

## Study of the Fluid Flow in Channel of Conduction MHD Pump

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**Abstract :** This paper deals with the analysis of a coupling between stationary Maxwell's equations and the transient state Navier-Stokes equations in a conduction MHD pump .The resolution of these equations is obtained by introducing the magnetic vector potential  $\mathbf{A}$  , the vorticity  $\xi$  and the stream function  $\psi$  using the finite volume method. The flux density, the electromagnetic thrust, and the variation of the velocity in the channel of the MHD pump for different positions and different conducting fluids are graphically presented.

**Keywords:** *Magnetohydrodynamic, Conduction pump, velocity, Maxwell's equations, Navier-Stokes, Electrode, Finite Volume Method.*

### NOMENCLATURE

$\mathbf{A}$	magnetic vector potential	$\mathbf{V}$	velocity of the fluid
$\mathbf{B}$	magnetic induction	$\sigma$	electrical conductivity
$J_{ex}$	excitation current density	$\mu$	magnetic permeability
$\mathbf{J}_i$	induced eddy currents	$p$	pressure of the fluid
$\mathbf{F}$	electromagnetic thrust	$\nu$	kinematic viscosity of the fluid
$\xi$	vorticity vector	$\rho$	fluid density

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) is the study of the motion of electrically conducting fluids in the presence of magnetic fields. Effects from such interactions can be observed in liquids and gases. A number of researches have investigated the flow of an electrically conducting fluid through channels because of its important applications in MHD generators, pumps, accelerators, flowmeters and blood flow measurements. The pumping of liquid metal may use an electromagnetic device, which induces eddy currents in the metal. These induced currents and their associated magnetic field generate the

Lorentz force whose effect can be actually the pumping of the liquid metal, [1-8].

The advantage of these pumps which ensure the energy transformation is the absence of moving parts.

In order to explain the basic operation principle of Magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) pump, the schematic structure of the pump is shown in figure (1), with the electrodes being on the sides and the magnetic field applied vertically. In the pump, the pumping forces are originated from the Lorentz forces induced by interaction between the applied electrical currents and the magnetic fields, [3,5].

The basic design concept is to apply electrical currents across a channel filled with electrically conducting liquid (mercury) and magnetic fields orthogonal to the currents via electromagnetic circuit, [8,9].

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In the previous work, [16], we have studied the electromagnetic phenomena in a MHD conduction pump.

The purpose of this paper is to determine the velocity profile in the channel of conduction magnetohydrodynamic pump using the finite volume method.

## 2. Governing Equation

### 2.1. ELECTROMAGNETIC PROBLEM

$$\vec{F} = (\vec{J}_{\text{ind}} + \vec{J}_a) \wedge \vec{B} \quad (1)$$

Where  $\vec{B}$  is the magnetic flux density,  $\vec{J}$  is the current density vector. And  $\vec{J}$  is further defined from the Ohm's Law for electric conductor as:

$$\vec{J}_{\text{ind}} = \sigma(\vec{E} + \vec{V} \wedge \vec{B}) + \vec{J}_{\text{ex}} \quad (2)$$

The Maxwell's equations applied to the MHD pump will give rise to the following equation:

$$\vec{\text{Rot}}\left(\frac{1}{\mu} \vec{\text{Rot}}\vec{A}\right) = \vec{J}_{\text{ex}} + \vec{J}_a + \sigma(\vec{V} \wedge \vec{B}) \quad (3)$$

Where  $\vec{A}$  is the magnetic vector potential,  $\sigma$  is the electrical conductivity,  $\mu$  the magnetic permeability,  $\vec{V}$  is the velocity of the fluid and  $\vec{J}_{\text{ex}}$  the excitation current

$$\frac{1}{\mu} \left( \frac{\partial^2 \vec{A}}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \vec{A}}{\partial y^2} \right) = \vec{J}_{\text{ex}} + \vec{J}_a + \sigma \left( \vec{V} \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial x} \right) \quad (4)$$

