

FLUID STATICS

Fluid statics can be regarded as a special case of fluid dynamics when the velocity of the fluid at all points is zero.

In Bernoulli's equation: $\frac{1}{2}v^2 + gz + \frac{p}{\rho} = \text{const}$ if $v = 0$

$$gz + \frac{p}{\rho} = \text{const} \quad \text{or} \quad \boxed{p + \rho gz = \text{const}}$$

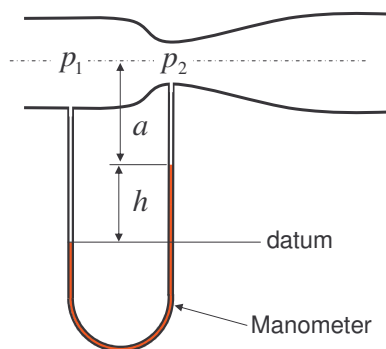
This is the fundamental equation of fluid statics.

It implies that:

- In a continuous body of static fluid the pressure at a particular level is everywhere the same;
- The pressure gradient is linear with depth.

It is these principles that enable manometry, and the determination of pressure forces on submerged surfaces.

The simple U-tube manometer



The pressure in the red fluid at the datum is the same in both arms of the manometer

$$p + \rho gz = \text{const}$$

$$p_1 + \rho g(h + a) = p_{\text{datumLHS}}$$

$$p_2 + \rho ga + \rho_M gh = p_{\text{datumRHS}}$$

$$\therefore p_1 + \rho g(h + a) = p_2 + \rho ga + \rho_M gh$$

$$p_1 - p_2 = (\rho_M - \rho)gh$$

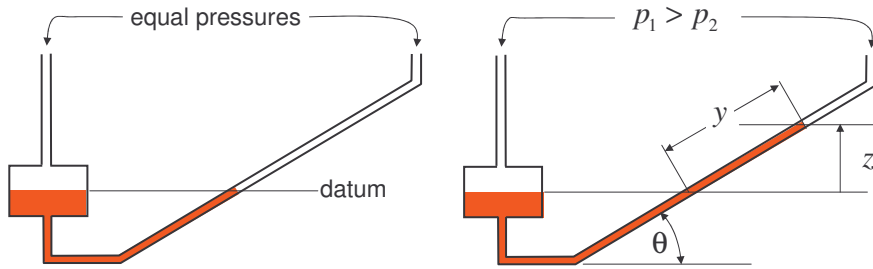
$$\frac{p_1 - p_2}{\rho} = \left(\frac{\rho_M}{\rho} - 1\right)gh$$

which gives us the result obtained earlier

If the fluid is a gas, and the manometer fluid is a liquid then typically: $\rho_M \gg \rho$

$$p_1 - p_2 \cong \rho_M gh$$

The inclined manometer



Because the cross-section area of the reservoir is very much greater than the cross-section area of the tube, the liquid level in the reservoir changes very little in height when pressure is applied.

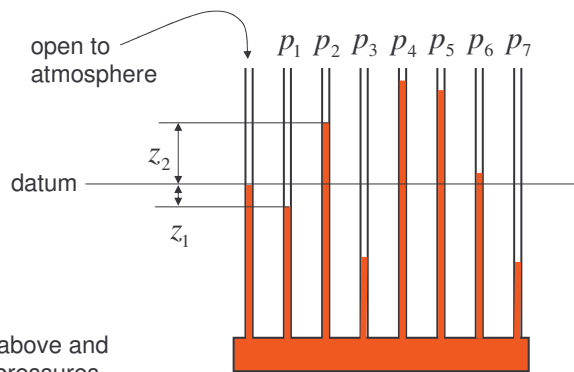
$$p_1 = p_{datumLHS} \quad p_2 + \rho g z = p_{datumRHS} \quad \frac{z}{y} = \sin \theta$$

$$p_1 = p_2 + \rho g y \sin \theta$$

$$p_1 - p_2 = \rho g y \sin \theta$$

By making the angle θ small the manometer can be made sensitive to small pressure changes.

