



# Computer program to compute pressure forces in pipe flow junctions

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A frequently occurring and difficult to solve problem in civil engineering and water resources analysis is the analysis of hydraulic phenomena in storm flow pipe systems. In the design of storm drain flood control systems, the analysis of energy losses in pipeflow junction structures is of key interest. The general practice is to use a pressure-plus-momentum balance analysis in order to estimate the change in water surface (or hydraulic grade line) elevations through the pipe structure, from which an energy loss is subsequently estimated.

A computer program is presented for the evaluation of pressure forces within a pipe junction structure. The water profile or HGL is assumed to be a straight line between endpoint conditions. The program provides estimates of force for both a complete mathematical formulation as well as a popular estimate of the complete formula. The program can be substituted for other estimates in the analysis of storm drain systems.

## INTRODUCTION

A frequently occurring and difficult to solve problem in civil engineering and water resources analysis is the analysis of hydraulic phenomena in storm flow pipe systems. In the design of storm drain flood control systems, the analysis of energy losses in pipeflow junction structures is of key interest. The general practice is to use a pressure-plus-momentum balance analysis<sup>1</sup> in order to estimate the change in water surface (or hydraulic grade line) elevations through the pipe structure, from which an energy loss is subsequently estimated.

To estimate the junction energy loss, the total pressure force acting upon the floodflow in the structure needs to be determined. It is this step of the analysis that has proved to be the most difficult to solve for civil engineers. In this paper, a computer program is developed that integrates the pressure force of the pipe junction, for both unsealed or sealed flow conditions, and the flow-directional component (the 'x' direction) is subsequently computed. This force component in the

direction of flow, noted as  $F_x$ , is then available for use in balancing forces to change the momentum in the  $x$ -direction. The forces in the perpendicular directions are assumed balanced by supports (such as anchor blocks), and are not evaluated in the computation of forces in the  $x$ -direction.

## MATHEMATICAL MODEL DEVELOPMENT

The mathematical model development is presented in detail in Ref. 2, but is reviewed in the following for the reader's convenience.

In order to develop the  $x$  direction of force in the pipe junction structure, it is assumed that water pressures are equal to hydrostatic pressures, and that the water surface or pressure profile gradients are constant in the structure, (i.e. the profiles are straight lines through the structure).

The geometry of the junction control volume (or pipe structure) is as indicated in Fig. 1. In  $(x, y, z)$  space the plane  $x = 0$  cuts the structure outlet pipe at its downstream end, and this section of the pipe structure is a circle of radius  $r_1$  with center at the point  $(0, 0, r_1)$ . When viewed from above, the central axis of the

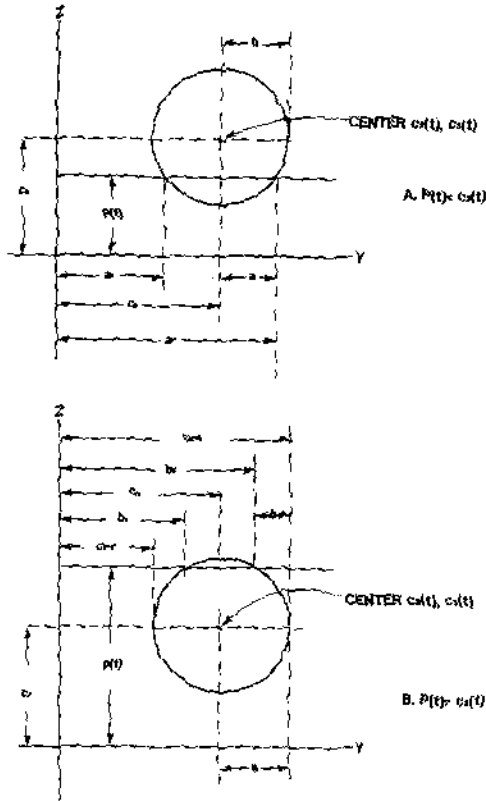


Fig. 3. Hydrostatic pressure in the plane  $x = t$ .

Also

$$a_1 = c_2 - (c_2 - c_2) = c_2 - a \quad (9)$$

To find the  $x$ -component of the force at a point on the bottom half of the structure, due to the pressure, the  $x$ -component of the outward pointing unit normal is needed. From eqn (3),

$$u_x = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = -2(y - c_2) \frac{\partial c_2}{\partial x} - 2(z - c_3) \frac{\partial c_3}{\partial x} - 2r$$

from which the component of the normal derivative in the  $x$ -direction is

$$\frac{-u_x}{[u_x^2 + 4r(x)^2]^{1/2}} \quad (10)$$

where the sign has been chosen to give a positive sign for a force acting towards the origin.

