



## Multibody System Dynamics: MBDyn Hydraulics Modeling



Pierangelo Masarati <masarati@aero.polimi.it>  
Politecnico di Milano  
Dipartimento di Ingegneria Aerospaziale

# Outline

***MBDyn***

- **Introduction**
- **Modeling Scales**
- **Multibody/Multiphysics Dynamics:**
  - **MBDyn Software**
  - **Modeling Approach**
- **Hydraulic Library Overview**
- **Examples**

- **Multibody Dynamics: unconstrained mechanical systems...**

$$\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{x}) \ddot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, \dot{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{t})$$

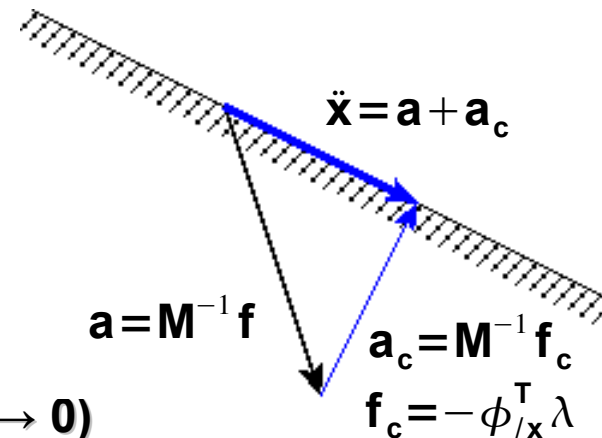
- **... plus kinematic constraints: constrained mechanical systems**

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{x}) \ddot{\mathbf{x}} + \phi_{/x}^T \lambda &= \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, \dot{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{t}) \\ \phi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{t}) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

- **System of differential-algebraic equations (DAE)**

- **Infinitely “fast” dynamics (time scale  $\rightarrow 0$ )**

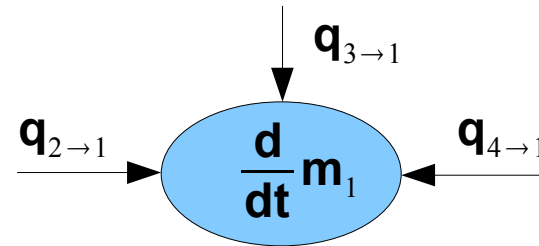
- **Requires unconditionally stable integration, algorithmic dissipation  $\rightarrow$  implicit (nearly) L-stable schemes**



- **Hydraulic system dynamics:**
  - neglect local dynamics, spatial resolution: 0D & 1D
  - circuit theory: node pressures, branch flows

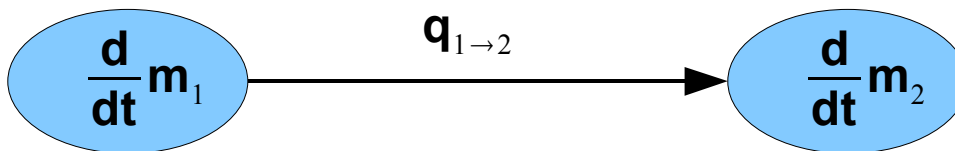
- **Flow balance at nodes**

$$\sum q_b = \frac{d}{dt} m_n$$



- **Constitutive properties of branches (e.g. pressure loss)**

$$\psi(q_b, \dot{q}_b, p_{n1}, \dot{p}_{n1}, p_{n2}, \dot{p}_{n2}, t) = 0$$



- Constitutive properties of fluid: linearization about reference condition

$$\frac{d}{dt} m = \frac{d}{dt} (\rho \mathbf{V}) = \dot{\rho} \mathbf{V} + \rho \dot{\mathbf{V}}$$

← volume change (e.g. actuator)

$$\dot{\rho} = \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \dot{\mathbf{p}} + \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial \mathbf{T}} \dot{\mathbf{T}} = \rho_0 \left( \frac{1}{\beta} \dot{\mathbf{p}} - \alpha \dot{\mathbf{T}} \right)$$

