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RESEARCH ARTICLE

From general property balance equation to shear viscosity: Application of Laplace transforms technique

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Abstract

Differential equations have solutions which contains a number of unknown integration constants that can be found by applying appropriate boundary conditions. This rather tedious procedure was overcome by the application of Laplace transform techniques, where the unknown integration constants were evaluated during the process of solution by use of straightforward algebraic equations. In this study, the Laplace transform technique was used to solve the diffusivity equation of fluid flow. The technique was used to extract the kinematic viscosity, and then the dynamic viscosity was obtained. The Prandtl number of the fluid was used to generate the time domain of the motion in the container. The shear viscosity of water at a temperature of 293.15 K was determined to be 1.0006 cp, and this compares with the value obtainable from standard experimental procedure. From the analysis in this study, it is confirmed that the viscosity of water is a strong function of temperature.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The general property equation is one of the most widely applicable laws in nature. Many real time problems can be solved by applying this law either alone or by combining heat, mass and momentum equations. The most generalized property equation in differential form is widely given as in equation 1, (Brodkey and Hersey, 1989):

$$\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial t} + (U \cdot \nabla) \Psi = \Psi_G + (\nabla \cdot \delta \nabla \Psi) - \Psi (\nabla \cdot U) \quad 1$$

For an incompressible fluid with constant transport coefficient, no generation, and transient flow condition, equation (1) turns into equation (2):

$$\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial t} + (U \cdot \nabla) \Psi = \delta (\nabla^2 \Psi) \quad 2$$

For the case of momentum transfer, equation (2) turns into equation (3):

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + (U \cdot \nabla) u = \nu (\nabla^2 u) \quad 3$$

Equation (3) is an example of a partial differential equation whose solution can be solved by first obtaining the general form of the expression, u . This general form will contain a number of integration constants, whose values can be found by applying the appropriate boundary conditions.

Laplace transform provides the engineer and scientist with a more systematic way of solving such equations by converting the differential equations into an algebraic expression and incorporating the boundary conditions right from the beginning of the solution process. Such equations abound in practice and include, but not limited to, flow of crude oil through porous and permeable formations, diffusion of species in process flow, vibration of materials while drilling for crude oil and molecular diffusion of the motions of fluids.

The shear viscosity is a measure of the shear stress induced by an applied velocity gradient. When molecules are in an applied force field or in thermal energy fields, they experience disturbances from such fields and thus respond to the effects of the fields. Transport coefficients, e.g. shear viscosity, are defined in terms of the response of the system to these perturbations, (Danielewicz and Gyulass, 2012).

1.1 AIM/ OBJECTIVE

The objective of this study is to solve the momentum equation for the viscosity of fluids by the application of Laplace transform techniques, and to subsequently devise a scheme for computation of viscosity at any given temperature.

1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

To evaluate the shear viscosity of fluids, the velocity of motion and a useful time domain are usually needed. An inappropriate value of the velocity will yield inaccurate results. To apply the Laplace transform technique on differential equations, a useful set of boundary or initial conditions are needed. The momentum equation is a complicated one because the velocity vector is composed of three (3) components in the x, y and z directions. Each component can be treated as a scalar quantity. The Laplace transform usually involves integration from zero to infinity, so it is needful to ask such questions as:

- How can an accurate value of the velocity of motion in a control volume be obtained?
- What is the appropriate length scale for the transfer of momentum in the volume?
- What sets of boundary or initial condition will yield accurate result?

These questions and more issues will be attempted to be answered in this study.

1.3 SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDY AND SCOPE

- i. This study presents a new scheme which can be easily used to extract the shear viscosity of a fluid in its pure state.
- ii. It shows how the viscosity of fluids can be obtained from knowledge of the general balance equation using Laplace transform technique.
- iii. It is useful in the design of fluid flow through conduits.

2.0 LITERATURE

There are several methods for calculating shear viscosity. In literature, the most prominently employed ones are the relaxation time theory, (Eyring et al, 1941), (Reif, 1965) and the Chapman-Engskog method, de Groot et al (1980).

$$u(x = 0, t) = 0 \tag{5a}$$

$$u(x = L, t) = 0 \tag{5b}$$

$$u(x, 0) = u_o \tag{5c}$$

$$\frac{du}{dx}(0, t) = 0 \tag{5d}$$

The application of Laplace transform to equation 3 is:

$$L\left\{\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\right\} = L\left\{\frac{1}{v} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right\},$$

$$\frac{d^2 \bar{u}}{dx^2} = \frac{1}{v} \left(s \bar{u} - u(x, 0) \right) \tag{6}$$

