at ISAE, which consists of an aluminum plate with a water tank near the free tip. The fluid dynamics and structural dynamics have similar natural vibration frequencies, leading to strong dynamic coupling between them. Piezoelectric patches are used for active control. These patches are not taken into account in this paper. A schematic representation of the system is presented in Fig. 1.

In this work, port-Hamiltonian systems (PHS) formulation is used in order to model this device. The motivation for using this formulation is that it is possible to describe each element of the system separately using PHS formulation. Physically relevant variables appear as interconnection ports and the several subsystems can be coupled, guaranteeing that the global system is also a PHS. Finally, energy-based methods can be used for control purposes, see e.g. Duindam et al. (2009).

Fig. 1. Experimental set up schematic representation

The plate is simplified as a 1D-beam with bending and torsion modeled independently. Linear Euler-Bernoulli equation is used for beam bending and wave equation for beam torsion. For the fluid dynamics, previous work on shallow water equations (as Hamroun et al. (2010)) was extended to include rigid body motion variables. In addition, (finite-dimensional) rigid body equations is used to include the dynamics of the rigid tank. Each subsystem is presented in Section 2.

The global system consists in three infinite-dimensional port-Hamiltonian subsystems and three finite-dimensional ones. Using kinematic and force/moment constraints, all subsystems are coupled in Section 3. Since no dissipation is taken into account in any of the components, the coupled system is proved to be power-conserving.

Then, the mixed finite-element method is used to perform spatial discretization of the system, as presented in Section 4. This leads to finite-dimensional port-Hamiltonian systems, with input/output ports that are directly related...
to the interconnection structure. Using the coupling constraints, the discretized system is finally written in linear descriptor form.

2. MODELING

2.1 Beam equations - bending

The simplest mathematical representation of beam vibration in bending is given by the Euler-Bernoulli equation:

$$\mu(z) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} w(z,t) = - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( EI(z) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} w(z,t) \right),$$  

(1)

where \( w(z,t) \) is the deflection at point \( z \) (0 ≤ \( z \) ≤ \( L \)) and time \( t, \mu \) the beam mass per unit length and \( E \) the Young modulus, \( I \) the section inertia, \( L \) the beam length.

Defining the energy variables as: \( x_1^B(z,t) := \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial z^2} \) and \( x_2^B(z,t) := \mu \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \), we have the following Hamiltonian:

$$H^B(x_1^B, x_2^B) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L \left( EI(x_1^B)^2 + \frac{1}{\mu} (x_2^B)^2 \right) dz,$$  

(2)

where \( \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L (EI(x_1^B)^2) dz \) is the elastic potential energy and \( \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L (\mu (x_2^B)^2) dz \) is the kinetic energy.

Following Definition 4.1 of Duindam et al. (2009), the variational derivative of \( H \), with respect to \( x_1^B \) and \( x_2^B \) is given by:

$$e_1^B(z,t) := \frac{\delta H^B}{\delta x_1^B} = EIx_1^B = EI \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial z^2},$$

(3)

$$e_2^B(z,t) := \frac{\delta H^B}{\delta x_2^B} = \frac{x_2^B}{\mu} = \frac{\partial w}{\partial t},$$

(4)

where \( e_1^B \) and \( e_2^B \) are the (or effort) co-energy variables: \( e_1^B \) is the local bending moment \( (EI \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial z^2}(z,t)) \) and \( e_2^B \) is the local vertical speed \( \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} \).

We can rewrite the Euler-Bernoulli beam equations using these new variables as follows:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} x_1^B \\ x_2^B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\partial^2_x \\ \partial^2_x & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e_1^B \\ e_2^B \end{bmatrix}. $$

(5)

