# SPACE-TIME ANALYSIS FOR THE CONTAINER PROBLEM

# **M. GÖTTLICHER**

University of Applied Sciences Erfurt Altonaer Str. 25, 99094 Erfurt, Gemany m.goettlicher@t-online.de, <u>www.fh-erfurt.de</u>

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**Abstract.** The container problem describes the behaviour of elastic porous media in a rectangular container, which is completely saturated by an ideal incompressible liquid. By time the liquid extrudes on the surface of the container while the stress resulting from a given top load acts on the shrinking elastic solid due to its compression. The analysis bases on a space-time potential that contains a linear elastic term, a darcy flow term, and a boundary load term. The variation of the potential results in a space-time principle. Its minimum preserves approximately equilibrium over space and time.

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

The container problem describes the behaviour of elastic porous media in a rectangular container, which is completely saturated by an ideal incompressible liquid. Displacement and velocity at the bottom are zero. Motion is possible only in the vertical direction. The boundary load on the top acts on the elastic solid. It starts with zero at the beginning and increases to its maximum at the end of duration T. By time the liquid extrudes on the surface of the container while the stress moves to the shrinking elastic solid due to its compression [2], [4].

Quadratic approximation of the displacement in space results in linear elastic stress distribution and cubic liquid pressure distribution. It fulfils compatibility of displacement, strain, and velocity. The cubic approximation of the displacement in time starts with a time gradient of zero and ends towards infinity with a time gradient of zero. Displacements and velocities are zero in the beginning.

The state at the end of duration T results from the minimum of virtual worktime which is the integral of virtual work over space and time. For T towards infinity solutions are available for low order approximation according to the rule of Bernoulli L' Hospital. The potential decreases for higher order approximation which indicates convergence [1], [5].

# **2 POTENTIAL AND PRINCIPLE**

## 2.1 Space Formulation

For a given point of time the elastic stripe is subjected to a downward (negative) top load and an upward area load which results from the declining liquid pressure resulting from the velocity of the upward moving water. Potential:

$$\frac{1}{2}\int_{A} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \, \mathrm{d} \, \mathrm{A} - \frac{1}{2}\int_{A} \boldsymbol{u} \, \boldsymbol{p}' \, \mathrm{d} \, \mathrm{A} - \int_{B} \boldsymbol{u} \, \boldsymbol{\sigma} \, \mathrm{d} \, \mathrm{B}$$
(1)

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = \mathbf{D} \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{x}}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{y}}}{\partial \mathbf{y}} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{x}}}{\partial \mathbf{y}} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{y}}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \end{pmatrix} \qquad \boldsymbol{\sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathbf{x}} \\ \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathbf{y}} \\ \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathbf{xy}} \end{pmatrix} \qquad \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{x}} \\ \mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{y}} \end{pmatrix} \qquad \mathbf{p}' = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{p}'_{\mathbf{x}} \\ \mathbf{p}'_{\mathbf{y}} \end{pmatrix} \qquad (2)$$

- ε strain
- **σ** stress
- u displacement
- **p**' pressure gradient
- A area
- B boundary

The potential contains an elastic term, an area load term, and a boundary load term [3]. The area load results from the impact of the declining pressure on the elastic solid. The boundary load is given and identical to the elastic stress of the top. The liquid pressure is zero at the top.

Principle:

$$\int_{A} \delta \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \, \mathrm{d} \, A - \frac{1}{2} \int_{A} \delta \, \boldsymbol{u} \, \boldsymbol{p}' \, \mathrm{d} \, A - \frac{1}{2} \int_{A} \delta \, \boldsymbol{p}' \, \boldsymbol{u} \, \mathrm{d} \, A - \int_{B} \delta \, \boldsymbol{u} \, \boldsymbol{\sigma} \, \mathrm{d} \, B = 0$$
(3)

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \mathbf{E} \, \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \tag{4}$$

$$\mathbf{p}' = -\mathbf{K} \, \dot{\mathbf{u}} \tag{5}$$

$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{\mathbf{E}}{(1+\nu)(1-2\nu)} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1-\nu & \nu & 0\\ \nu & 1-\nu & 0\\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1-2\nu}{2} \end{pmatrix} \qquad \mathbf{K} = \frac{1}{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0\\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
(6)

$$\int_{A} \delta(\mathbf{D}\mathbf{u})^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{D}\mathbf{u}) \mathrm{d}\mathbf{A} + \frac{1}{2} \int_{A} \delta \mathbf{u} \mathbf{K} \, \dot{\mathbf{u}} \, \mathrm{d}\mathbf{A} + \frac{1}{2} \int_{A} \delta \, \dot{\mathbf{u}} \, \mathbf{K} \mathbf{u} \, \mathrm{d}\mathbf{A} - \int_{B} \delta \, \mathbf{u} \, \boldsymbol{\sigma} \, \mathrm{d}\mathbf{B} = 0$$
(7)

- E Young's modulus
- v Poisson ratio
- k Flow parameter

The pressure gradient depends on the displacement. For asymmetric interpolation in space and time evolve two area load terms.