Invoking the boundary conditions of equations 5 and rearranging gives:

$$\frac{d^2 \bar{u}}{dx^2} - \beta s \bar{u} + \beta u_o = 0 \tag{7}$$

$$\beta = \frac{1}{v} \tag{8}$$

s = Laplace variable

Equation 7 which is a form of Bessel function has a solution of the form:

$$\bar{u} = \frac{u_o}{s} + C_1 \text{Sinh}(x\sqrt{s\beta}) + C_2 \text{Cosh}(x\sqrt{s\beta}) \tag{9}$$

Differentiation of equation 9 with respect to x gives the form below:

$$\frac{d \bar{u}}{dx} = \sqrt{s\beta} C_1 \text{Cosh}x + \sqrt{s\beta} C_2 \text{Sinh}x$$

From the boundary condition, $\frac{du}{dx}(0, t) = 0$

$$\text{Sinh}x = 0, \text{Cosh}x = 1, \text{ thus } C_1 = 0$$

Equation 9 becomes:

$$\bar{u} = \frac{u_o}{s} + C_2 \text{Cosh}(x\sqrt{s\beta}) \tag{10}$$

Using the condition that $u(x = L, t) = 0$, the second constant can be obtained as:

$$C_2 = -\frac{u_o/s}{\text{Cosh}L\sqrt{s\beta}}$$

Upon substitution, the Laplace domain solution becomes:

$$\bar{u} = \frac{u_o}{s} - \frac{u_o}{s} \left[\frac{\text{Cosh}x\sqrt{s\beta}}{\text{Cosh}L\sqrt{s\beta}} \right] \tag{11}$$

4.3 TIME DOMAIN SOLUTION

$\text{Cosh}(x\sqrt{s\beta})$ is a hyperbolic function. For such function it holds that

$$\text{Cosh}a = \frac{e^a + e^{-a}}{2}, \text{ thus}$$

$$\text{Cosh}(x\sqrt{s\beta}) = \frac{1}{2} \left[e^{x\sqrt{s\beta}} + e^{-x\sqrt{s\beta}} \right] \tag{12}$$

Therefore, equation 11 becomes:

$$\bar{u} = \frac{u_o}{s} - \frac{u_o}{s} \left[\frac{e^{x\sqrt{s\beta}} + e^{-x\sqrt{s\beta}}}{e^{L\sqrt{s\beta}} + e^{-L\sqrt{s\beta}}} \right] \tag{13}$$

As $L \rightarrow \infty$, the denominator of $\left[\frac{e^{x\sqrt{s\beta}} + e^{-x\sqrt{s\beta}}}{e^{L\sqrt{s\beta}} + e^{-L\sqrt{s\beta}}} \right] \rightarrow e^{L\sqrt{s\beta}}$

Mathematical arrangements yield the simplified form of the solution as:

$$\bar{u} = \frac{u_o}{s} - \frac{u_o}{s} \left[e^{(x-L)\sqrt{s\beta}} + e^{-(x+L)\sqrt{s\beta}} \right] \tag{14}$$

The Laplace inverse of equation 14 can be taken as:

$$\bar{u} = u_o - u_o L^{-1} \left[e^{(x-L)\sqrt{s\beta}} + e^{-(x+L)\sqrt{s\beta}} \right]$$

From standard inverse integral table for exponential functions, (EqWorld, <http://eqworld.ipmnet.ry>):

$$\frac{e^{-\sqrt{a}s}}{S} = \operatorname{erfc} \left(\frac{\sqrt{a}}{2\sqrt{t}} \right) \quad \dots \dots \dots \quad 15$$

The equation for the velocity distribution becomes:

$$u = u_o - u_o \left\{ \operatorname{erfc} \frac{(L-x)}{2\sqrt{vt}} + \operatorname{erfc} \frac{(L+x)}{2\sqrt{vt}} \right\} \quad \dots \dots \dots \quad 16$$

An alternative form of equation 16 can be given as in equation 17:

$$\frac{u}{u_o} = 1 - \left\{ \operatorname{erfc} \frac{(L-x)}{2\sqrt{vt}} + \operatorname{erfc} \frac{(L+x)}{2\sqrt{vt}} \right\} \quad \dots \dots \dots \quad 17$$

4.4 LENGTH OF CONTAINER

The cubic box has a mass of fluid, m kg, flowing through it. On a molecular basis the mass of the fluid can be given as:

$$m = nM$$

$$n = \frac{N}{N_A}$$

N is the number of molecules in the box and N_A is the Avogadro's number which equals 6.023×10^{23} molecules / mol

Arithmetic manipulation gives the length of the box as:

$$L = \sqrt[3]{\frac{NM}{\rho N_A}} \quad \dots \dots \dots \quad 18$$

For one mole of fluid in the box, $N = N_A$

$$L = \sqrt[3]{\frac{M}{\rho}} \quad \dots \dots \dots \quad 19$$

M is the molecular weight of the fluid and ρ is the density

From equation 17 and the application of the boundary condition $u(x = 0, t) = 0$,

$$0 = 1 - \left(\operatorname{erfc} \frac{L}{2\sqrt{vt}} + \operatorname{erfc} \frac{L}{2\sqrt{vt}} \right) \tag{20}$$

