



Cavitation Surge Modelling in Francis Turbine Draft Tube

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Introduction

- Cavitation vortex rope in Francis turbine draft tube may induce **forced** or **self**-oscillations in the hydraulic system

Part load

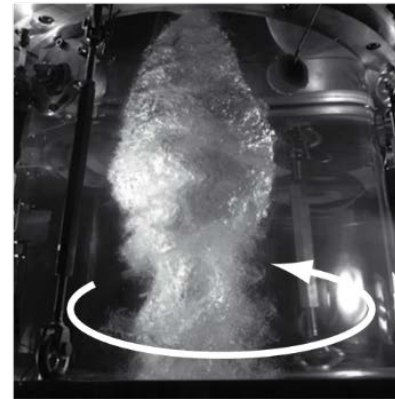
$$Q < Q_{BEP}$$



**Forced
oscillations**

Full load

$$Q > Q_{BEP}$$

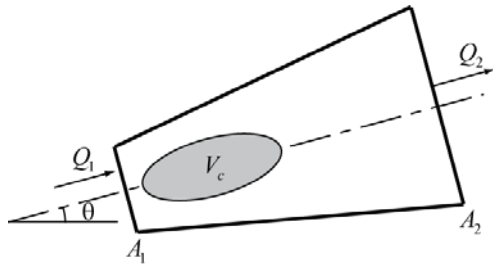


**Self
oscillations**

- 1D model of the draft tube including cavitation volume is required for stability analysis of the system

Set of Equations

o Continuity Equation



$$V_c = f(\gamma, h)$$

$$\gamma = \frac{C_{\theta_1}}{C_{m_1}} = \cot \beta_1 - \frac{U_1 A_1}{Q_1}$$

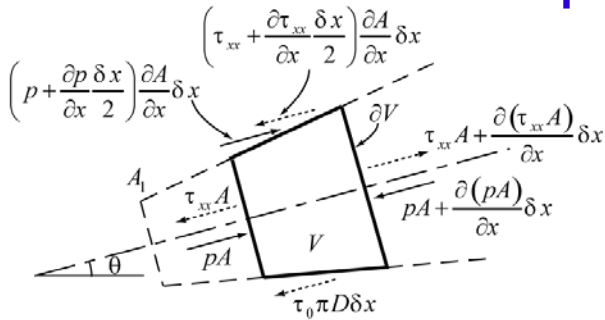
$$Q_1 - Q_2 = \chi \frac{dQ_1}{dt} + C_c \frac{dh}{dt}$$

$$C_c = -\frac{\partial V_c}{\partial h}$$

$$\chi = -\frac{\partial V_c}{\partial Q_1}$$

Upstream flow rate
(Tsujiimoto et al.)

o Momentum Equation



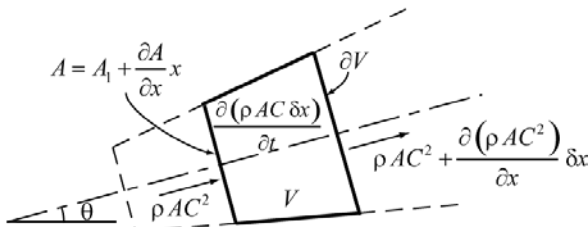
$$\frac{1}{gA} \frac{\partial Q}{\partial t} + \frac{Q}{gA^2} \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{Q^2}{gA^3} K_x + \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} + \frac{\tau_0 \pi D}{\rho g A} \frac{\mu''}{\rho g A} \frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial x^2} = 0$$

Convective terms
(New)

Dilatation viscosity
(Pezzinga et al.)

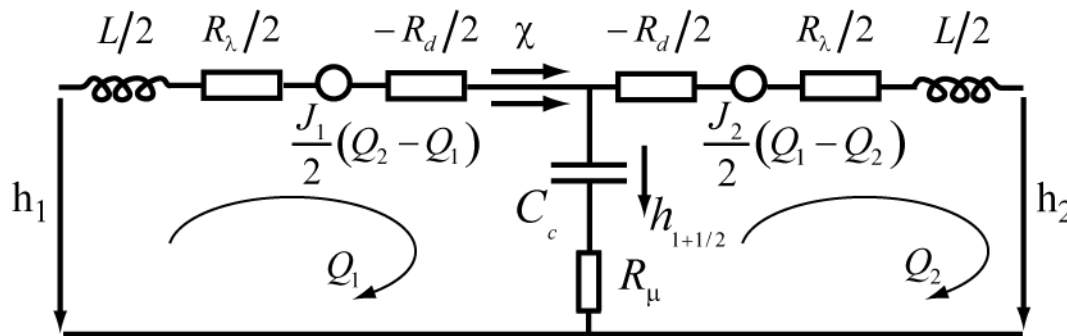
Divergent geometry
(Tsujiimoto et al.)

