MEC516/BME516: Fluid Mechanics I

Chapter 2: Fluid Statics

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Department of Mechanical & Industrial Engineering

- Plane surfaces, i.e. flat surfaces
- For the engineering design of:
  - liquid containment structures
    (e.g. storage tanks, dams and levees)
  - hulls of vessels
    - (e.g. ships, submarine vehicles)



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## Application: Water Tanks

- Water tanks are place on the top of buildings to supply domestic water
- Steel support bands are unevenly spaced
- Why?

Ans: Hydrostatic force increases (linearly) with depth



Domestic water storage tanks in New York City

- Our analysis is for *liquids*:
  - Pressure distribution for incompressible fluids
    - $p p_{atm} = \gamma h$  (gauge)
  - Pressure increases linearly with depth
  - Recall that pressure acts <u>normal</u> to bounding surface
- Goals of our analysis:
  - 1. Integrate pressure distribution to get total resultant force (F) on surface
  - 2. Locate the line of action of force, F (*Centre of Pressure*)
- Needed for stress analysis, plate thickness etc.



PCS211

#### **Problem Definition**

- Flat surface at angle,  $\theta$
- Red outline is the gate
- CG: centre of <u>area</u> of gate

Analysis Objectives:

- Calculate the total force on the gate
- Find the location of the total force (Centre of pressure)



**Oblique View of Gate Problem** 

#### **Problem Definition**

- Flat surface at angle,  $\theta$
- Red outline is plan (top) view
- CG, centre of *area* of gate
- Coordinate ξ measured from free surface, parallel to gate

Differential force:

$$dF = p \, dA = (p_a + \gamma \, h) \, dA$$

Integrate over gate area:

$$F = \int_{A} dF = \int_{A} (p_a + \gamma h(x, y)) dA$$





#### **Resultant Force**

$$F = (p_a + \gamma h_{CG}) A = p_{CG} A$$

• Thus,  $p_{CG}$  is the average pressure on the gate

What is the line of action of F?

- IMPORTANT! F does not act at CG
  - F acts below centroid, at CP
  - To be explained...









Centroid locations,  $I_{xx} & I_{xy}$  given in textbook

# Second Moment of Area, $I_{xx}$

- A geometric property, analogous to moment of inertia (in physics, second moment of mass)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> moment of area about the x-axis is defined as:

$$I_{xx} = \int_A y^2 dA$$
 (units of m<sup>4</sup>)

- This integral has been evaluated for common shapes
- See Figure 2.13 in textbook



Recall Beam bending stress? BME/MEC323:  $\frac{M}{I} = \frac{\sigma}{y}$ 

# Figure 2.13: Centroids and Second Moments of Area



## **Gauge Pressure Formulas**

- In many cases p<sub>a</sub> acts on both sides of the gate, cancels out
- Force *F* is only caused by weight of fluid

**Simplified equations:** 

$$F = \gamma h_{CG} A$$
$$y_{CP} = \frac{-I_{xx} \sin \theta}{h_{CG} A}$$



passing through the gate's centroid

#### **Example Problem**

Consider a reservoir of water at 20°C. A vertical hinged gate (AB) holds back the water. The gate has a depth of 3.0 m (into the page).

- (a) Sketch the hydrostatic pressure distribution on the gate (AB)
- (b) Calculate the total force (F) on gate AB
- (c) Find the distance of the line of action of force (F) from the hinge at point A



# Why is the C of P below the Centroid?

- Consider the pressure force on a gate in a chamber of gas
- Uniform pressure distribution (Why?)

Density of gases O(10<sup>3</sup>) less dense liquids. Variation of pressure with height is negligible





- C of P is at the centroid
- With F located at the centroid, both systems have the same moment about the CG

# Why is the C of P below the Centroid?

- Non-uniform pressure distribution (hydrostatics)
- Pressure at the centroid is the average pressure on gate



**Pressure Distribution** 

Equivalent Force *Below* Centroid



- To have the same moment about CG, F must act below the centroid (by amount, y<sub>CP</sub>)
- Like a ramped
  distributed load (statics)

#### **Example Problem**

Watch the Video Solution



#### **Example: Hydrostatic Force on a Plane Gate**

A semi-circular gate is held closed by force  $F_g$  applied 0.6 m from the top edge. The gate is hinged along the upper straight edge. Calculate the minimum force  $F_g$  necessary to keep the gate closed against the hydrostatic force of the water.

Neglect the mass of the gate



#### END NOTES

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14.59 kg?

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