**compressibility**  
can be neglected if:

- m small
- bulk modulus large
- pressure rate small

**thermal expansion**  
can be neglected if:

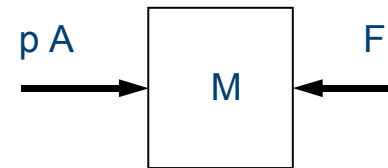
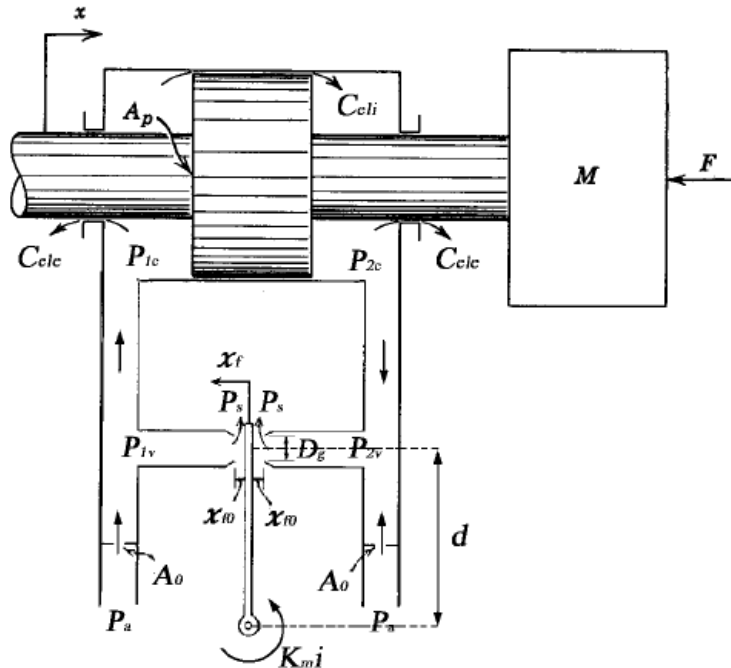
- m small
- coefficient small
- temperature rate small

$$\frac{d}{dt} m = \frac{m}{\beta} \dot{\mathbf{p}} - \cancel{m \alpha \dot{\mathbf{T}}} + \rho \dot{\mathbf{V}}$$

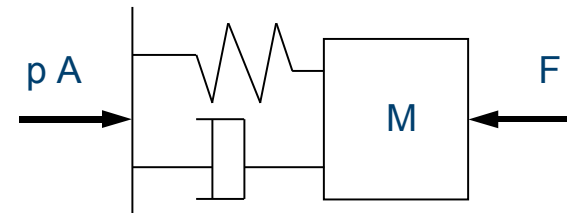
assume temperature rate small compared to time scale of hydro-mechanical processes

- **Multiphysics problem: interaction between different domains (e.g. mechanical and hydraulic)**
- **Interaction described in terms of:**
  - **Frequency, bandwidth (how rapid phenomena are)**
  - **Power (how much work is transferred between domains)**
- **Determine how interaction can be simplified:**
  - **Truncation**
  - **Steady approximation**
  - **Quasi-steady approximation**
  - **Full coupling**

- Example: actuator



truncated model: commanded force independent from dynamics



(quasi-)static model: commanded force depends on dynamics  
approx. as mass-spring-damper

- **Coupled dynamic problem: state-space representation**

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\mathbf{x}} &= \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{y} &= \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{D} \mathbf{u}\end{aligned}$$

- **States partitioned based on frequency separation (“slow” vs. “fast”):**

$$\begin{aligned}\begin{Bmatrix} \dot{\mathbf{x}}_s \\ \dot{\mathbf{x}}_f \end{Bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{ss} & \mathbf{A}_{sf} \\ \mathbf{A}_{fs} & \mathbf{A}_{ff} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_s \\ \mathbf{x}_f \end{Bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}_s \\ \mathbf{B}_f \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{y} &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_s & \mathbf{C}_f \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_s \\ \mathbf{x}_f \end{Bmatrix} + \mathbf{D} \mathbf{u}\end{aligned}$$

- **Approximations consist in reducing the system to the “slow” dynamics while preserving information about the “fast” dynamics**

- **Truncation: only consider “slow” states**

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\mathbf{x}}_s \\ 0 \end{cases} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{ss} & \mathbf{A}_{sf} \\ \mathbf{A}_{fs} & \mathbf{A}_{ff} \end{bmatrix} \begin{cases} \mathbf{x}_s \\ 0 \end{cases} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}_s \\ \mathbf{B}_f \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}$$
$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_s & \mathbf{C}_f \end{bmatrix} \begin{cases} \mathbf{x}_s \\ 0 \end{cases} + \mathbf{D} \mathbf{u}$$

- **Reduced system:**

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\mathbf{x}}_s &= \mathbf{A}_{ss} \mathbf{x}_s + \mathbf{B}_s \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{y} &= \mathbf{C}_s \mathbf{x}_s + \mathbf{D} \mathbf{u} \end{aligned}$$

- **Steady approximation: only statically consider “fast” states**

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} \dot{\mathbf{x}}_s \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{ss} & \mathbf{A}_{sf} \\ \mathbf{A}_{fs} & \mathbf{A}_{ff} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_s \\ \mathbf{x}_f \end{pmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}_s \\ \mathbf{B}_f \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{y} &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_s & \mathbf{C}_f \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_s \\ \mathbf{x}_f \end{pmatrix} + \mathbf{D} \mathbf{u} \end{aligned}$$