To solve this equation and to ensure the unicity of  $\vec{A}$ , we generally adds the condition of Coulombs gauge

For the given basic structure shown in the figure (1) governing equations for the flow motion based upon the Lorentz forces are derived with the assumption that steady state with magnetic and electric properties of the fluid. From the basic definition for the interactions of electric charge under magnetostatic filed, the Lorentz forces can be interpreted as follows vector notation, [13,14]:

density. For the calculation reported in the following, mercury is considered as the fluid. After developing the above equations in Cartesian coordinates:

which is  $\text{Div}\vec{A} = 0$ . This assumption is naturally checked in the (2d) configuration.

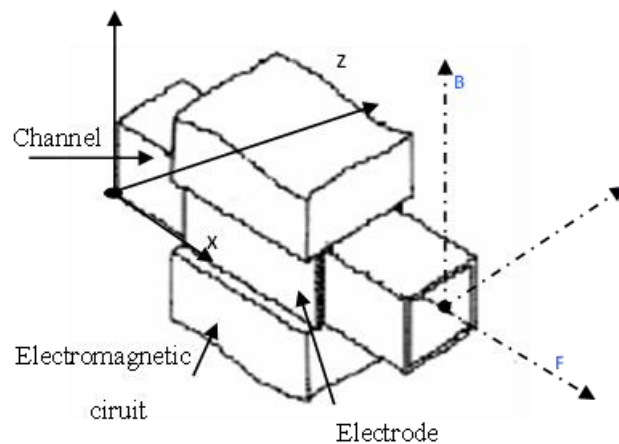


Fig.1. Scheme of a DC MHD pump.[3].

### 2.2. The Hydrodynamic Problems

The MHD flow of an incompressible, viscous and electrically conducting fluid in a transient state

condition is governed by the Navier-Stokes equations [9]:

$$\frac{\partial \vec{V}}{\partial t} + (\nabla \cdot \vec{V})\vec{V} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p + \nu \Delta \vec{V} + \frac{\vec{F}}{\rho} \quad (5)$$

$$\text{div}\vec{V} = 0$$

Where  $\mathbf{p}$  the is the pressure of the fluid,  $\nu$  the kinematic viscosity of the fluid,  $\mathbf{F}$  the electromagnetic thrust and  $\rho$  the fluid density, [12,14].

The development of the equation of the flow in Cartesian coordinates gives, [11,15]

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial V_x}{\partial t} + V_x \frac{\partial V_x}{\partial x} + V_y \frac{\partial V_x}{\partial y} &= \frac{-1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \nu \left[ \frac{\partial^2 V_x}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V_x}{\partial y^2} \right] + \frac{1}{\rho} F_x \\ \frac{\partial V_y}{\partial t} + V_x \frac{\partial V_y}{\partial x} + V_y \frac{\partial V_y}{\partial y} &= \frac{-1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \nu \left[ \frac{\partial^2 V_y}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V_y}{\partial y^2} \right] + \frac{1}{\rho} F_y \\ \frac{\partial V_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial V_y}{\partial y} &= 0\end{aligned}\quad (6)$$

The Real Difficulty Is The Calculation Of The Velocity Lies In The Unknown Pressure. To Overcome This Difficulty Is To Relax The Incompressibility Constraint In An Appropriate Way. . So, The Elimination Of Pressure From The Equations Leads To A Velocity-Stream Function The Velocity Vector Is Defined By :

$$\xi = \text{rot} \mathbf{V} \quad (7)$$

The stream function is given in 2D Cartesian coordinates as:

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} = V_x; \quad \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = V_y \quad (8)$$

Where  $V_x$  And  $V_y$  The Components Of The Velocity  $\mathbf{V}$ .