$$K_x = \frac{\partial A}{\partial x}$$



Electrical Analogy

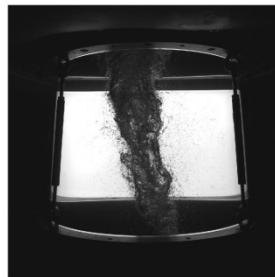
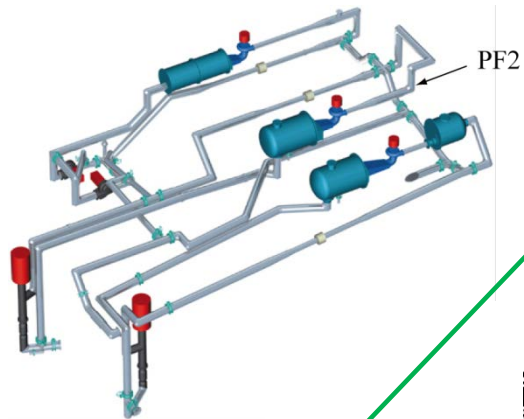
- Equivalent electrical scheme (Cone + Elbow)



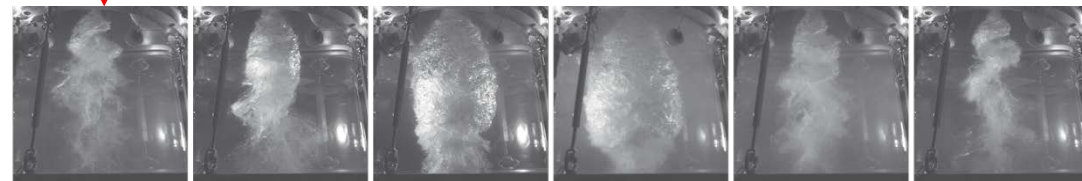
- | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|--------------|
| ✓ Inertia | : | $L = \frac{\delta x}{gA}$ | |
| ✓ Losses | : | $R_\lambda = \frac{\lambda \delta x}{2gDA^2} Q$ | |
| ✓ Convective terms | : | $J = \frac{Q}{gA^2}$ | |
| ✓ Divergent geometry | : | $R_d = \frac{\delta x \cdot K_x}{gA^3} Q$ | |
| ✓ Dilatation viscosity | : | $R_\mu = \frac{\mu''}{\rho g A \delta x}$ | |
| ✓ Mass flow gain factor | : | $\chi = -\frac{\partial V_c}{\partial Q_1}$ | |
| ✓ Cavitation compliance | : | $C_c = -\frac{\partial V_c}{\partial h_{1+1/2}} = \frac{gA\delta x}{a^2}$ | → Wave speed |

Case Study

- 444 MW Francis turbine, British Columbia, Canada
- ✓ Reduced scale model tested at the EPFL test rig



Operating Point	E	Q/Q_{BEP}	N_{ED}	Q_{ED}	T_{ED}	γ
[-]	[J.kg ⁻¹]	[-]	[-]	[-]	[-]	[°]
OP#PL	272.4	0.58	0.318	0.134	0.055	15
OP#FL	364.6	1.34	0.275	0.268	0.135	30