We can now compute the Hamiltonian rate of change:

$$\dot{H}^B = \int_0^L \left( EI x_1^B \frac{\partial x_1^B}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{\mu} x_2^B \frac{\partial x_2^B}{\partial t} \right) dz$$

$$= \int_0^L \left( e_1^B (\frac{\partial^2 x_1^B}{\partial z^2}) - e_2^B (\frac{\partial^2 e_1^B}{\partial z^2}) \right) dz$$

$$= \int_0^L \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( e_1^B (\frac{\partial e_1^B}{\partial z}) - e_2^B (\frac{\partial e_2^B}{\partial z}) \right) dz$$

$$= e_1^B(L,t) \frac{\partial e_1^B(L,t)}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} e_1^B(L,t)e_1^B(L,t) +$$

$$- e_1^B(0,t) \frac{\partial e_1^B(0,t)}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} e_1^B(0,t)e_1^B(0,t).$$

Notice that the energy exchange depends only on the system’s boundary conditions; we define: \( e_{10}^B := \frac{\partial}{\partial z} e_1^B = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} EI \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial z^2}, \) the shear force, and \( e_{20}^B := \frac{\partial}{\partial z} e_2^B = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \frac{\partial w}{\partial t}, \) the angular velocity.

In the clamped-free beam, for example, the following mechanically relevant boundary conditions apply:

- Clamped end: \( e_{20}^B(0,t) = 0 \) and \( e_{10}^B(0,t) = 0; \)
- Free end: \( e_{10}^B(L,t) = 0 \) and \( e_{10}^B(L,t) = 0; \)

In this specific case, the system is power-conserving: \( \dot{H}^B = 0 \). In our case, the flexible beam is connected to a rigid tank with fluid, so that the free-end boundary conditions will not be zero.

Instead of using a free-end boundary, we can specify as boundary conditions the values of force and bending moment applied by the connected structure. The value of force/moment \( (f(t) \) and \( m^B(t) \)) are given by:

$$e_{10}^B(L,t) = m^B(t)$$

(7)

$$e_{10}^B(L,t) = f(t)$$

(8)

The conjugate port-variables are given by the point speed and angular velocity, respectively; together with Eq. 5, this is an infinite-dimensional port-Hamiltonian system.

2.2 Beam equations - torsion

The equation of a beam in torsion can be approximated by\(^1\):

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( GJ \frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial z^2} \right) = I_p \frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial t^2}(z,t), \quad 0 \leq z \leq L, $$

(9)

where \( \theta(z,t) \) is the local torsional angle at point \( z \) (0 ≤ \( z \) ≤ \( L \)) and time \( t, G \) the material shear constant, \( J \) the section torsion constant and \( I_p \) the section polar moment of inertia per unit length. Defining as energy variables \( x_1^T := \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial z} \) and \( x_2^T := \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial t} \), we have:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} x_1^T \\ x_2^T \end{bmatrix} = \left[ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\partial^2_z \\ \partial^2_z & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right] \begin{bmatrix} e_1^T \\ e_2^T \end{bmatrix}, $$

(10)

where \( e_1^T = GJx_1^T = GJ \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial z} \) and \( e_2^T = \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial t} \), which are the variational derivatives of the Hamiltonian, given by:

$$H^T(x_1^T, x_2^T) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L (GJ(x_1^T)^2 + (x_2^T)^2) \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial z} dz.$$  

(11)

Notice that \( e_1^T \) is the moment of torsion and \( e_2^T \) is the torsion angular velocity. The time-derivative of the Hamiltonian can be computed as:

$$\dot{H}^T(x_1^T, x_2^T) = e_1^T(0,t)e_2^T(0,t) - e_1^T(L,t)e_2^T(L,t).$$

(12)

Again, it is possible to see that the energy flows only through the boundaries. In the fixed-free case, for example, the following boundary conditions apply:

- Fixed end: \( e_1^T(0,t) = 0; \)
- Free end: \( e_1^T(L,t) = 0; \)

and the system is power conserving: \( \dot{H}^T = 0. \)

Instead of using a free-end boundary, we can specify as boundary conditions at \( z = L \) the value of the torsion moment \( \tau(t) \) applied by the connected structure. The value of \( \tau(t) \) would be an input of the system:

$$e_1^T(L,t) = \tau(t)$$

(13)

The conjugate port-variable is given by the angular velocity at the same point; together with Eq. 10, this is an infinite-dimensional port-Hamiltonian system.