We Eliminate The Pressure From The Equation (12) And We Use The Two New Dependent Variables  $\xi$  And  $\psi$  To Obtain The Following Equation:

$$\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial t} + V_y \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y} + V_x \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} = \nu \left[ \frac{\partial^2 \xi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \xi}{\partial y^2} \right] + \frac{1}{\rho} \left( \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial x} \right) \quad (9)$$

After substituting equation (8) into equation (9) we obtain an equation involving the new dependant variables  $\xi$  and  $\psi$  such as :

$$-\zeta = \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2} \quad (10)$$

## 2. Numerical Method

There are several methods for the determination of the electromagnetic fields and the velocity; the choice of the method depends on the type of problem, [10,11].

In our work, we thus choose the finite volume

method, its principle consists on subdividing the field of study ( $\Omega$ ) in a number of elements. Each element contains four nodes of the grid. A finite volume surrounds each node of the grid (Fig.2), [12,13].

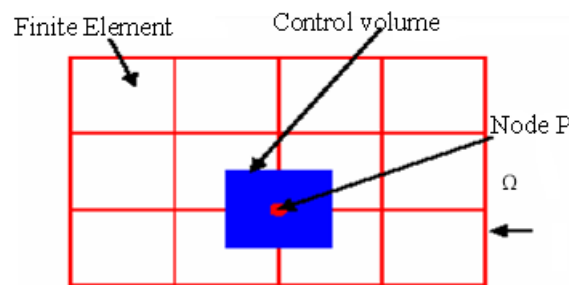


Fig.2 Grid of the domain.

In the two-dimensional case, finite volume (Fig.3) is limited by the interfaces ( $\mathbf{E}$ ,  $\mathbf{W}$ ,  $\mathbf{N}$  and  $\mathbf{S}$ ), each principal node  $\mathbf{P}$  is surrounded by four nodes: the east  $\mathbf{E}$ , the west

$\mathbf{W}$ , following  $\mathbf{X}$ , and two following  $\mathbf{Y}$ , the north  $\mathbf{N}$  and the south

$$\int_{\text{w}}^{\text{e}} \int_{\text{s}}^{\text{n}} \left[ \frac{1}{\mu} \left( \frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial y^2} \right) \right] dx dy = \int_{\text{w}}^{\text{e}} \int_{\text{s}}^{\text{n}} (J_{\text{ex}} + J_{\text{a}} + \sigma V \frac{\partial A}{\partial x}) dx dy \quad (11)$$

After integration, the final algebraic equation will be:

$$a_p A_p = a_e A_e + a_w A_w + a_n A_n + a_s A_s + d_p \quad (12)$$

With:

$$a_e = \frac{\Delta y}{\mu_e (\delta x)_e}, a_w = \frac{\Delta y}{\mu_w (\delta x)_w}, a_n = \frac{\Delta x}{\mu_n (\delta y)_n}, a_s = \frac{\Delta x}{\mu_s (\delta y)_s},$$

$$a_p = a_e + a_w + a_n + a_s; d_p = (J_{ex} + J_a) \Delta x \Delta y$$

We use the same steps for the hydrodynamic problem:

$$\int_{t_f}^t \int_{s_w}^n \int_{e_s}^e \left( \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} + V_y \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial y} + V_x \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial x} \right) dx dy dt = \int_{t_f}^t \int_{s_w}^n \int_{e_s}^e \left( v \left[ \frac{\partial^2 \zeta}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \zeta}{\partial y^2} \right] \right) dx dy dt$$

$$+ \int_{t_f}^t \int_{s_w}^n \int_{e_s}^e \left( \frac{1}{\rho} \left( \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial x} \right) \right) dx dy dt \quad (13)$$

$$\int_{s_w}^n \int_{e_s}^e \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2} \right) dx dy = - \int_{s_w}^n \int_{e_s}^e \zeta dx dy \quad (14)$$

The resolution of the electromagnetic and the hydrodynamic equations makes it possible to determine the magnetic potential vector, magnetic induction

$(\vec{A}, \vec{B})$  the Electromagnetic force  $F$ , and the velocity in the channel of the conduction pump.