Equation 20 simplifies to equation 21:

$$2\operatorname{erfc} \frac{L}{2\sqrt{vt}} = 1 \tag{22}$$

$$\operatorname{erfc} \frac{L}{2\sqrt{vt}} = 0.5 \tag{23}$$

From the table of error function, the argument that satisfies this condition lies between 0.4 and 0.5. Interpolation of data gives

$$0.4 \rightarrow 0.57161$$

$$x \rightarrow 0.5 \qquad x = 0.4778$$

$$0.5 \rightarrow 0.4795$$

Therefore the argument of the error function which satisfies equation 23 is:

$$\frac{L}{2\sqrt{vt}} = 0.4778, \text{ which can be approximated as given below:}$$

$$v = \frac{L^2}{t} \tag{24}$$

4.5 TIME OF MOTION

The time taken for a fluid component to travel from one face of the box to the other is given as:

$$t = \frac{L}{u} \tag{25}$$

To obtain the average velocity of flow through the container, combination of momentum transfer and heat transfer is important. The equation of flow through the container (no generation and for incompressible flow), for the respective transport is:

$$\frac{\partial(\rho u)}{\partial t} + (u \cdot \nabla)(\rho u) = \nu \nabla^2(\rho u) \tag{26}$$

$$\frac{\partial(\rho c_p T)}{\partial t} + (u \cdot \nabla)(\rho c_p T) = \alpha \nabla^2(\rho c_p T) \tag{27}$$

From the Prandtl number, the velocity of flow can be obtained as:

$$u = \frac{k}{\rho c_p L} N_{Pr} \tag{28}$$

k = thermal conductivity of fluid at given temperature

c_p = specific heat capacity of fluid

N_{Pr} = Prandtl number (dimensionless)

4.6 SCHEME FOR EXTRACTION OF SHEAR VISCOSITY

- Specify fluid temperature
- With specified temperature read up fluid data: k, c_p, N_{Pr}
- With fluid data calculate the average velocity through the container
- With known velocity get time of flow using equation 25
- Get the viscosity by employing equation 24

4.7 RESULTS

The viscosity of water at 293.15 K is determined in this section. At this temperature, the density is 998Kg m^{-3} . The result can be compared with experimental value of $0.001002 \text{ pas} - \text{s}$.

The computation is shown in the excel spreadsheet below:

DATA READ			DATA SPECIFY		
k=	0.603	W/(mK)	T=	20	deg C
Cp=	4182	J/(KgK)	M=	0.018	Kg/mol
Npr=	6.94	-	L=	0.026223	M
ρ=	998.2336361	Kg/m3			
DATA COMPUTE					
u=	3.82279E-05	m/s			
t=	685.9613544	S			
v=	1.00245E-06	m2/s			
μ=	0.001000674	Kg/(ms)			

Symbols used in the spreadsheet are defined in the nomenclature section.

4.8 DISCUSSION

The result obtained from section 4.7 compares with that from experimental value of 0.001002 Pas-s at 20°C . Details of the viscosity of water at different temperatures are given in table 1:

Table 1: Comparison of viscosity of Water at different temperature

Temperature, deg C	Experimental viscosity, cp	Model viscosity, cp
0	1.787	1.752
5	1.519	1.513
10	1.307	1.299
20	1.002	1.0006
30	0.7975	0.8002
40	0.652	0.6533

The excellent accuracy in the result is because the Prandtl number has been used. This number was obtained from viscosity data.

The viscosity of liquids has been said to generally decrease with increase in Temperature. An increase in temperature reduces density and causes an increase in velocity which invariably leads to reduction in viscosity of the liquid. The expression for extracting shear viscosity in this study produces results that confirm this behaviour of liquids. When the temperature increases the volume will also increase but the density will decrease, thus making the number of molecules constant. The increased velocity, due to an increase in temperature, will thus lead to a reduction in viscosity, thereby satisfying the behaviour of liquids. This can be observed as given in table 1.

5.0 CONCLUSIONS

The viscosity of water has been extracted from the general property balance equation in this study. This extraction has been made possible by the application of Laplace transform technique. From the study carried out, it is confirmed that the viscosity of liquids is a strong function of temperature.

NORMENCLATURES

$L = L_x = L_y = L_z =$ length of container, m

N = the number of molecules in the system

$\rho_L =$ Density of molecule, kg/m^3

K= thermal conductivity

Npr= Prandtl number

T= temperature of flow

U=flow velocity

t=- time of flow

V = Volume of system, m^3

μ = Dynamic viscosity of liquid, $pas - sec$

U = velocity of particles in the system, m/s

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