---

\(^1\) This equation considers Saint-Venant theory of torsion. In addition, it is considered that torsion is uncoupled from transverse deflection. A detailed derivation of this equation is presented by Hodges and Pierce (2011) (section 2.3.1)
2.3 Rigid tank

Let us consider a rigid tank with three degrees of freedom, two related to the bending motion of the beam (translation \(w_B(t)\) and rotation \(\theta_B(t)\)), and one rotation degree of freedom related to torsion (\(\theta_T(t)\)).

The equations of motion are given directly by Newton’s second law:

\[
\begin{align*}
    m_{RB} \ddot{w}_B(t) &= F_{ext}, \\
    I_{RB}^{B} \dot{\theta}_B(t) &= M_{ext,B}, \\
    I_{RB}^{T} \dot{\theta}_T(t) &= M_{ext,T},
\end{align*}
\]

where \(m_{RB}\) is the tank mass, \(I_{RB}^{B}\) and \(I_{RB}^{T}\) are the tank rotational inertias. \(F_{ext}\) is the sum of forces applied to the tank, \(M_{ext,B}\) is the sum of moments in bending direction and \(M_{ext,T}\) is the sum of moments in torsion direction.

Defining the following moment variables: \(p := m_{RB} \ddot{w}_B, p_{\theta B} := I_{RB}^{B} \dot{\theta}_B, p_{\theta T} := I_{RB}^{T} \dot{\theta}_T\), we can rewrite the previous equations as port-Hamiltonian systems:

\[
\begin{align*}
    \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ p_{\theta B} \\ p_{\theta T} \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_B} H_{RB}^{B} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_B} H_{RB}^{B} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_T} H_{RB}^{T} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} F_{ext}, \\
    \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta B} p_{\theta B} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_B} H_{RB}^{B} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_B} H_{RB}^{B} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_T} H_{RB}^{T} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} M_{ext,B}, \\
    \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta T} p_{\theta T} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_B} H_{RB}^{B} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_B} H_{RB}^{B} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_T} H_{RB}^{T} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} M_{ext,T},
\end{align*}
\]

with input ports given by \(F_{ext}, M_{ext,B}\) and \(M_{ext,T}\), and output ports by their conjugate variables (\(\dot{\omega}_B, \dot{\theta}_B\) and \(\dot{\theta}_T\)). The Hamiltonian is equal to the kinetic energy:

\[
H_{RB}(p, p_{\theta B}, p_{\theta T}) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{p^2}{m_{RB}} + \frac{\dot{p}_{\theta B}^2}{I_{RB}^{B}} + \frac{\dot{p}_{\theta T}^2}{I_{RB}^{T}} \right),
\]

and its rate of change is given by:

\[
\dot{H}_{RB} = \dot{w}_B \dot{p} + \dot{\theta}_B p_{\theta B} + \dot{\theta}_T p_{\theta T} = \dot{w}_B F_{ext} + \dot{\theta}_B M_{ext,B} + \dot{\theta}_T M_{ext,T}.
\]

2.4 Sloshing fluid

The simplest infinite-dimensional approach for modeling the sloshing fluid dynamics is the Saint-Venant equations in 1D. These equations are obtained under the following hypotheses: non-viscous, incompressible fluid and little depth of fluid in comparison to the tank length (for this reason, these equations are also known as shallow water equations). A derivation of Saint-Venant equations for tanks under rigid-body motion is presented by Petit and Rouchron (2002). We rewrite here the linear version as:

\[
\begin{align*}
    \frac{\partial \tilde{h}}{\partial t} &= -\frac{\partial}{\partial z} (\tilde{h} \nu) \\
    \frac{\partial \nu}{\partial t} &= -\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( g \tilde{h} + g \nu \theta_F \right)
\end{align*}
\]

where \(\nu(z, t)\) is the fluid speed at point \(z\) and time \(t\), \(\tilde{h}(z, t)\) is the fluid height relative to static (equilibrium) height \(h\) (the total height is thus \(h(z, t) = \tilde{h} + \tilde{h}(z, t)\)), \(g\) is the gravity acceleration and \(\theta_F(t)\) is the tank rotation angle.