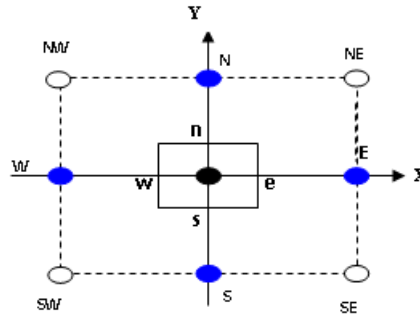


Fig.3. Description of finite volume [11].

#### 4. Application and Results

We consider the following figure (Fig 4) which represents the transverse section of MHD pump with the following characteristics:

-The liquid in the channel is mercury with the

conductivity is  $\sigma_{\text{mercure}} = 1.66 \cdot 10^6$  [S/m] ;

- Current source density is  $J_{ex} = 1.8 \cdot 10^6$  [A/m<sup>2</sup>]

- Current density in the electrodes is  $J_a = 1.5 \cdot 10^6$  [A/m<sup>2</sup>].

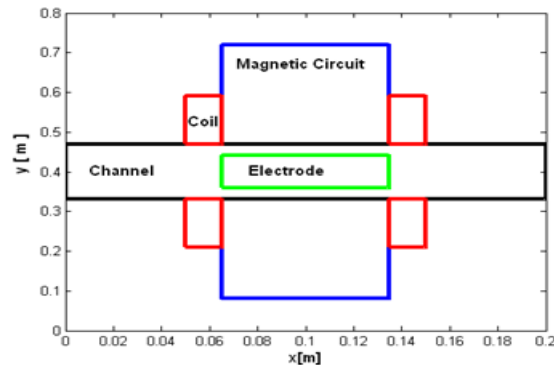


Fig 4. A conduction MHD pump configuration

The figure (5) represents the organigramme of the code used for the resolution of the electromagnetic and the hydrodynamics equations

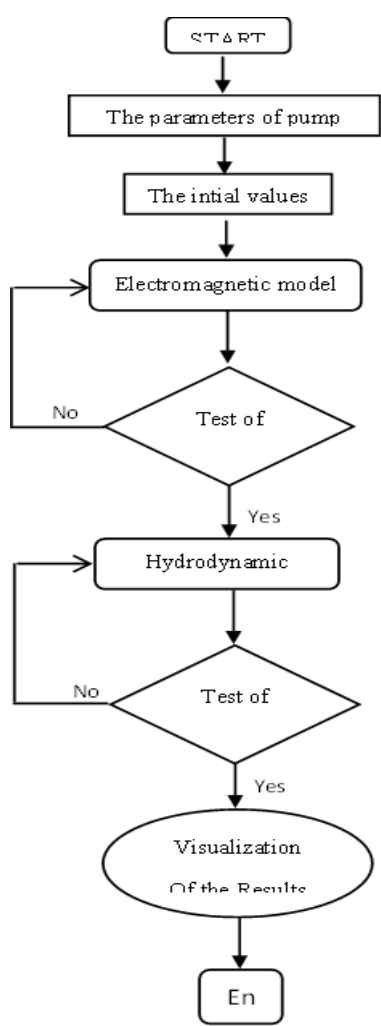


Fig 5 Computation Algorithm.

The figures (6) and (7) represent respectively the equipotential lines and the distribution of the magnetic vector potential in the MHD pump.

The figures (8) represent the magnetic induction in the channel. It is shown that, the magnetic induction reaches its maximum value at the inductor and in the medium of the channel.