Plane strain stripe of hight H and v = 0:

$$E\int_{0}^{H} \delta u' u' d y + \frac{1}{2k} \int_{0}^{H} \delta \dot{u} u d y + \frac{1}{2k} \int_{0}^{H} \delta u \dot{u} d y - \delta u_{H} \sigma_{H} = 0$$
(8)

$$\mathbf{u}' = \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{y}} \qquad \dot{\mathbf{u}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{t}}$$
(9)

 $\sigma_{_{\rm H}}$   $\,$  Stress at the top

 $u_{\rm H}$  displacement at the top

H height

#### **2.2 Space Time Formulation**

The integration over space is extended by an integration over time. Potential:

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{T} \int_{A} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^{T} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \, \mathbf{d} \, \mathbf{A} \, \mathbf{d} \, \mathbf{T} - \frac{1}{2} \int_{T} \int_{A} \boldsymbol{u} \, \boldsymbol{p}' \, \mathbf{d} \, \mathbf{A} \, \mathbf{d} \, \mathbf{T} - \int_{T} \int_{B} \boldsymbol{u} \, \boldsymbol{\sigma} \, \mathbf{d} \, \mathbf{B} \, \mathbf{d} \, \mathbf{T} = 0$$
(10)

T duration

Elastic stripe:

$$\frac{E}{2} \int_{0}^{T} \int_{0}^{H} u' u' dy dt + \frac{1}{2k} \int_{0}^{T} \int_{0}^{H} \dot{u} u dy dt - \int_{0}^{T} u_{H} \sigma_{H} dt$$
(11)

The analysis bases on the minimum of the space time potential.

#### Principle:

For a given duration T the virtual work is integrated over space and time The virtual work time is set to zero:

$$\iint_{T A} \delta \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^{T} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \, \mathbf{d} \, \mathbf{A} \, \mathbf{d} \, \mathbf{T} - \iint_{T A} \delta \boldsymbol{u} \, \boldsymbol{p}' \, \mathbf{d} \, \mathbf{A} \, \mathbf{d} \, \mathbf{T} - \iint_{T A} \delta \boldsymbol{p}' \, \boldsymbol{u} \, \mathbf{d} \, \mathbf{A} \, \mathbf{d} \, \mathbf{T} - \iint_{T B} \delta \boldsymbol{u} \, \boldsymbol{\sigma} \, \mathbf{d} \, \mathbf{B} \, \mathbf{d} \, \mathbf{T} = 0 \tag{12}$$

Elastic stripe:

$$E\int_{0}^{T}\int_{0}^{H}\delta u'u'dydt + \frac{1}{2k}\int_{0}^{T}\int_{0}^{H}\delta \dot{u}udydt + \frac{1}{2k}\int_{0}^{T}\int_{0}^{H}\delta u\dot{u}dydt - \int_{0}^{T}\delta u_{H}\sigma_{H}dt = 0$$
(13)

#### **3** APPLICATIONS

A plane container of a height H of 20 meters and width L of 10 meters is considered.



Geometry and boundary conditions (left), displacement  $u_y$ , pressure p and stress  $\sigma_{xx}$  obtained with LSFEM for  $k_L = 10^{-6} \text{ m}^4/\text{Ns}$  at time  $T_{max} = 5 \times 10^5 \text{ s}$  (right)

Figure 1: Benchmark system [4].

$$\sigma_2 = -5 \left[ \frac{N}{m^2} \right] \qquad E = 2000 \left[ \frac{N}{m^2} \right] \qquad \nu = 0 \qquad k = 10^{-6} \left[ \frac{m^4}{N s} \right] \qquad H = 20 \left[ m \right] \tag{14}$$

A constant top load acts on solid and liquid. In the beginning it acts completely at the liquid. By time the liquid extrudes on the surface of the container while the stress moves to the shrinking elastic solid due to its compression [4].

With respect to the presented time approximation in this paper the system is modified. Instead of a constant top load  $\sigma$  from the beginning to infinity, a time consistent load increasing from zero to maximum during the time T is applied. The flow parameter is reduced to  $10^{-5}$ . Also, no top load acts on the liquid since the presented potential is restricted to the elastic solid. The liquid pressure p at the top is zero and it increases according to the upward velocity of the liquid towards the bottom. It is a secondary value.