The fluid kinetic energy is given by:

\[
T(\tilde{h}, \theta_F, \theta_T) = \frac{\rho b}{2} \int_{-a/2}^{a/2} \tilde{h} \left( \nu^2 + (z \theta_F)^2 \right) dz,
\]

where \(\rho\) is the fluid density, \(b\) is the tank width, \(a\) is the tank length and \(\dot{\theta}_F(t)\) is the tank rotation velocity.

The fluid gravitational potential energy is given by:

\[
U(\tilde{h}, \theta_F, \theta_T) = \rho bg \int_{-a/2}^{a/2} \left( \tilde{h} \theta_F + \frac{\tilde{h}}{2} \right) dz,
\]

the Hamiltonian is given by \(H^F = U + T\). Defining \(\alpha_1 := \frac{\tilde{h}}{b}\), the relative height, and \(\alpha_2 := \rho b \nu \theta_F\), the mass flow rate:

\[
H^F = \int_{-a/2}^{a/2} \left( \rho b \tilde{h} \alpha_1^2 + \frac{\alpha_2^2}{2} + \rho b \nu \alpha_1 \theta_F \right) dz + \left( \int_{-a/2}^{a/2} \rho b h^2 dz \right) \frac{\dot{\theta}_F^2}{2}.
\]

Notice that \(I_T\) is a constant (the equivalent “rigid” inertia of the fluid).

Defining the fluid rotation momentum as \(p_F(t) := I_T \dot{\theta}_F(t)\), we rewrite the Hamiltonian as a function of these variables:

\[
H^F := \int_{-a/2}^{a/2} \left( \rho b \tilde{h} \alpha_1^2 + \frac{\alpha_2^2}{2} + \rho b \nu \alpha_1 \theta_F \right) dz + \frac{I_T^2}{2} \dot{\theta}_F^2.
\]

The co-energy variables are given by the variational derivative of \(H^F\) with respect to the infinite-dimensional energy variables \(\alpha_1(z, t)\) and \(\alpha_2(z, t)\), and the partial derivative with respect to the finite-dimensional variables \(\theta_F(t)\) and \(p_F(t)\):

\[
\begin{align*}
    e_F^1(z, t) := \frac{\delta}{\delta \alpha_1} H^F &= \rho b \tilde{h}^2 \alpha_1 + \rho b \nu \tilde{h} \theta_F, \\
    e_F^2(z, t) := \frac{\delta}{\delta \alpha_2} H^F &= \frac{\alpha_2}{2} \rho b \nu, \\
    e_F^0(t) := \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_F} H^F &= \rho b \int_{-a/2}^{a/2} h dz, \\
    e_F^p(t) := \frac{\partial}{\partial p_F} H^F &= \frac{p}{I_T} = \dot{\theta}_F.
\end{align*}
\]

Notice that \(e_F^1(z, t)\) is the local pressure relative to equilibrium, multiplied by the fluid section area \((bh)\), \(e_F^2(z, t)\) is the local fluid speed. In addition: \(e_F^0\) is the torque due to fluid pressure and \(e_F^p\) is the rotation velocity of the tank.

We can rewrite Saint-Venant equations using these new variables:

\[
\begin{align*}
    \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\partial_z \\ -\partial_z & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e_F^1 \\ e_F^p \end{bmatrix},
\end{align*}
\]

In addition, we can find the equations of motion that describe the rotation of the tank:

\[
\begin{align*}
    \frac{\partial}{\partial t} p_F(t) &= -e_F^p + M_{ext}, \\
    \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_F} \theta_F(t) &= e_F^p.
\end{align*}
\]

In matrix form, we get the port-Hamiltonian system:

\[
\begin{align*}
    \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -\partial_z & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e_F^1 \\ e_F^p \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ M_{ext} \end{bmatrix},
\end{align*}
\]
The time-derivative of $H^F$ can be computed as:
\[
\dot{H}^F = e^F_1(-a/2,t)e^F_2(-a/2,t) - e^F_1(a/2,t)e^F_2(a/2,t) + \dot{\theta}M
\]  
(36)

Again, notice that the rate of change of the Hamiltonian is a function of the interconnection ports: the boundary conditions (speed and force applied to the tank walls) and moment/rotation velocity of the tank.

