

Variational Inequalities for Navier-Stokes Flows Coupled with Potential Flow through Porous Media

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1. Introduction

The domain is made of two parts; In one part, the flow obeys the Navier-Stokes equations. In the second part, the flow is potential and driven by Darcy's law. On some parts of the interface between them, the fluid flows into both sides under the control of the threshold to the potential of friction type. This threshold describes the effect of surface tension of the fluid in capillaries which are regularly arrayed in the neighbourhood of the boundary. We show how this problem is formulated by a variational inequality: existence of solution, approximation by means of fictitious domain method via singular perturbations and numerical simulations are studied and presented.

2. Formulation

2.1. The geometry

The problem is discussed in R^2 . The geometry is the rectangle $(0, L) \times (0, a)$ for the Navier-Stokes part and the rectangle $(0, L) \times (a, 2a)$ for the Darcy part, which we denote by Ω_0 and Ω_1 respectively. $(0, L) \times \{a\}$ is an interface between Ω_0 and Ω_1 , which we denote by γ . The Darcy boundary is the upper horizontal one plus the halves of the vertical one, the union of which we denote by Γ_1 .

The Navier-Stokes boundary is composed of the inflow boundary Γ_{in} and the outflow boundary Γ_{out} , which are the remaining two halves of the vertical boundaries, and the lower horizontal boundary Γ_w .

2.2. Notations

- p : pressure ($p = p_k$ in $\Omega_k, k = 0, 1$)
- u : velocity ($u = u_k$ in $\Omega_k, k = 0, 1$)
- ϕ : potential for the flow in Ω_1 ($\phi = p_1 + \rho g x_2, \rho g = 1$)
- n : unit outward normal vector to the boundary of Ω_0
- n_1 : unit outward normal vector to the boundary of Ω_1
- ν : effective viscosity (inverse of Reynolds number)
- k : permeability coefficient of the flow in Ω_1
- c : resistance coefficient of the flow in Ω_1 (inverse of k)

- g_n : threshold parameter (> 0) controlling the occurrence of penetration on γ
 f : external force acted in Ω_0 ($f = f_0 - \nabla x_2$)
 β : velocity profile of Poiseuille type defined on Γ_{in}
 ϵ : singular perturbation parameter (> 0)
 u_n : normal component of u
 u_t : tangential component of u
 $S_n = \nu \frac{\partial u_{0n}}{\partial n} - p_0 + p_1$: difference between normal stress of the flow in Ω_0 and pressure of the flow in Ω_1
 $S_t = \nu \frac{\partial u_{0t}}{\partial n}$: tangential stress of the flow in Ω_0
 χ : characteristic function of Ω_1 in Ω .

2.3. The model problem

The model problem is described as follows ;

Find

$$u = \begin{cases} u_0 & \text{in } \Omega_0, \\ u_1 & \text{in } \Omega_1 \end{cases}$$

and

$$p = \begin{cases} p_0 & \text{in } \Omega_0, \\ p_1 & \text{in } \Omega_1 \end{cases}$$

such that

$$(2.1) \quad -\nu \Delta u_0 + (u_0 \cdot \nabla) u_0 + \nabla p_0 = f \quad \text{in } \Omega_0$$

$$(2.2) \quad \nabla \cdot u_0 = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega_0$$

$$(2.3) \quad c u_1 + \nabla p_1 = -\nabla x_2 \quad \text{in } \Omega_1$$

$$(2.4) \quad \nabla \cdot u_1 = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega_1$$

$$(2.5) \quad |S_n| \leq g_n \quad \text{on } \gamma$$

$$(2.6) \quad g_n |u_n| + S_n \cdot u_n = 0 \quad \text{on } \gamma$$

$$(2.7) \quad S_t = 0 \quad \text{on } \gamma$$

$$(2.8) \quad u_{0n} = u_{1n} \quad \text{on } \gamma$$

$$(2.9) \quad u_0 = \beta \quad \text{on } \Gamma_{in}$$

$$(2.10) \quad u_0 = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma_w$$

$$(2.11) \quad \nu \frac{\partial u_{0n}}{\partial n} - p_0 = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma_{out}$$

$$(2.12) \quad u_{0t} = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma_{out}$$

$$(2.13) \quad u_{1n_1} = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma_1.$$

Hereafter we denote (2.1) - (2.13) by (PDEF).