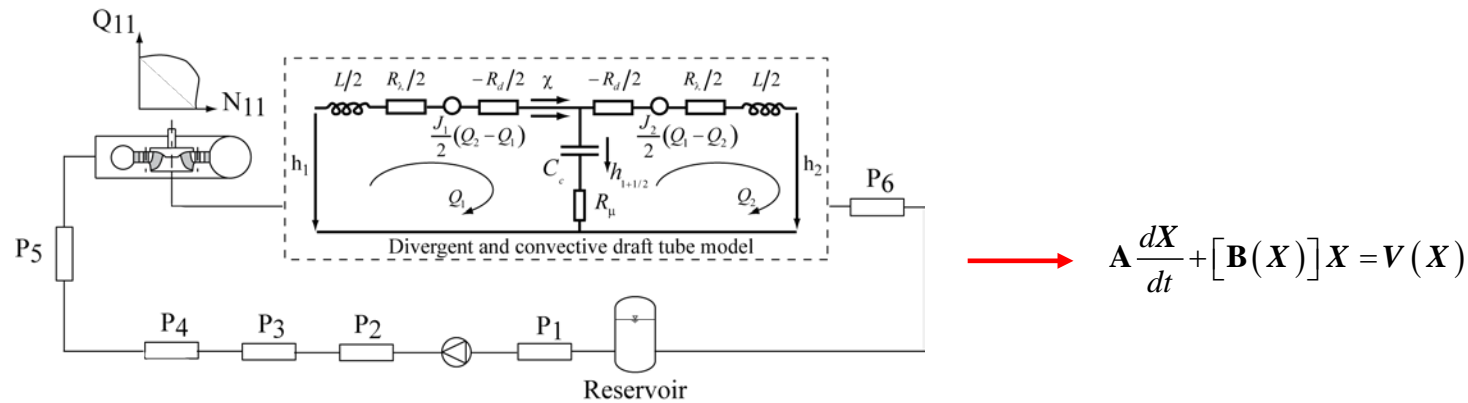


Full load: cavitation surge phenomenon
Self-oscillations of the cavitation vortex rope at frequency
 $f = 2.5$ Hz

Part load : no cavitation surge phenomenon
(Favrel A.)

Stability Analysis

- SIMSEN model of the hydraulic system

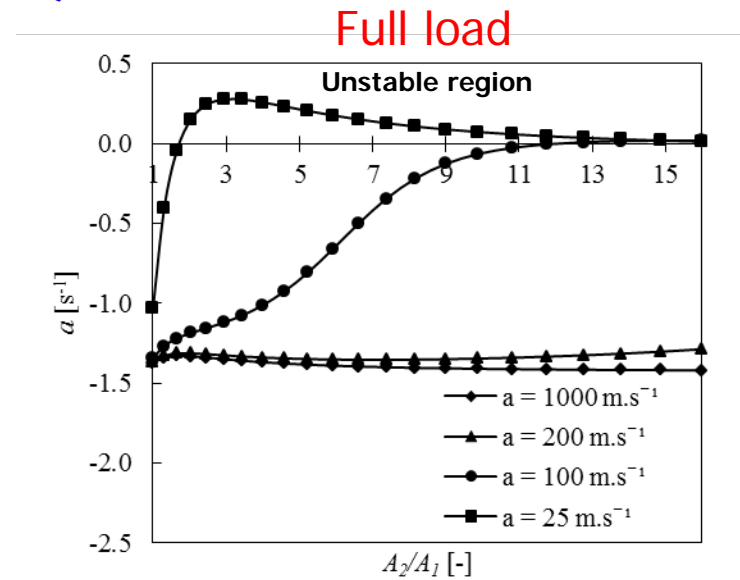
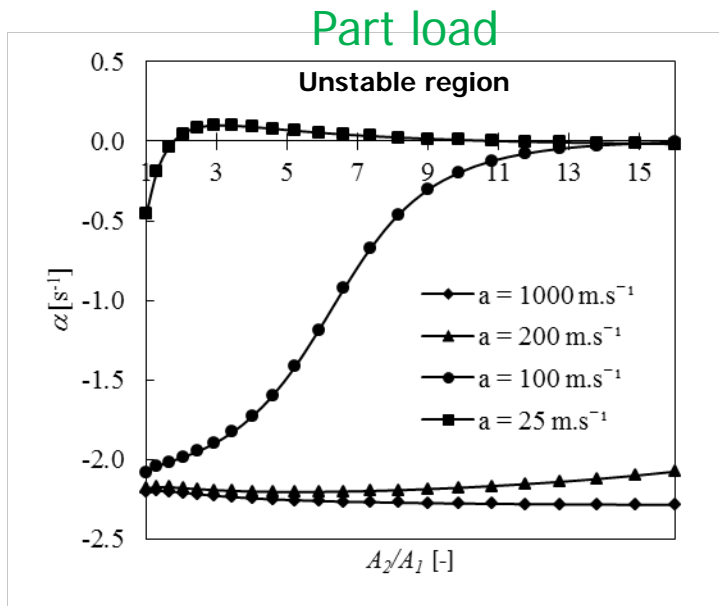


- Small perturbation stability analysis

- ✓ Analysis of the damping α of the first eigenmode
- ✓ Positive damping corresponds to unstable eigenmode leading to self-oscillations of the hydraulic system.