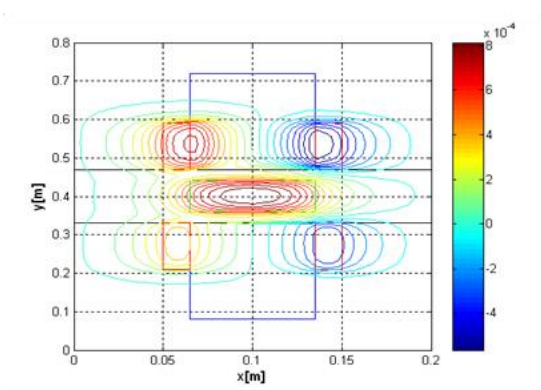


Fig 6 Equipotential lines in DC pump MHD

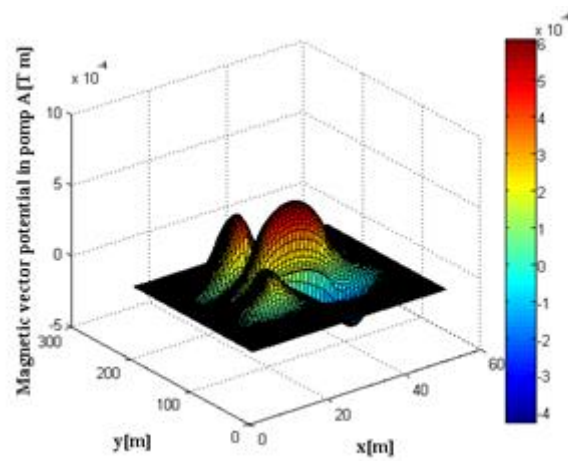


Fig 7a. Magnetic vector potential in pump 3D

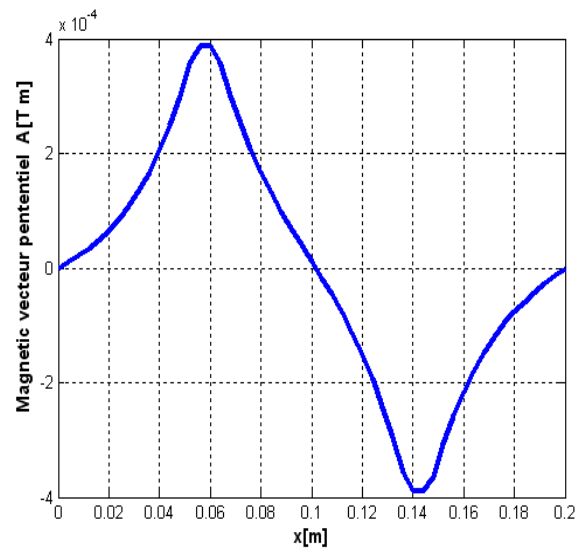


Fig 7b. Magnetic vector potential in pump

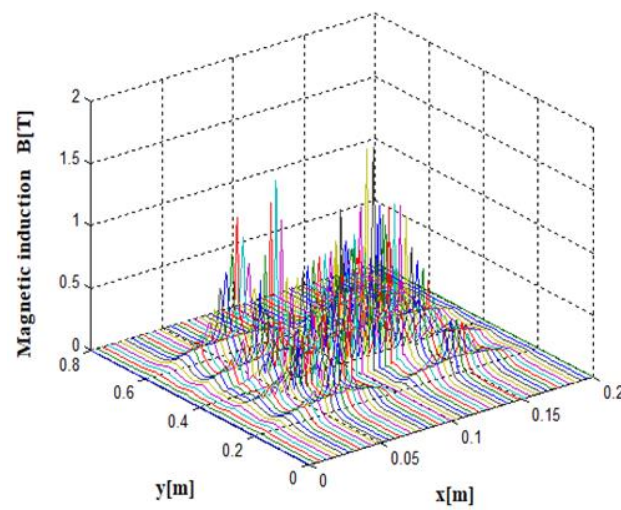


Fig.8a Magnetic induction in the MHD pump 3D

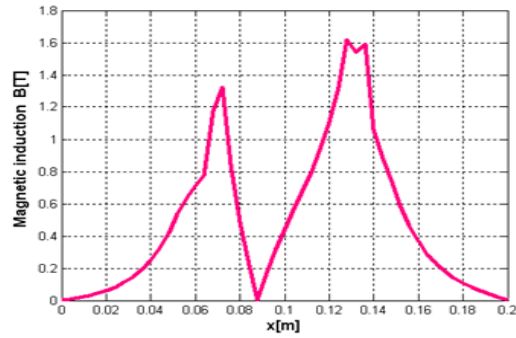


Fig.8b Magnetic induction in the MHD pump 2D

This figure (9) represents the electromagnetic force in the channel, it is note that, the maximum value in the medium of the channel of the MHD pump.