3. COUPLING

It is now time to couple all the elements of the system. First, we notice that several kinematic constraints appear, due to the coupling at the interconnection point:

- Translation speeds of each subsystem are equal (3 constraints):
  \[
  w_B = e^B_1(L,t) = e^F_1(-a/2,t) = e^F_2(a/2,t)
  \]  
(37)

- Rotation speeds in bending are equal (1 constraint):
  \[
  \dot{\theta}_B = \frac{\partial e^B_2}{\partial z}(L,t)
  \]  
(38)

- Rotation speeds in torsion are equal (2 constraints):
  \[
  \dot{\theta}_T = -e^T_2(L,t) = \dot{\theta}^F
  \]  
(39)

The Hamiltonian of the global system is given by the sum of each Hamiltonian component (Eqs. 2, 11, 20 and 27):

\[
H = H^B + H^T + H^{RB} + H^F.
\]  
(40)

Then, by using the sum of each Hamiltonian component rate of change (Eqs. 6, 12, 21 and 36), and imposing the previous kinematic constraints, we obtain the following global Hamiltonian rate of change:

\[
\dot{H} = +\dot{w}_B \left( -\frac{\partial}{\partial z} e^F_1(L,t) + F_{\text{ext}} - e^F_1(a/2,t) + e^F_2(-a/2,t) \right)
+ \dot{\theta}_B \left( e^B_1(L,t) + M_{\text{ext,B}} \right) + \dot{\theta}_T \left( e^F_1(L,t) + M_{\text{ext,T}} + M_{\text{ext}} \right).
\]  
(41)

Notice that $F_{\Sigma}$, $M_{\Sigma,B}$ and $M_{\Sigma,T}$ are the sum of external forces/moments applied to each subsystem. From a global system perspective, they are the sum of internal forces/moments at the interconnection point, which should be equal to zero:

\[
F_{\Sigma} = 0, \quad M_{\Sigma,B} = 0, \quad M_{\Sigma,T} = 0.
\]  
(42)

Since no damping has been taken into account in the modeling of the different components, the global system is power conserving (notice however that exchanges of energy between subsystems are allowed). Hence, $\dot{H}$ should be equal to zero, which is the case when imposing the constraints of Eq. 42.

Remark 1. Since no actuator has been included, the global model is a classical closed Hamiltonian system. But even without adding the piezo patch model, one could suggest as interconnection ports the external forces and moments at the coupling point ($F_{\Sigma} = u_1$, $M_{\Sigma,B} = u_2$, $M_{\Sigma,T} = u_3$) and their associated conjugate variables ($w_B, \dot{\theta}_B, \theta_T$), leading to a PHS with $dH/dt = u_1 \dot{w}_B + u_2 \dot{\theta}_B + u_3 \theta_T$.

Remark 2. From a control perspective, it could be an interesting idea to propose feedback laws such as an external actuator applying forces and moments at the coupling point: $F_{\Sigma} = -k_1 \dot{w}_B$, $M_{\Sigma,B} = -k_2 \dot{\theta}_B$ and $M_{\Sigma,T} = -k_3 \theta_T$, with $k_1, k_2, k_3 \geq 0$. This would guarantee that $dH/dt \leq 0$ and stabilization would be achieved. When $k_1 = 0$ (no feedback), we recover the power-conserving case above.

Remark 3. Though not made explicit, the mathematical setting here (functional spaces) is quite classical, at least with the linear models (see Jacob and Zwart (2012)). A more technical, and maybe open question, would be to find the appropriate functional setting adapted to the nonlinear Saint-Venant model. Also, the use of PHS setting can be efficiently used to prove well-posedness in a straightforward way, see e.g. Morris and Ozer (2013).

4. SPATIAL DISCRETIZATION

Equations for the beam and fluid dynamics are given by partial differential equations (PDEs) written in the following form (Eqs. 5, 10 and 32):

\[
\dot{X}(z,t) = J \frac{\delta H}{\delta x}.
\]  
(43)

where $J$ is a formally skew-symmetric differential operator, $X(z,t)$ is a vector with two components. In the case of torsion (Eq. 10) and Saint-Venant equations (Eq. 32) $J$ is a first-order operator. In the case of Euler-Bernoulli equation (Eq. 5), it is a second-order one.