Influence of Divergent Geometry

- Damping of the 1st eigenmode as function of the divergent ratio ($\chi = 0 \text{ s}$, $\mu'' = 0 \text{ Pa.s}$)

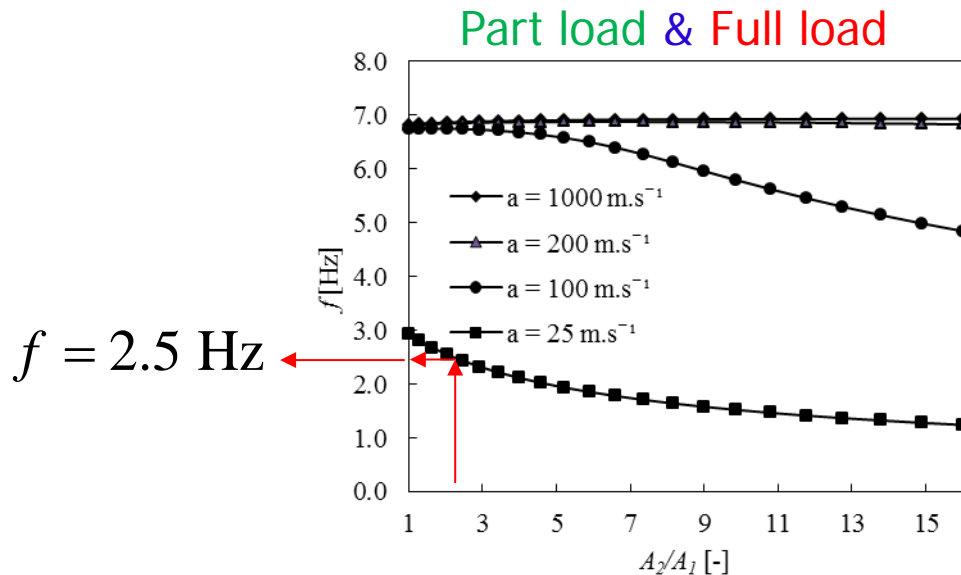


- ✓ High wave speed : influence of divergent is negligible
- ✓ Low wave speed : damping is modified by the divergent ratio

→ Potential self oscillations due to the divergent ratio
(similar results to Tsujimoto et al.)

Influence of Divergent Geometry

- Frequency of the 1st eigenmode as function of the divergent ratio ($\chi = 0 \text{ s}$, $\mu'' = 0 \text{ Pa.s}$)

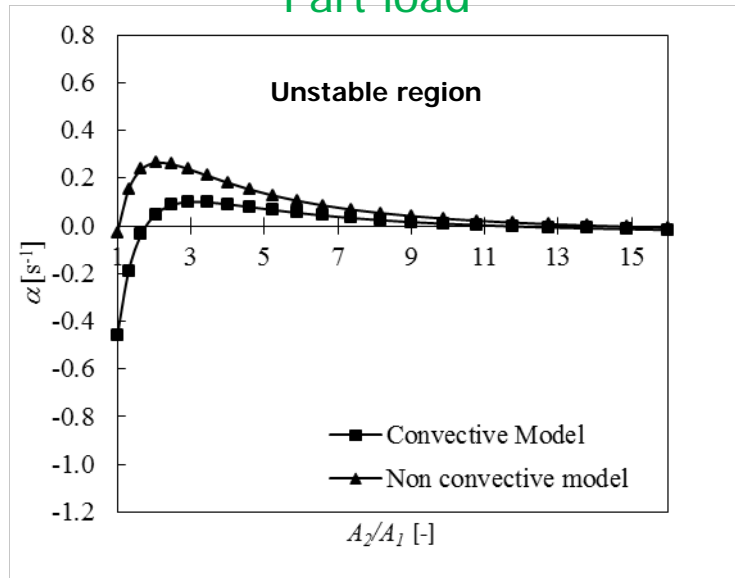


- ✓ Eigenfrequency modified by the divergent ratio for low wave speed values
- ✓ For the case study divergent ratio, $a = 25 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$ predicts first eigenfrequency at $f = 2.5 \text{ Hz}$