- **Reduced system:**

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\mathbf{x}}_s &= \left( \mathbf{A}_{ss} - \mathbf{A}_{sf} \mathbf{A}_{ff}^{-1} \mathbf{A}_{fs} \right) \mathbf{x}_s + \left( \mathbf{B}_s - \mathbf{A}_{sf} \mathbf{A}_{ff}^{-1} \mathbf{B}_f \right) \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{x}_f &= -\mathbf{A}_{ff}^{-1} \mathbf{A}_{fs} \mathbf{x}_s - \mathbf{A}_{ff}^{-1} \mathbf{B}_f \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{y} &= \left( \mathbf{C}_s - \mathbf{C}_f \mathbf{A}_{ff}^{-1} \mathbf{A}_{fs} \right) \mathbf{x}_s + \left( \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{C}_f \mathbf{A}_{ff}^{-1} \mathbf{B}_f \right) \mathbf{u} \end{aligned}$$

- **Note: the original system becomes differential-algebraic (DAE)**

- **Quasi-steady approximation: use low-order dynamics**
- **In Laplace's domain:**

$$\mathbf{y}(s) = (\mathbf{C}(s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{D})\mathbf{u}(s) = \mathbf{H}(s)\mathbf{u}(s)$$

$$\mathbf{y}(s) \simeq \left( \mathbf{H}(0) + s \left( \frac{d\mathbf{H}}{ds} \right)_{s=0} + \frac{s^2}{2} \left( \frac{d^2\mathbf{H}}{ds^2} \right)_{s=0} + \dots + \frac{s^n}{n!} \left( \frac{d^n\mathbf{H}}{ds^n} \right)_{s=0} \right) \mathbf{u}(s)$$

$$\mathbf{H}(0) = -\mathbf{C}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{D}$$

$$\mathbf{H}'(0) = -\mathbf{C}\mathbf{A}^{-2}\mathbf{B}$$

$$\mathbf{H}''(0) = -2\mathbf{C}\mathbf{A}^{-3}\mathbf{B}$$

...

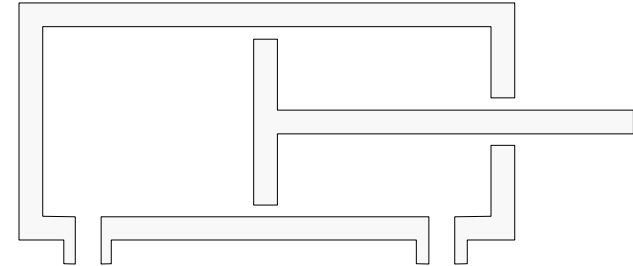
$$\mathbf{H}^{(n)}(0) = -(n!)\mathbf{C}\mathbf{A}^{-(n+1)}\mathbf{B}$$

- **Back to time domain:**

$$\mathbf{y}(t) = \mathbf{H}(0)\mathbf{u}(t) + \mathbf{H}'(0)\dot{\mathbf{u}}(t) + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{H}''(0)\ddot{\mathbf{u}}(t) + \dots$$

Example: actuator; equations:

- Flow balance in chamber 1
- Flow balance in chamber 2
- Equilibrium of piston



$$V_1/\beta \dot{p}_1 = -A_p \dot{x} - C_{eli} A_{eli} (p_1 - p_2) - C_{ele} A_{ele} p_1 - C_{els} A_{els} (p_s - p_1)$$

$$V_2/\beta \dot{p}_2 = +A_p \dot{x} - C_{eli} A_{eli} (p_2 - p_1) - C_{ele} A_{ele} p_2 - C_{elr} A_{elr} (p_2 - p_r)$$

$$m \ddot{x} = A_p (p_1 - p_2) - r \dot{x} + F$$

- State-space realization

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{p}_1 \\ \dot{p}_2 \\ \dot{x} \\ \dot{v} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -C_{e11} \beta / V_1 & C_{e12} \beta / V_1 & 0 & -A_p \beta / V_1 \\ C_{e12} \beta / V_2 & -C_{e22} \beta / V_2 & 0 & A_p \beta / V_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ A_p / m & -A_p / m & 0 & -r / m \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \\ x \\ v \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} C_{e10} \beta / V_1 p_s \\ C_{e20} \beta / V_2 p_r \\ 0 \\ F / m \end{pmatrix}$$