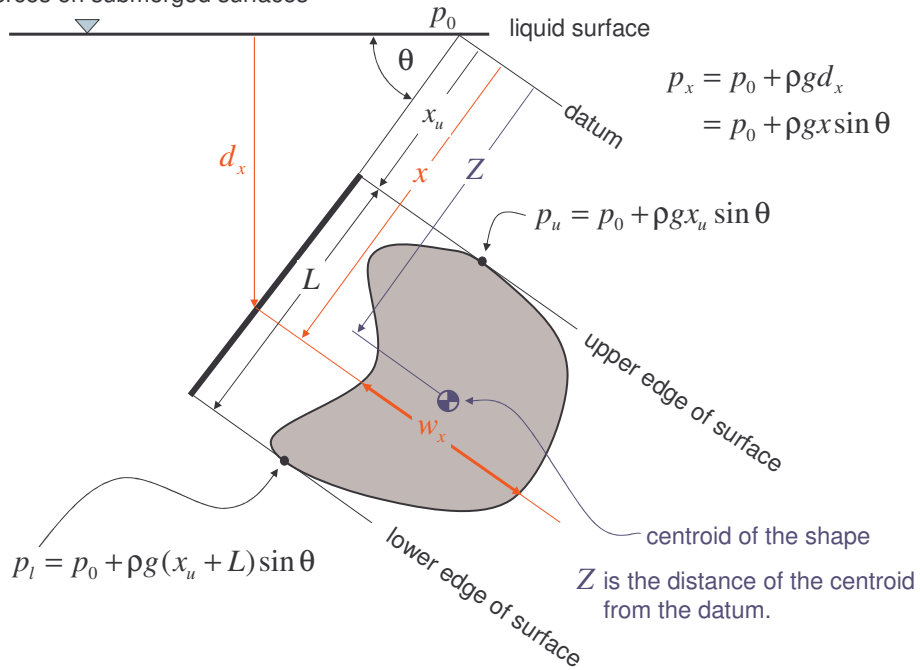
The multi-tube manometer



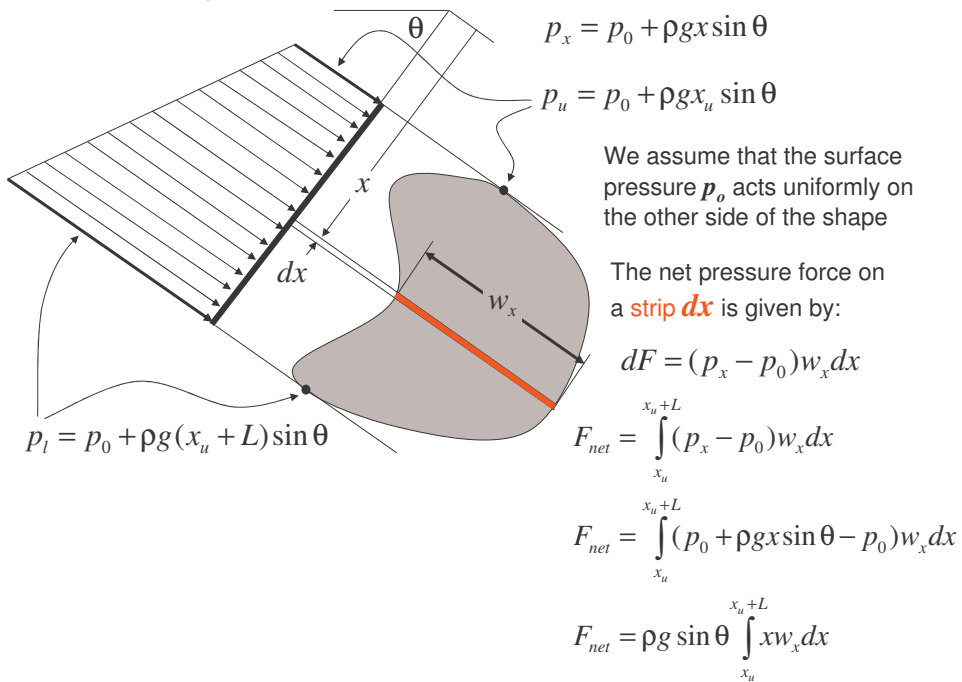
manometer liquid heights above and below the datum indicate pressures below and above atmospheric pressure

$$p_2 + \rho g z_2 = p_{atmos}$$

Forces on submerged surfaces



Forces on submerged surfaces



$$F_{net} = \rho g \sin \theta \int_{x_u}^{x_u+L} x w_x dx$$

first moment of area about the datum

$$F_{net} = \rho g \sin \theta ZA$$

$$F_{net} = \rho g ZA \sin \theta$$

Point of action of the pressure force (centre of pressure)

To find the centre of pressure we need to take moments about the upper edge:

