# 3.1 Fluid Viscosity

For the Newtonian fluid, the dynamic viscosity  $\mu$  [Pa · s] is a fixed constant; whereas for the non-Newtonian fluid, the viscosity varies with the shear stress  $\tau$  [Pa] and shear rate  $\dot{\gamma}$  [1/s].



**FIG. 1:** Left: the concept of shear strain  $\gamma$  in a simple shear flow; Right: the rheological behaviour of viscous fluids can be classified by the shear stress - shear rate ( $\dot{\gamma} = d\gamma/dt$ ) relations.

- Shear thickening: μ increases with shear rate e.g., ketchup;
- Shear thinning:  $\mu$  decreases with shear rate *e.g.*, cornstarch paste;
- Bingham plastic: a yield stress  $\tau_{y}$  impedes the fluid flow until  $\tau > \tau_{y}$ .

Although the blood is modelled as a Newtonian fluid, it is shear thinning with yield (*a.k.a.* Bingham pseudoplastic). The non-Newtonian behaviours of blood is due to the cell suspension (rather than the plasma), hence, the viscosity is Hematocrit-dependent.

# 3.2 Flow in a Rectangular Duct

Consider the flow in a rectangular duct (length *L*, width *w*, height *h*) in the Cartesian coordinate system (Figure 2).

## Assumptions

- Fluid is homogeneous, incompressible and Newtonian with viscosity  $\mu$  and density  $\rho$ ;
- Flow has reached the steady state:  $\partial \mathbf{u}/\partial t = 0$ ;
- Flow is fully developed along the *x*-direction:  $\partial \mathbf{u}/\partial x = 0$ ;
- Zero velocity along the *y* and *z*-directions: v = 0, w = 0;
- Negligible body force: f = 0.

**Boundary Conditions** Symmetrical flow profile at y = 0 and z = 0; Non-slip condition at the wall  $y = \pm h/2$ ,  $z = \pm w/2$ .

**Aim** Analytically solve for the flow velocity in the *x*-direction.

**Solution** The *x*-momentum equation is reduced to

$$0 = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \mu \Big( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} \Big).$$

Using separation of variables<sup>1</sup>, the analytical solution of u is

$$u = \frac{1}{2\mu} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \left[ y^2 - \left(\frac{h}{2}\right)^2 - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n \cos\left(\frac{\lambda_n y}{h/2}\right) \cosh\left(\frac{\lambda_n z}{h/2}\right) \right], \quad \text{where } A_n = \frac{h^2 (-1)^n}{\lambda_n^3 \cosh\frac{\lambda_n w}{h}}, \quad \lambda_n = \frac{(2n+1)\pi}{2}$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>for the full derivation, see the Supplementary slides posted on Blackboard



FIG. 2: The schematic for the flow in a rectangular duct.

Integrating u over the area, the flux Q can be expressed as

$$Q = \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \frac{wh^3}{12\mu} \left[ 6\left(\frac{h}{w}\right) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda_n^{-5} \tanh\left(\frac{\lambda_n w}{h}\right) - 1 \right] \approx \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \frac{wh^3}{12\mu} \left[ 1 - 0.6274 \left(\frac{h}{w}\right) \right].$$

Finally, by  $Q = \Delta p/R$ , the flow resistance is

$$R = \frac{\Delta p}{Q} = \frac{12\mu L}{wh^3 \left[1 - 0.6274 \left(\frac{h}{w}\right)\right]}.$$

## 3.3 Womersley Flow

Motivation To approximate the pulsatility nature of the flow in the cardiovascular system.

### Assumptions

- Fluid is homogeneous, incompressible and Newtonian with viscosity  $\mu$  and density  $\rho$ ;
- Flow in a long straight tube, with a perfect circular cross-section at radius *a*;
- Axisymmetric along the  $\theta$ -axis:  $\partial/\partial \theta = 0$ ;
- The flow is fully developed along the *z*-axis:  $\partial \mathbf{u}/\partial z = 0$ ;
- No swirls:  $u_{\theta} = 0$ ;
- No velocity along the radial direction:  $u_r = 0$ ;
- Negligible body force: f = 0.



FIG. 3: The schematic of the Womersley flow in a pipe.

Boundary Conditions No-slip condition on the wall, parabolic condition as Poiseuille flow.