The spatial discretization can be done using the mixed finite-element method, proposed by Golo et al. (2004), which leads to finite-dimensional systems of the following form:

\[
\begin{align*}
\dot{x}^i(t) &= J_d^i \frac{\partial H_d^i}{\partial x^i} + B^i u^i, \\
y^i &= (B^i)^T \frac{\partial H_d^i}{\partial x} + D^i u^i,
\end{align*}
\]  
(44)

where $i$ stands for $B$, $T$ and $F$ (bending, torsion and fluid applied), $x^i(t)$ is a $N_i$-dimensional vector ($N_i$ is the number of elements), $J_d^i$ is a $2N_i \times 2N_i$ skew-symmetric matrix, $B^i$ is a $2N_i \times m_i$ matrix, $D^i$ is an $m_i \times m_i$ skew-symmetric matrix, $u^i$ and $y^i$ are $m_i$-dimensional vectors with boundary co-energy variables as components. The previous matrices, as well as the discretized Hamiltonian $H_d^i$ for each subsystem are presented in Appendix A.

Now each of the previous infinite-dimensional equations is approximated as a finite-dimensional system. In addition, rigid body equations were presented (from Eqs. 14, 15 and 16). By concatenating each state-variable as: $x = [x^B \ x^T \ x^{RB} \ x^F]^T$, it is possible to rewrite the full model using exactly the same framework as for each component:

\[
\begin{align*}
\dot{x} &= J_d \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial x} + B u, \\
y &= (B)^T \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial x} + D u,
\end{align*}
\]  
(45)

where $J_d$, $B$ and $D$ are the block-diagonal matrices obtained from each component $J_d^i$, $B^i$ and $D^i$ matrices. The discrete global Hamiltonian $H_d$ is the sum of each $H_d^i$. The input and output vectors are given by:

\[
\begin{align*}
u &= \begin{bmatrix} e^B_1(L) \\ e^B_1(L) \\ e^B_1(L) \\ e^B_1(L) \\ e^{RB}_1 \\ e^{RB}_1 \end{bmatrix}, \\
y &= \begin{bmatrix} e^F_1(-a/2) \\ e^F_1(-a/2) \\ e^F_1(a/2) \\ e^F_1(a/2) \end{bmatrix}.
\end{align*}
\]  
(46)

The coupling between all the equations is given by the 9 kinematic and force/moment constraints (Eqs. 37, 38, 39,
Notice that all the constraints are linear functions of these input/output variables. So we can write the constraints as:

\[ \mathcal{M} y + \mathcal{N} u = 0, \]  

where \( \mathcal{M} \) and \( \mathcal{N} \) are 9 \times 9 matrices. By inspection of the discretized Hamiltonian gradients (see Appendix A), it is possible to see that they are linear functions of the system state variables:

\[ \frac{\partial H_a}{\partial x} = Q x. \]

All the previous equations can be coupled using a descriptor state-space formulation:

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
I & 0 \\
0 & 0
\end{bmatrix}
\frac{\partial}{\partial t}
\begin{bmatrix}
x \\
u
\end{bmatrix}
= 
\begin{bmatrix}
\mathcal{J} \mathcal{Q} & \mathcal{M} \mathcal{B}^T Q + \mathcal{M} \mathcal{D} + \mathcal{N}
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
x \\
u
\end{bmatrix}
\]

(49)

From the generalized eigenvalues of \((E,A)\), it is possible to find the modes of the coupled system and to compare them to experimentally measured natural frequencies. In addition, the coupled system can be simulated using differential-algebraic numerical integration methods (see e.g. Kunkel and Mehrmann (2006), chapter 8).

5. CONCLUSIONS AND FURTHER WORK

In this paper, we presented the modeling of a fluid-structure system using port-Hamiltonian formulation. The methodology is convenient since it allows to model each component independently. Physically relevant interconnection ports naturally appear when using this formulation, and the resulting system is Hamiltonian. Numerical results obtained using the methodology proposed here will be presented at the conference and can already be obtained in our website\(^2\).