Remark 2.1. The physical meaning of (2.5) and (2.6) is following [1], [3], [4];

If $|S_n| < g_n$, then $u_n = 0$ on γ ,

If $|S_n| = g_n$, then $u_n = 0$ or $u_n \neq 0, S_n \cdot u_n < 0$ on γ .

One easily check that

- (i) $u_n \rightarrow 0$ as $g_n \rightarrow +\infty$;
- (ii) $S_n \rightarrow 0$ as $g_n \rightarrow 0$.

Remark 2.2. Let us note that (2.2), (2.11) and (2.12) mean $\frac{\partial u_{on}}{\partial n} = 0$. Then (2.11) becomes $p_0 = 0$.

Remark 2.3. Obviously we see

$$(2.14) \quad u_1 = -k\nabla\phi \text{ in } \Omega_1 .$$

Substituting (2.14) into (2.4), we have

$$(2.15) \quad \Delta \phi = 0 \text{ in } \Omega_1 .$$

(2.8) and (2.13) mean

$$(2.16) \quad -k \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial n} = u_{on} \text{ on } \gamma$$

$$(2.17) \quad \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial n_1} = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_1 .$$

Furthermore, ϕ satisfies the related one with respect to (2.5) and (2.6) on γ . Here we should note that the solvability of the problem (2.15), (2.16) and (2.17) leads to $\int_{\gamma} u_{on} ds = 0$.

If one solves this problem, the solution ϕ_0 obtained has inevitably an uncertainty of the constant .

Let normalize ϕ_0 such that $\int_{\Omega_1} \phi_0 dx = 0$ and let represent ϕ as the solution of the coupled system (PDEF) by $\phi = \phi_0 + d$, where d is an unknown constant to be determined according to (2.11). One method to fix d is shown in the algorithm solving (NM)₁.

3. Reformulation by variational inequalities

3.1. Coupled formulation

Define

$$a_k(u, v) = \int_{\Omega_k} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v dx,$$

$$(u, v)_k = \int_{\Omega_k} u \cdot v dx \text{ for } k = 0, 1$$

and

$$J(v) = \int_{\gamma} g_n |v_n| d\Gamma .$$

Let $K_{0\sigma} = \{ v \mid v = \beta \text{ on } \Gamma_{in}, v = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_w, v_t = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_{out} \} \cap H^1_{\sigma}(\Omega_0)$

where $H_\sigma^1(\Omega_0)$ is the solenoidal subspace of $H^1(\Omega_0)$ for vector functions and $P = H^1(\Omega_1) = P_0 + \{1\}$ where $P_0 = \{ \eta \in H^1(\Omega_1) \mid \int_{\Omega_1} \eta \, dx = 0 \}$.

If we couple (2.1), (2.2) and (2.15) under the boundary conditions prescribed on γ , we have

Find $u \in K_{0\sigma}$ and $\phi = \phi_0 + d \in P$ ($\phi_0 \in P_0, d \in R$) such that

$$(3.1) \quad \nu a_0(u, v - u) + J(v) - J(u) + \left((u \cdot \nabla)u, v - u \right)_0 \\ \geq - \int_\gamma \phi(v_n - u_n) \, d\Gamma + \int_\gamma a(v_n - u_n) \, d\Gamma - (f, v - u)_0, \quad \forall v \in K_{0\sigma}$$

$$(3.2) \quad k (\nabla\phi, \nabla\eta)_1 = \int_\gamma u_n \eta \, d\Gamma, \quad \forall \eta \in P .$$

We denote (3.1) and(3.2) by $(VIF)_1$.

Remark 3.1. When the Reynolds number is sufficiently small, the existence and uniqueness theorem on $(VIF)_1$ is obtained .

Remark 3.2. If we use the fictitious domain method stated in [2], (3.1) is approximated by singularly perturbed problem defined in Ω . In this case, Ω_1 plays a role of the fictitious domain in place of the Darcy part.