The element of surface area,  $dS$ , in terms of  $dx dy$ , is

$$ds = \frac{\{u_x^2 + 4r(x)^2\}^{1/2}}{|u_z|} dx dy \quad (11)$$

where

$$|u_z| = \{2(z - c_3(x))\} \quad (12)$$

Combining (5), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), and (12), the  $x$ -component of the force on the bottom half of the

structure is

$$Fxb = \gamma \int_0^L \int_{a_1(x)}^{a_2(x)} \{p(x) - zb(x, y)\} \{-u_x / |u_z|\} dy dx \quad (13)$$

The integrand of (13) may be written as

$$\{p - c_3 + \{r^2 - (y - c_2)^2\}^{1/2}\} \quad (14)$$

times

$$\left\{ -\frac{\partial c_3}{\partial x} + \left\{ (y - c_2) \frac{\partial c_2}{\partial x} + r \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} \right\} / \{r^2 - (y - c_2)^2\}^{1/2} \right\} \quad (15)$$

Integrating with respect to  $y$ ,

$$Fxb = 2\gamma \int_0^L fb(x) dx \quad (16)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} fb(x) = & \left( -\{p - c_3\} \frac{\partial c_3}{\partial x} + r \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} \right) a \\ & + \left( -\frac{\partial c_3}{\partial x} (r^2/2) + \{p - c_3\} r \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} \right) \sin^{-1}(a/r) \\ & - \frac{\partial c_3}{\partial x} (a/2) \sqrt{r^2 - a^2} \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

We now analyse the pressure on the top half of the structure. The pressure at the wetted point  $(t, y, zt)$  on the soffit of the structure, where

$$zt(t, y) = c_3(t) + \{r(t)^2 - (y - c_2)^2\}^{1/2} \quad (18)$$

is given by the specific weight of water  $\gamma$  times

$$p(t) - zt(t, y) \quad (19)$$

Define  $b_2(t)$  so that in the plane  $x = t$  the  $y$ -coordinates of the wetted points on the right half of the top half of the structure are the points

$$b_2(t) \leq y \leq r(t)$$

As indicated in Fig. 3,

$$b = b_2 - c_2 = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p \geq c_3 + r \\ \{r^2 - (p - c_3)^2\}^{1/2} & \text{if } c_3 \leq p \leq c_3 + r \\ r & \text{if } p \leq c_3 \end{cases} \quad (20)$$

Similarly define  $b_1$ , so that in the plane  $x = t$  the  $y$ -coordinates of the wetted points on the right half of the top half of the structure are the points

$$c_2 - r \leq y \leq b_1 \text{ and } b_2 \leq y \leq c_2 + r,$$

as indicated in Fig. 3.