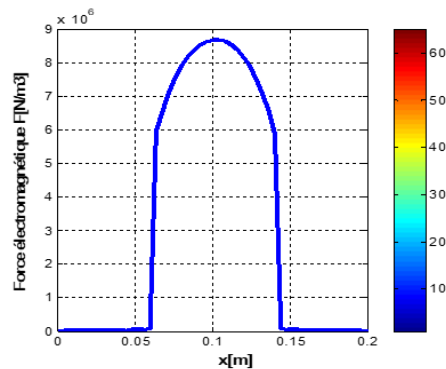


Fig 9 Electromagnetic forces in the channel

The figure (10) represents the variation of the velocity in the channel of the MHD pump for different positions; in the entry (a), in the medium (b) and the exit (c) of the channel. And different conduction fluid (mercury (red), gallium (blue), and sea water (black)) It

is noticed that the velocity of the fluid flow passes by a transitory mode then is stabilized like all the electric machine and the steady state is obtained approximately after ten seconds. The results obtained are almost identical qualitatively to those obtained by [6,13].

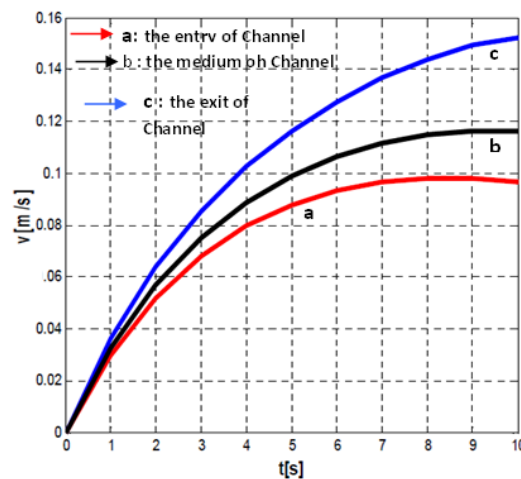


Fig 10a: Velocity in the channel of the MHD pump.

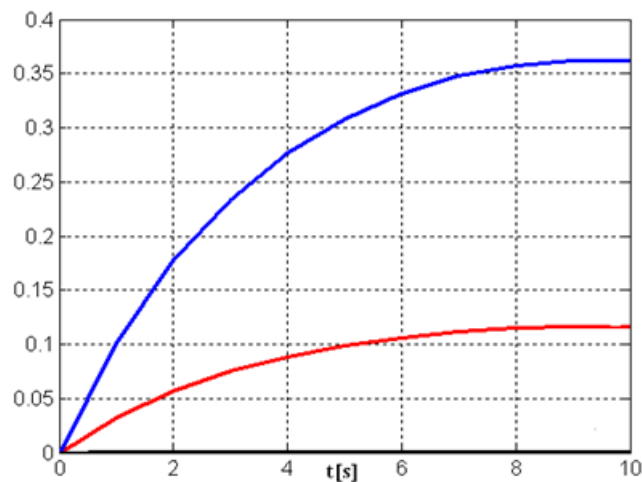


Fig 10b: Velocity in the channel of the MHD pump

## 5. Conclusion

In this article, we have studied the magnetohydrodynamic phenomena in 2D of pump MHD with conduction taking account of the movement of the fluid using finite volume method. Various characteristics such as the distribution of the magnetic vector potential, the magnetic induction, the electromagnetic force and the velocity are given..

In order to perform this work, it is necessary to determine the pressure and the thermal phenomena in the channel of MHD pump.

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