#### 3.1 Bilinear approximation

The rough bilinear approximation is appropriate to explore the solution mechanism of the space time analysis. Despite the significant violation of boundary conditions and equilibrium the main behavior is covered sufficiently. The power of the potential reduces the incompetence of the interpolation. The handmade analysis is easy to perform and to understand.

Displacement:

$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{\mathrm{H}} \tag{15}$$

$$\mathbf{u}_{\mathrm{H}} = \mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{\mathrm{HT}} \qquad \mathbf{u}_{\mathrm{T}} = \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{\mathrm{HT}} \tag{16}$$

$$s = \frac{t}{T} \qquad r = \frac{y}{H} \tag{17}$$

$$0 \le s \le T \qquad 0 \le r \le H \tag{18}$$

$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{\mathrm{HT}} \tag{19}$$

 $u_{T}$  displacement at the end

 $u_{HT}$  displacement at the top at the end Strain:

$$u' = \frac{1}{H} \cdot s \cdot u_{HT} \qquad u'_{H0} = 0 \qquad u'_{HT} = \frac{1}{H} \cdot u_{HT} \qquad u'_{0T} = \frac{1}{H} \cdot u_{HT} \qquad u'_{00} = 0$$
(20)

Velocity:

$$\dot{\mathbf{u}} = \frac{1}{T} \cdot \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{\text{HT}}$$
  $\dot{\mathbf{u}}_{\text{H0}} = 0$   $\dot{\mathbf{u}}_{\text{HT}} = \frac{1}{T} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{\text{HT}}$   $\dot{\mathbf{u}}_{0\text{T}} = \frac{1}{T} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{\text{HT}}$   $\dot{\mathbf{u}}_{00} = 0$  (21)

 $u_{H0}$  displacement at the top at the beginning

 $u_{_{0T}}$  displacement at the bottom at the end

 $u_{00}$  displacement at the bottom at the beginning Stress:

$$\sigma_{\rm H} = \mathbf{s} \cdot \sigma_{\rm HT} \tag{22}$$

 $\sigma_{_{\rm HT}}$   $\,$  stress at the top at the end



Figure 2: Space-time container problem.

Velocity and pressure gradient are linear over space and constant over time.

$$E H \int_{0}^{1} \int_{0}^{1} \frac{s^{2}}{H^{2}} dr T ds u_{HT} + \frac{H}{2k} \int_{0}^{1} \int_{0}^{1} \frac{r}{T} r s dr T ds u_{HT} + \dots$$

$$\dots + \frac{H}{2k} \int_{0}^{1} \int_{0}^{1} r s \frac{r}{T} dr T ds u_{HT} - \int_{0}^{1} s \cdot s \cdot \sigma_{HT} T ds = 0$$
(23)

$$E H \int_{0}^{1} \frac{s^{2}}{H^{2}} T ds u_{HT} + \frac{H}{k} \int_{0}^{1} \frac{s}{3} ds u_{HT} - \int_{0}^{1} s \cdot s \cdot \sigma_{HT} T ds = 0$$
(24)

$$\left(\frac{\mathrm{E}\,\mathrm{T}}{3\,\mathrm{H}} + \frac{\mathrm{H}}{6\,\mathrm{k}}\right) \cdot \mathrm{u}_{\mathrm{HT}} = \frac{\sigma_{\mathrm{HT}}\mathrm{T}}{3} \tag{25}$$

$$u_{\rm HT} = \frac{2 \,\mathrm{HT}\,\mathrm{k}\,\sigma_{\rm HT}}{2 \,\mathrm{ET}\,\mathrm{k}+\mathrm{H}^2} \tag{26}$$

$$u_{\rm HT} = -0,04545 \tag{27}$$

Secondary analysis:

$$p = H \int_{0}^{r} p' dr - H \int_{0}^{1} p' dr = \frac{H}{k} \int_{0}^{r} \dot{u} dr - \frac{H}{k} \int_{0}^{1} \dot{u} dr = \frac{H(r^{2} - 1)}{2 T k} \cdot u_{HT}$$
(28)

Benchmark system:









 $T \rightarrow \infty$ 

$$u_{H\infty} = \frac{H\sigma_{HT}}{E}$$
(29)

$$u_{H\infty} = -0,05$$
 (30)

Towards infinity the mere elastic solution is realized.