3.2. Uncoupled formulation

Let

$$K_\sigma = \{ v \in L_\sigma^2(\Omega) \cap H_\sigma^1(\Omega_0) \mid v = \beta \text{ on } \Gamma_{in}, v = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_w, \\ v_t = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_{out}, v_{n1} = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_1 \} .$$

Where $L_\sigma^2(\Omega)$ is the solenoidal subspace of $L^2(\Omega)$ for vector functions.

Find $u \in K_\sigma$ such that

$$(3.3) \quad \nu a_0(u, v - u) + J(v) - J(u) + \left((u \cdot \nabla)u, v - u \right)_0 + (c u, v - u)_1 \\ \geq (f, v - u)_0 - (\nabla x_2, v - u)_1, \quad \forall v \in K_\sigma .$$

We denote (3.3) by $(VIF)_2$.

Remark 3.3. One can check the equivalence relation among (PDEF), $(VIF)_1$ and $(VIF)_2$ and the unique existence of the solution of $(VIF)_2$ by use of the standard arguments in the theory of the variational inequalities [3] .

4. Singularly perturbed approximation for $(VIF)_2$

Define

$$J_\epsilon(v) = \int_\gamma g_n \psi_\epsilon(u_n) ds ,$$

where $\psi_\epsilon(t) = \int_0^t \tanh(\frac{s}{\epsilon}) ds$.

Let

$$\widetilde{K}_\sigma = \{ v \in H^1_\sigma(\Omega) \mid v = \beta \text{ on } \Gamma_{in}, v = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_w, v_t = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_{out}, v = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_1 \} .$$

Find $u \in K_\sigma$ such that

$$(4.1) \quad \nu a_0(u, v-u) + \epsilon a_1(u, v-u) + \left((u \cdot \nabla)u, v-u \right)_0 + J_\epsilon(v) - J_\epsilon(u) + (cu, v-u)_1 \geq (f, v-u)_0 - (\nabla x_2, v-u)_1, \quad \forall v \in \widetilde{K}_\sigma .$$

We denote (3.4) by $(VIF)_{2\epsilon}$ which reduces to the following formulation $(PDEF)_\epsilon$ [6] :

$$(4.2) \quad -\nu \Delta u_0 + (u_0 \cdot \nabla)u_0 + \nabla p_0 = f \quad \text{in } \Omega_0,$$

$$(4.3) \quad \nabla \cdot u_0 = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega_0,$$

$$(4.4) \quad -\epsilon \Delta u_1 + cu_1 + \nabla p_1 = -\nabla x_2 \quad \text{in } \Omega_1,$$

$$(4.5) \quad \nabla \cdot u_1 = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega_1,$$

$$(4.6) \quad \nu \cdot \frac{\partial u_{0n}}{\partial n} - p_0 = \epsilon \cdot \frac{\partial u_{1n}}{\partial n} - p_1 + g_n \tanh\left(\frac{u_n}{\epsilon}\right) \quad \text{on } \gamma$$

$$(4.7) \quad \nu \cdot \frac{\partial u_{0t}}{\partial n} = \epsilon \cdot \frac{\partial u_{1t}}{\partial n} \quad \text{on } \gamma$$

$$(4.8) \quad u_0 = u_1 \quad \text{on } \gamma$$

$$(4.9) \quad u_0 = \beta \quad \text{on } \Gamma_{in}$$

$$(4.10) \quad u_0 = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma_w$$

$$(4.11) \quad \nu \cdot \frac{\partial u_{0n}}{\partial n} - p_0 = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma_{out}$$

$$(4.12) \quad u_{0t} = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma_{out}$$

$$(4.13) \quad u_1 = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma_1.$$

Remark 4.1. By virtue of a well-known arguments, we see that $(VIF)_{2\epsilon}$ has a unique solution u_ϵ in \widetilde{K}_σ , when the Reynolds number is sufficiently small. Let $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$, then there exists u_0 in K_σ such that

$$u_\epsilon \rightarrow u_0 \quad \text{in } H^1_2(\Omega_0) \text{ weakly ,}$$

$$u_\epsilon \rightarrow u_0 \quad \text{in } L^2(\Omega_1) \text{ weakly}$$

and u_0 satisfies $(VIF)_2$ (see [2], [5], [7]).