Our goal is to use energy-based methods (as Hamroun et al. (2010)) to design control laws for the coupled system, thus trying to improve the damping characteristics.

In addition, several improvements still need to be done in the modeling. First, only linear models were used in this paper. We are working on using nonlinear Saint-Venant equations to represent the fluid dynamics. In contrast to equations presented in this paper, the biggest difference is that the fluid Hamiltonian gradient will have several nonlinear terms. After spatial discretization, the resulting system will be a set of nonlinear Differential-Algebraic Equations. As we have shown in Cardoso-Ribeiro et al. (2014), experimental results exhibits strongly nonlinear behavior when exciting the system near resonant frequencies at high amplitudes. We expect to be able to use simulation of these nonlinear equations to reproduce the experimental results, at least qualitatively.

Further work is also needed to include piezoelectric patches (as done by Voss and Scherpen (2014)). In addition, here we considered that no dissipation occurs, which is not the case in practice and a damping model should be included (as done by Matignon and Hélie (2013)).

After including the constraints of Eq. 47 to the system presented in Eq. 45, we obtained an implicit port-Hamiltonian system. While we can use descriptor state-space models and differential-algebraic equations to simulate this system, another choice is to try a coordinate change that eliminates the constraints and makes the system explicit (as van der Schaft and Maschke (1994), Wu et al. (2014)).

The spatial discretization presented here can also be improved by using more accurate methods as the method proposed by Moulla et al. (2012) (which uses a polynomial basis, leading to higher accuracy).

An additional issue that needs to be addressed is that the use of shallow water equations is usually appropriate for modeling wave propagation in canals and oceans. Since these equations consider the hypothesis that fluid depth is much smaller than the tank length, its use is very limited for representing sloshing in tanks. A better modeling approach is needed. Incompressible Euler equations with free-surface boundary conditions are usually the way to go. However, writing these equations as a PHS is still an open challenge, at the best of the authors knowledge.

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REFERENCES


\(^2\) [http://github.com/flavioluiz/port-hamiltonian](http://github.com/flavioluiz/port-hamiltonian)

Appendix A. DISCRETIZATION

For all cases, the finite-dimensional approximation obtained through mixed finite-element methods leads to an equation like:

\[
\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} =\begin{bmatrix} 0 & M \\ -M^T & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \partial_{x_1} H \\ \partial_{x_2} H \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ B_2 \end{bmatrix} u, \quad (A.1)
\]

and
\[
y = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & B_1^T \\ B_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \partial_{x_1} H \\ \partial_{x_2} H \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ D \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \partial_{x_2} H \end{bmatrix} u, \quad (A.2)
\]

The values of matrices \( M, B_1, B_2 \) and \( D \), as well as the dimensions of \( u \) and \( y \) depends on the differential operator \( J \). Torsion and Saint-Venant equations have both a first-order \( J \), whereas Euler-Bernoulli has a second-order one.

A.1 Torsion and Saint-Venant equation

In this case, \( u = [e_1(L) \, e_2(0)]^T \), \( y = [-e_2(L) \, e_1(0)]^T \). The matrices \( M, B_1, B_2 \) and \( D \) are not shown here since they can be obtained from Hamroun (2009) (Section 2.2.3).

Discretization of torsion Hamiltonian. From Eq. 11:
\[ H^T(x_{1,i},x_{2,i}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{1}{2} \int_{z_i}^{z_{i-1}} \left( G J (x_{1,i})^2 + \frac{(x_{2,i})^2}{I_p} \right) dz, \]
\[ (A.3) \]
where \( \Delta z = L/N \) is the length of each element. Assuming constant material coefficients and \( x_{1,i}^T(z_i,t) = x_{1,i}(t)/\Delta z \), inside each element:
\[ H^T_{m}(x_{1,i},x_{2,i}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{1}{2} \Delta z \left( G J (x_{1,i})^2 + \frac{(x_{2,i})^2}{I_p} \right), \]
\[ (A.4) \]
This easily allows us to calculate the co-energy variables:
\[ e_{1,i} = \frac{\partial H_{m}}{\partial x_{1,i}} = \frac{G J}{\Delta z} x_{1,i}, \]
\[ (A.5) \]
\[ e_{2,i} = \frac{\partial H_{m}}{\partial x_{2,i}} = \frac{1}{I_p \Delta z} x_{2,i}. \]
\[ (A.6) \]