Mere Darcy solution:

$$\frac{\mathrm{H}}{\mathrm{6\,k}} \cdot \mathrm{u}_{\mathrm{HT}} - \frac{\sigma_{\mathrm{HT}}T}{3} = 0 \tag{31}$$

$$u_{\rm HT} = \frac{2k \, T \, \sigma_{\rm HT}}{H} = -\frac{2 \cdot 0,00001 \cdot 100000 \cdot 5}{20} = 0,5 \tag{32}$$

Duration to reach the mere elastic displacement:

$$T = \frac{H u_{HT}}{2 k \sigma_{HT}} = -\frac{20 \cdot 0.05}{2 \cdot 0.00001 \cdot 5} = 10000$$
(33)

# 3.2 Quadratic cubic approximation



Figure 7: Quadratic cubic approximation.

$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} (2-r)r \cdot (3s^{2}-2s^{3}) \\ (-1+r)Hr \cdot (3s^{2}-2s^{3}) \\ (2-r) \cdot r \cdot (-s^{2}+s^{3}) \cdot T \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}_{\mathrm{HT}} \\ \mathbf{u}_{\mathrm{HT}}' \\ \dot{\mathbf{u}}_{\mathrm{HT}} \end{pmatrix}$$
(34)

Strain and velocity:

$$\mathbf{u}' = \mathbf{f}'^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} (2-2r) \cdot (3s^2 - 2s^3) \\ (-1+2r) \mathrm{H} \cdot (3s^2 - 2s^3) \\ (2-2r) \cdot (-s^2 + s^3) \cdot \mathrm{T} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}_{\mathrm{HT}} \\ \mathbf{u}'_{\mathrm{HT}} \\ \dot{\mathbf{u}}_{\mathrm{HT}} \end{pmatrix}$$
(35)

$$\dot{\mathbf{u}} = \dot{\mathbf{f}}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} (2-\mathbf{r})\mathbf{r} \cdot (6\mathbf{s} - 6\mathbf{s}^{2}) \\ (-1+\mathbf{r})\mathrm{H}\,\mathbf{r} \cdot (6\mathbf{s} - 6\mathbf{s}^{2}) \\ (2-\mathbf{r}) \cdot \mathbf{r} \cdot (-2\mathbf{s} + 3\mathbf{s}) \cdot \mathrm{T} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}_{\mathrm{HT}} \\ \mathbf{u}_{\mathrm{HT}}' \\ \dot{\mathbf{u}}_{\mathrm{HT}} \end{pmatrix}$$
(36)

Top load  $\sigma_{H}$  and top load vector  $\boldsymbol{b}:$ 

$$\sigma_{\rm H} = f_{\rm H} \sigma_{\rm HT} = \left(3\,{\rm s}^2 - 2\,{\rm s}^3\right) \sigma_{\rm HT} \tag{37}$$

$$\mathbf{b} = \int_{0}^{1} \mathbf{f}_{\mathrm{H}} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathrm{H}} \mathrm{T} \, \mathrm{d} \, \mathrm{s} \qquad \mathbf{f}_{\mathrm{H}} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \, \mathrm{s}^{2} - 2 \, \mathrm{s}^{3} \\ 0 \\ \left( -\mathrm{s}^{2} + \mathrm{s}^{3} \right) \cdot \mathrm{T} \end{pmatrix}$$
(38)

Principle:







Figure 10: Pressure gradient  $p_T$ ' and pressure  $p_T$  at the end of duration T.



Figure 11: Displacement  $u_T$  and stress  $\sigma_T$  at the end of duration T.

The most obvious space time effect is the slightly decreasing displacement u towards the end of duration T. The pressure p turns to tension. This effect vanishes if the time derivation at the end is set to zero or if the duration T is extended towards infinity.

$$u_{\rm HT} = \frac{3 \,{\rm H}\,{\rm T}\,{\rm k}\,(2080\,{\rm T}\,{\rm E}\,{\rm k}+1127\,{\rm H}^2\,)\sigma_{\rm HT}}{7826\,{\rm H}^2{\rm T}\,{\rm E}\,{\rm k}+315\,{\rm H}^4+3120\,{\rm T}^2{\rm E}^2}$$
(40)

$$u_{\rm HT} = -0,03712 \tag{41}$$

 $T \rightarrow \infty$ 

$$u_{\rm HT} = \frac{3 \cdot 2080 \,\mathrm{H}\,\sigma_{\rm HT}}{2 \cdot 3120 \,\mathrm{E}} \tag{42}$$

$$u_{H\infty} = -0,05$$
 (43)

### CONCLUSIONS

- An equal treatment of space and time in connection with low order approximation is an appropriate approach to analyze an elastic stripe subjected to the extrusion of a liquid due to compression.
- The minimization of virtual worktime is a powerful extension of the minimization of virtual work.

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