## COMPUTER PROGRAM

```

program pipe
  real area, delz, fx, flz, p1, p2, r1, r2, temp1, temp2, temp3
  print *, "Program Pipe"
  print *, "downstream pipe radius = ?"
  read *, r1
  print *, "upstream pipe radius = ?"
  read *, r2
  print *, "downstream pressure height (from bottom of pipe) = ?"
  read *, p1
  print *, "upstream pressure height (from bottom of pipe) = ?"
  read *, p2
  print *, "billet height delz of upstream end of pipe = ?"
  read *, delz
  temp1=fx(delz,p1,p2,r1,r2)
  print *, "The Fx force = ", temp1
  temp2=f1z(p1,p2,r1,r2)
  print *, "The F1z force = ", temp2
  print *, "The sum of the forces is ", temp1+temp2
  temp3=(p2+delz-p1)*(area1(p1,r1)+area(p2,r2))/2
  print *, "The approximate formula gives ", temp3
  if (abs(temp1+temp2).gt.0) then
    print *, "relative error 100*(Force-approx)/Force = ",
    100*(temp1+temp2-temp3)/(temp1+temp2), "%"
  endif
  goto 10
end

real function fx(delz,p1,p2,r1,r2)
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  Computes the force in the x-direction a pipe exerts to oppose the
  pressure due to water in the pipe.
  The geometry of the pipe is as follows: In (x,y,z) space, the
  plane x=0 cuts the pipe at its downstream end, and this section of
  the pipe is a circle of radius r1 with center in the plane y=0.
  The plane x=L cuts the pipe at its upstream end, and this section
  of pipe is a circle of radius r2 with center in the plane y=0.
  Furthermore the bottom of the pipe, consisting of the line joining
  the lowest point on the downstream circle to the lowest point on
  the upstream circle, is taken to be at height 0 at x=0 and at
  height delz at x=L. The body of the pipe is the minimal surface
  spanning the downstream circle and the upstream circle, e.g. if
  delz=0 and both circles have the same radius, it is a right
  circular cylinder.
  It happens that the final result is independent of L which is
  taken to be 1 in the program.
  Pressure heights p1 and p2 are given at x=0 and x=L=1, each
  measured from the bottom of the pipe. If the pipe is full at
  either end, the pressure height can be higher than the top of the
  pipe. An assumption made is that the pressure height corresponding
  to a point x between 0 and 1 is a linear interpolation of the
  heights p1 and p2; e.g. if the end pressure heights are each below
  the corresponding top of the pipe, the water surface is modeled
  as a straight line.
  The program takes the pressure at any point on the surface of
  the pipe due to the pressure height above that point, and
  multiplies that by an element of surface area dA=sec(gamma)dx dy to
  obtain the force at that point, and then multiplies that force by
  the x-component of the normal to the surface at the point to get
  the x-component of the force. This force in the x-direction is
  then integrated over the wetted surface of the pipe to get the
  force Fx. The integral is taken in two parts: one over the wetted
  surface of the bottom half of the pipe, giving Fxb, and the other
  over the wetted surface of the top of the pipe, giving Fxt. Then
  Fx=Fxb+Fxt.
  The net force F1z in the x direction on the water surfaces at
  both ends of the pipe is also computed. The total force in the x
  direction is Fx+F1z.

  real delz, fb, ft, fxb, fxt, p1, p2, r1, r2, simpson, delz, tr1, tr2, tp1, tp2
  common /tparms/ delz, tp1, tp2, tr1, tr2
  external fb, ft
  delz=delz
  tr1=tr1
  tr2=tr2
  tp1=tp1
  tp2=tp2
  Fxb=-2.0*simpson(0.0,1.0,1E-4,fb)
  print *, "Fxb = ", Fxb
  Fxt=2.0*simpson(0.0,1.0,1E-4,ft)
  print *, "Fxt = ", Fxt
  Fx=Fxb+Fxt
  return
end

real function f1z(x)
  real a,c,csubx,b,r,rsubx,delz,temp1,temp2,temp3
  a=tr1, tr2, tp1, tp2, x
  common /tparms/ delz, tp1, tp2, tr1, tr2
  r=tr1+xx*(tr2-tr1)
  rsubx=tr2-tr1
  c=tr1+xx*(tr2-tr1+delz)
  csubx=tr2-tr1+delz
  p=tp1+xx*(tp2-tp1+delz)
  if (p.le.(c-r)) then
    p=0.0
  endif
  if ((p.gt.(c-r)) .and. (p.lt.(c+r))) then
    p=asqrt(r*r-(p-c)*(p-c))
  endif
  if (p.ge.(c+r)) then
    p=0.0
  endif
  temp1=(csubx*(p-c)+rsubx*r)*a
  temp2=-csubx*(r*r/2)+rsubx*r*(p-c)
  temp2=temp2*asin(b/r)
  temp3=-csubx*a*sqrt(a*(r*r-a*a))/2
  fb=temp1+temp2+temp3
  return
end

real function f1(z)
  real a,b,f,small,n,oddsun,evensun,sum,i1,i2,sumf
  integer n
  n=4
  h=(b-a)/6.0
  evensun=sumf(a+2*h,2*h,n-2,f)
  oddsun=sumf(a+h,2*h,n-1,f)
  sum=oddsun+evensun
  i2=(n/2)*f(a)+2*evensun+4*oddsun+f(b)
  i1=i2
  i=2*n
  h=h/2.0
  evensun=sum
  oddsun=sumf(a+h,2*h,n-1,f)
  sum=oddsun+evensun
  i2=(n/2)*f(a)+2*evensun+4*oddsun+f(b)
  if (abs(i1-i2).gt.small) .and. (n.le.1024) then
    simpson=i2
  return
end

real function sumf(c,h,m,f)
  sumf is the sum of f(c+i*h), i=0,1,...,m.
  external f
  real c,h,f,tsum,targ
  integer m
  tsum=0.0
  targ=c
  do 10 i=0,m
    tsum=tsum+f(targ)
    targ=targ+h
  10 continue
  sumf=tsum
  return
end

real function flz(p1,p2,r1,r2)
  computes the force F1 on the downstream water face and the force
  F2 on the upstream face, and returns F1+F2

  real F1,F2,G,p1,p2,r1,r2

  F1=-G(p1,r1)
  print *, "F1 = ", F1
  F2=G(p2,r2)
  print *, "F2 = ", F2
  F1z=F1+F2
  return
end

real function G(p,r)
  computes the force on the wetted area at either pipe end

  real p,r,r
  b1=3.1415926
  if (p.ge.(2.0*r)) then
    G=(p-r)*b1*r*r
  else if (p.lt.0.0) then
    G=0.0
  else
    G=(2.0/3.0)*p*exp(3.0/2.0!*log((p-r)/(p+r)))
    G=G+(p-r)*r*asin((p-r)/r)
    G=G+(p-r)*r*sqrt(r*r*(p-r)*(p-r))
    G=G+(p-r)*r*asin(r/2.0)
  endif
  return
end

real function area(p,r)
  returns the area of the circle x**2+y**2=r**2 below the line
  y=0.

  real p,r,r
  b1=3.1415926
  if (p.le.0) then
    area=0.0
  endif
  if (p.ge.(2*r)) then
    area=b1*r*r
  endif
end

```