Discretization of Saint-Venant Hamiltonian

\[ H^F(\alpha_1,\alpha_2,\theta,p_f) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \int_{z_i}^{z_{i-1}} \left( \frac{\rho g h^2 \theta^2 \alpha_1^2}{2} \alpha_1^2 + \frac{\rho g h^2 \theta z_i^2}{2 \Delta z} + \frac{\rho g h \theta (z_i^2 - z_{i-1}^2)}{2 \Delta z} \right) + \frac{p_f^2}{2I_f}, \]
\[ (A.7) \]
\[ H^F_{m}(\alpha_1,i,\alpha_2,i,\theta,p_f) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left( \frac{\rho g h^2 \theta^2 \alpha_1^2}{2 \Delta z} + \frac{\rho g h^2 \theta z_i^2}{2 \Delta z} + \frac{\rho g h \theta (z_i^2 - z_{i-1}^2)}{2 \Delta z} \right) + \frac{p_f^2}{2I_f}. \]
\[ (A.8) \]

A.2 Euler-Bernoulli equation

In this case, \( u = [-e_1^B(L) \, e_2^B(0) \, e_2^B(0) \, e_2^B(0)]^T \) and output \( y = [-e_2^B(L) \, e_2^B(L) \, e_2^B(0) \, e_2^B(0)]^T \). Using a similar development from Bassi et al. (2007), we’ve found the following matrices:
\[ M = \begin{bmatrix} m_1 & 0 & \ldots & 0 \\ m_2 & m_1 & \ldots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ m_N & m_{N-1} & \ldots & m_1 \end{bmatrix}, \]
\[ (A.13) \]
where:
\[ m_1 = -\frac{\alpha}{\alpha^2}, \]
\[ (A.14) \]
\[ m_i = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha^2} \frac{(2\alpha - i)(\alpha - 1)^{i-3}}{\alpha + 1}, \quad i = 2, 3, \ldots, N, \]
\[ (A.15) \]
with \( \alpha = 1/\Delta z \) and \( \alpha = 0.5 \), when using spline approximation.
\[ D = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{N\alpha}{\alpha - 1} & \frac{N-1}{\alpha - 1} & \ldots & \frac{1}{\alpha - 1} \\ \frac{N}{\alpha - 1} & -\frac{N-1}{\alpha - 1} & \ldots & \frac{1}{\alpha - 1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{1}{\alpha - 1} & \frac{1}{\alpha - 1} & \ldots & -\frac{N}{\alpha - 1} \end{bmatrix}, \]
\[ (A.16) \]
\[ B_1 = \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ b_{N1} & b_{N2} \end{bmatrix}, \quad B_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -b_{N1} & b_{N2} \\ -b_{(N-1)1} & b_{(N-1)2} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ -b_{11} & b_{12} \end{bmatrix}, \]
\[ (A.17) \]
Discretization of Euler-Bernoulli Hamiltonian
\[ H^B(x_1^B,x_2^B) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \int_{z_i}^{z_{i-1}} \left( E I (x_1^B)^2 + \frac{1}{\mu} (x_2^B)^2 \right) dz, \]
\[ (A.20) \]
\[ H^B_{m}(x_1^B,x_2^B) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left( E I (x_1^B)^2 + \frac{1}{\mu} (x_2^B)^2 \right), \]
\[ (A.21) \]
\[ e_{1,i} = \frac{\partial H^B_{m}}{\partial x_{1,i}} = \frac{E I}{\Delta z} x_{1,i}, \]
\[ (A.22) \]
\[ e_{2,i} = \frac{\partial H^B_{m}}{\partial x_{2,i}} = \frac{1}{\mu \Delta z} x_{2,i}. \]
\[ (A.23) \]