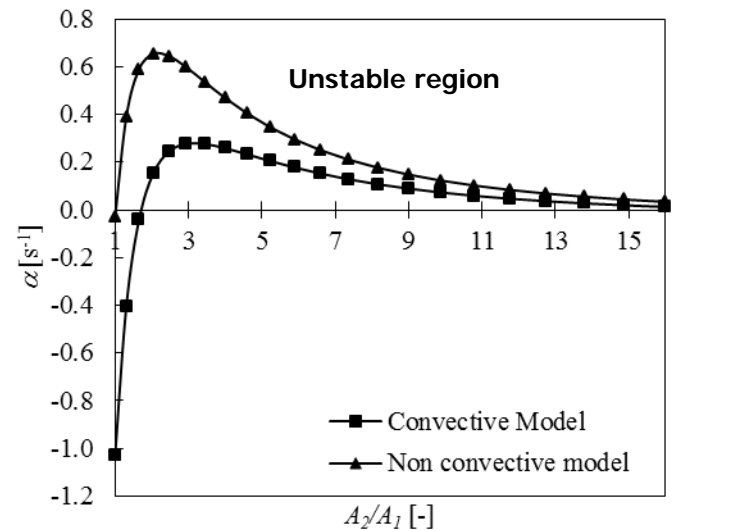
Influence of Convective Terms

- Damping modification by the convective terms ratio ($a = 25 \text{ m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$, $\chi = 0 \text{ s}$, $\mu'' = 0 \text{ Pa}\cdot\text{s}$)

Part load



Full load

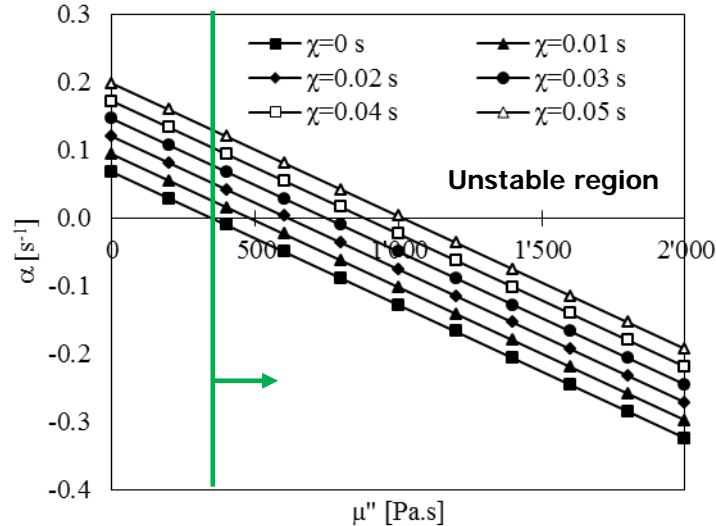


- ✓ Convective terms have a stabilizing influence

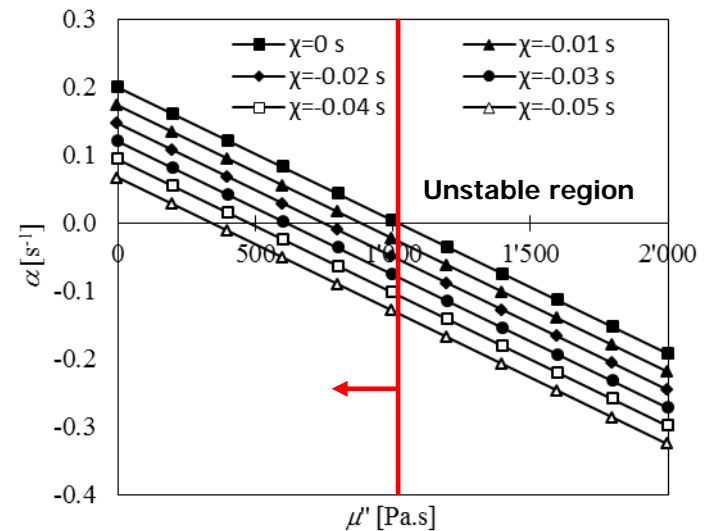
Influence of MFGF & Dilatation Viscosity

- Damping of the 1st eigenmode as function of the dilatation viscosity and the MFGF ($a = 25 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$)

Part load



Full load



- ✓ Damping: decreases linearly to stabilize the system
 - ✓ MFGF: destabilizing effect in part load
 - ✓ MFGF: stabilizing effect in full load
 - ✓ Higher than 400 Pa.s for part load conditions
 - ✓ Lower than 1000 Pa.s for full load conditions
- Similar results to Tsujimoto et al.

Conclusions

- Divergent ratio is the destabilizing parameter of the draft tube model;
- Convective terms have a stabilizing influence;
- Mass flow gain factor stabilizes or destabilizes cavitation volume fluctuations respectively for full load and part load conditions;
- To avoid prediction of self-oscillations at part load conditions, dilatation viscosity must be considered .

Thank you for your attention!

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