The net moment of the net pressure force on a strip dx is given by:

$$dM = (p_x - p_0) w_x dx$$

$$M_{net} = \int_{x_u}^{x_u+L} (p_x - p_0) w_x dx$$

$$M_{net} = \int_{x_u}^{x_u+L} (p_0 + \rho g \sin \theta x - p_0) w_x dx$$

$$M_{net} = \rho g \sin \theta \int_{x_u}^{x_u+L} w_x x^2 dx$$

second moment of area about the datum I_{datum}

$$M_{net} = \rho g \sin \theta \int_{x_u}^{x_u+L} w_x x^2 dx = \rho g \sin \theta I_{datum}$$

from the parallel axis theorem $I_{datum} = I_c + AZ^2$

$$M_{net} = \rho g \sin \theta (I_c + AZ^2)$$

This moment must equal the total net force \times the distance to its point of application from the datum h

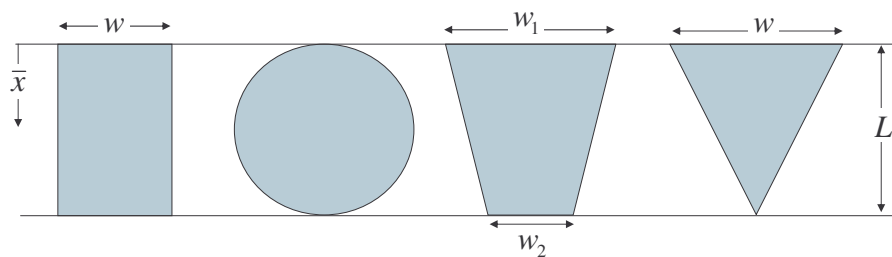
$$F_{net} h = \rho g \sin \theta (I_c + AZ^2)$$

$$h = \frac{\rho g \sin \theta (I_c + AZ^2)}{F_{net}} = \frac{\rho g \sin \theta (I_c + AZ^2)}{\rho g AZ \sin \theta}$$

$$h = \frac{I_c + AZ^2}{AZ} = \frac{I_c}{AZ} + Z \quad \text{or} \quad h - Z = \frac{I_c}{AZ}$$

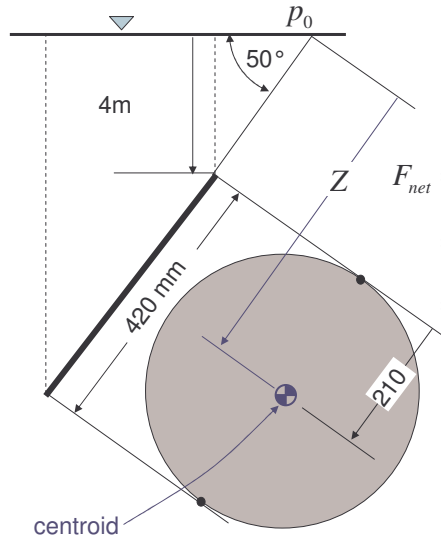
i.e. the pressure force acts below the centroid by a distance given by: $\frac{I_c}{AZ}$

It follows that if we know the **area**, **position of the centroid**, and **second moment of area about the centroid**, then we can find the pressure force on a surface, and its point of application.



A	wL	$\frac{\pi L^2}{4}$	$\frac{(w_1+w_2)L}{2}$	$\frac{wL}{2}$
\bar{x}	$\frac{L}{2}$	$\frac{L}{2}$	$\frac{(w_1+2w_2)L}{3(w_1+w_2)}$	$\frac{L}{3}$
I_x	$\frac{wL^3}{12}$	$\frac{\pi L^4}{64}$	$\frac{(w_1^2+4w_1w_2+w_2^2)L^3}{36(w_1+w_2)}$	$\frac{wL^3}{36}$

Example: Find the net pressure force and its point of application on a 420 mm diameter circular hatch cover at an angle of 50 degrees to the horizontal with its upper edge submerged 4m in sea water. (density = 1027 kg/m³)



$$F_{net} = \rho g Z A \sin \theta$$

$$Z = \frac{4}{\sin 50} + 0.210 = 5.432 \text{ m}$$

$$F_{net} = \rho g Z A \sin \theta$$

$$= 1027 \times 9.81 \times 5.432 \times \frac{\pi}{4} (0.42)^2 \times \sin 50$$

$$= 5808 \text{ N or } 5.81 \text{ kN}$$

the net pressure force acts below the centroid by a distance given by: $\frac{I_c}{AZ}$

$$I_c = \frac{\pi L^4}{64} = \frac{\pi (420 \times 10^{-3})^4}{64} = 0.00152745 \text{ m}^4$$

$$A = 0.138544 \text{ m}^2$$

$$Z = 5.432 \text{ m}$$

$$\frac{I_c}{AZ} = \frac{0.00152745}{0.138544 \times 5.432} = 0.00203 \text{ m}$$

i.e. the net pressure force acts below the centroid by a distance 2.0 mm