### **Solution Procedure**

**Step 1** The *z*-momentum equation

$$\rho\left(\frac{\partial u_z}{\partial t} + u_r\frac{\partial u_z}{\partial r} + \frac{u_\theta}{r}\frac{\partial u_z}{\partial \theta} + u_z\frac{\partial u_z}{\partial z}\right) = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + \mu\left[\frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial}{\partial r}\left(r\frac{\partial u_z}{\partial r}\right) + \frac{1}{r^2}\frac{\partial^2 u_z}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_z}{\partial z^2}\right] + \rho f_z^{*} 0$$
  
$$\Rightarrow \quad \rho\frac{\partial u_z}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + \mu\frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial}{\partial r}\left(r\frac{\partial u_z}{\partial r}\right).$$

Assume the pressure gradient is sinusoidal:  $\partial p/\partial z = \frac{G_0}{2}e^{i\omega t}$ , and following the sinusoidal *z*-velocity:  $u_z = U(r)e^{i\omega t}$ :

$$\left[i\omega U\rho + \frac{G_0}{2} - \mu \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial}{\partial r}\left(r\frac{\partial U}{\partial r}\right)\right]e^{i\omega t} = 0 \quad \xrightarrow{2^{\text{nd}} - \text{order ODE}} \quad \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial U}{\partial r} - \frac{i\omega\rho}{\mu}U = \frac{G_0}{2\mu}.$$

**Step 2** The full solution of U(r) involves a complementary function, which is formulated with the Bessel function of the 1<sup>st</sup> kind at 0<sup>th</sup> order,  $J_0$ ; also the particular integral,  $U_{pi} = -G_0/2i\omega\rho$ :

$$U(r) = \frac{iG_0}{2\omega\rho} \left[ 1 - \frac{J_0(i^{3/2}\alpha\frac{r}{a})}{J_0(i^{3/2}\alpha)} \right], \quad \text{with} \quad J_0(s) = \sum_{k=0}^{+\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{k!k!} \left(\frac{s}{2}\right)^{2k},$$

and  $\alpha$  denotes the non-dimensional **Wormersley number**:  $\alpha = a \sqrt{\frac{\omega \rho}{\mu}} = a \sqrt{\frac{\omega \rho}{\mu}}$ 

**Step 3** To recover  $u_z$  from U(r):

$$u_{z}(r,t) = \frac{i}{\omega\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} \left[ 1 - \frac{J_{0}(i^{3/2}\alpha \frac{r}{a})}{J_{0}(i^{3/2}\alpha)} \right] = \frac{iG_{0}}{2\omega\rho} \left[ 1 - \frac{J_{0}(i^{3/2}\alpha \frac{r}{a})}{J_{0}(i^{3/2}\alpha)} \right] e^{i\omega t}$$

Ostensibly, this solution is defined in the complex domain; but for simplicity, we only consider the real part to interpret its physical meaning.

#### **Extended Properties**

1. Wall shear stress:

$$\tau_{rz} = \mu \frac{\partial u_z}{\partial r} = \mu \Re \left\{ -\frac{a}{i^{3/2} \alpha} \left( \frac{J_1(i^{3/2} \alpha)}{J_0(i^{3/2} \alpha)} \right) \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} \right\}, \quad \text{with} \quad J_n(s) = \sum_{k=0}^{+\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{k!(k+n)!} \left( \frac{s}{2} \right)^{2k+n}.$$

2. Volume flow rate:

$$Q(t) = \int_0^a 2\pi r u_z \mathrm{d}r = \Re \left\{ -\frac{\pi a^4}{i\mu\alpha^2} \left( 1 - \frac{2J_1(i^{3/2}\alpha)}{\alpha i^{3/2}J_0(i^{3/2}\alpha)} \right) \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} \right\}$$

**The Wormersley Number** The Wormersley number  $\alpha$  is the ratio between unsteady inertia force and viscous force.

- *α* ≤ 1: Quasi-steady, the velocity profile is basically scaled Poiseuille flow, mainly observed in the microvasculatures (*e.g.*, capillaries, venules);
- $\alpha > 1$ : **Oscillatory**, the velocity profile is balanced between viscous forces at the wall and inertial forces in the centre. Common in large arteries (*e.g.*, ascending aorta, carotid artery).



**FIG. 4:** Womersley flow profiles. (a) Low  $\alpha$  (viscous dominates), (b) intermediate  $\alpha$ , (c) high  $\alpha$  (inertia dominates).