5. Numerical models

Here we present two types of numerical model for (PDEF).

5.1.

(VIF)₁ leads to the one numerical model by itself, which we denote by (NM)₁.

5.2.

If we apply the distribution theoretic approach to fictitious domain method for Neumann problems [2] to (PDEF)_ε, then we have the other numerical model (NM)₂ as follows ;

$$(5.1) \quad -\nabla \cdot \{\nu(1-\chi) + \epsilon\chi\} \nabla u + (1-\chi)(u \cdot \nabla)u + c\chi u + g_n \cdot \tanh\left(\frac{u_n}{\epsilon}\right) \cdot \nabla \chi + \nabla p \\ = (1-\chi)f - \chi \cdot \nabla x_2 \quad \text{in } \Omega,$$

$$(5.2) \quad \nabla \cdot u = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

and u satisfies (4.9)-(4.13).

6. Numerical results

We state an algorithm to solve (NM)₁.

Algorithm

Step 0. Put the initial guess of ϕ to be $\phi^0 \equiv 0$ in Ω_1 .

Step 1. Solve (3.1) of (VIF)₁ by putting $\phi = \phi_0$.

Let the solution obtained be u^0 and p^0 .

Step 2. Compute $\delta^0 = \frac{1}{L} \int_{\gamma} u_n^0 ds$ (L is the length of γ).

Step 3. Solve (3.2) putting $u_n = u_n^0 - \delta^0$ on γ .

Let the solution be ϕ^1 and normalize it as $\widetilde{\phi}^1 \in P_0$.

Step 4. Replace ϕ in (3.1) by $\widetilde{\phi}^1 + k^1$, where $k^1 = \delta^0$.

Then return to Step 1.

Remark 6.1 In the n -th iteration, k^n is defined as follows ;

$$k^n = k^{n-1} + \delta^{n-1} = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \delta^j.$$

Where $\delta^j = \frac{1}{L} \int_{\gamma} u_n^j ds$, ($j = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$).

Numerical experiments showed the following asymptotic property of δ^n and k^n ;

$$\delta^n \rightarrow 0 \quad (n \rightarrow \infty) ,$$

and

$$k^n \rightarrow d \quad (n \rightarrow \infty)$$

where d is a constant to be found out.

Remark 6.2. As the resolution of (3.1) in $(VIF)_1$, we adopted to solve the approximate equations stated in the Remark 3.2.

Finally several numerical results based on $(NM)_1$ and $(NM)_2$ are shown in the following. Figures 1 and 2 show the numerical results obtained by use of $(NM)_1$ and $(NM)_2$, respectively. Figure 3 shows the numerical result of the case that there is a tiny hole at $(L, 2a)$, which was obtained by use of $(NM)_1$.

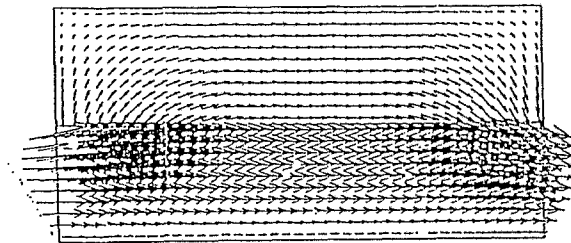


Figure 1.

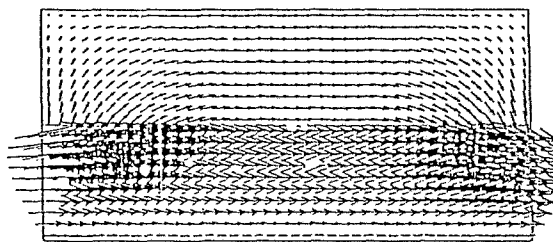


Figure 2.

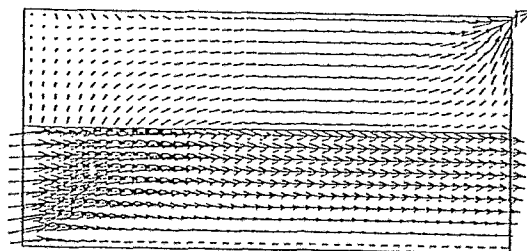


Figure 3.

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