# Approximations

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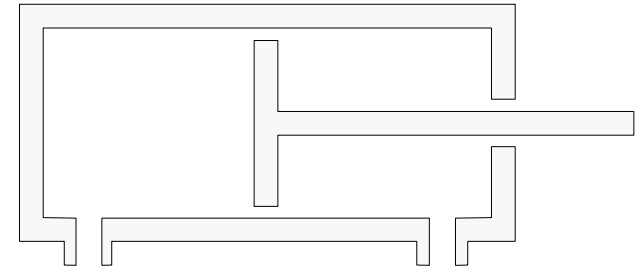
## Truncation approximation:

- **Neglect hydraulics (velocities small, infinite power available)**

$$m \ddot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}_p (\mathbf{p}_s - \mathbf{p}_r) - \mathbf{r} \dot{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{F}$$

- **Directly control the force exerted by fluid**

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \dot{\mathbf{x}} \\ \dot{\mathbf{v}} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -\mathbf{r}/m \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{v} \end{Bmatrix} + \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ \mathbf{A}_p/m (\mathbf{p}_s - \mathbf{p}_r) + \mathbf{F}/m \end{Bmatrix}$$



## Static approximation:

- **Neglect compressibility (volume is small, bulk modulus is high)**

$$0 \simeq -\mathbf{A}_p \dot{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{C}_{eli} \mathbf{A}_{eli} (\mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_2) - \mathbf{C}_{ele} \mathbf{A}_{ele} \mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{C}_{els} \mathbf{A}_{els} (\mathbf{p}_s - \mathbf{p}_1)$$

$$0 \simeq +\mathbf{A}_p \dot{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{C}_{eli} \mathbf{A}_{eli} (\mathbf{p}_2 - \mathbf{p}_1) - \mathbf{C}_{ele} \mathbf{A}_{ele} \mathbf{p}_2 - \mathbf{C}_{elr} \mathbf{A}_{elr} (\mathbf{p}_2 - \mathbf{p}_r)$$

$$m \ddot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}_p (\mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_2) - \mathbf{r} \dot{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{F}$$

- **Pressure depends on velocity: → equivalent damping**

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \dot{\mathbf{x}} \\ \dot{\mathbf{v}} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -\mathbf{r}/m - \mathbf{c}_i/m \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{v} \end{Bmatrix} + \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ \mathbf{A}_p \mathbf{c}_e/m (\mathbf{p}_s - \mathbf{p}_r) + \mathbf{F}/m \end{Bmatrix}$$

- **AMESim:**
  - **Monolithic software (can be interfaced as dynamic module to other solvers)**
  - **Models hydraulic networks in detail**
- **ADAMS:**
  - **Module for basic solver**
  - **Introduces modeling capabilities of hydraulic components**
- **Modelica (Dymola, MathModelica, OpenModelica?)**
  - **Modeling language, based on open library of elements**
  - **Broad library for general-purpose components**
  - **Many fields, including hydraulics and multibody**
  - **Needs specific (closed) solver**
- **MBDyn**

- **MBDyn:**
- **Developed at Dipartimento di Ingegneria Aerospaziale, Politecnico di Milano**
- **Monolithic multibody/multiphysics general-purpose software**
- **It's free: released under GPL (GNU General Public License)**
- **Includes integrated hydraulic library**

- **Web site: <http://www.aero.polimi.it/mbdyn/>**
- **Distributed in source form**
- **Developed for Linux**
- **Needs Un\*x-like build environment**
- **Binaries compiled for Windows XP available here:  
<http://www.aero.polimi.it/masarati/Download/mbdyn/>**
- **Windows executable has trouble with DOS-like line terminators;  
use <http://www.aero.polimi.it/masarati/pe/es2/dos2unix.exe>**

- **Command-line software**
- **Prepare an input file using your favourite text editor**
- **Execute:**

```
# mbdyn -f input_file -o output_file_prefix
```

- **Output in files with specific extensions**
- **Load output files in math environment (octave, scilab, matlab, ...) for plotting and further manipulation**

- Output can be reformatted for some post-processing tools
  - built-in: EasyAnim
  - ...
- Ongoing third-party project (“Blender & MBDyn”) about using Blender <http://www.blender.org/> for pre/post-processing:  
  
<http://www.baldwintechology.com/>

- The model and the analysis are defined in an input file
- Use your preferred editor to prepare the input file
- The structure and the syntax of the statements are described here <http://www.aero.polimi.it/mbdyn/download/>  
(pick the manual for the version in use, or follow instructions)
- A set of tutorials is presented here <http://www.aero.polimi.it/mbdyn/documentation/tutorials/>

- **Nodes instantiate degrees of freedom and the corresponding balance equations**
- **Static structural nodes only instantiate equilibrium equations**

$$0 = \sum \mathbf{f}$$

$$0 = \sum \mathbf{m}$$

- **Dynamic structural nodes also instantiate momentum and momenta moment definitions**

$$\mathbf{M} \dot{\mathbf{x}} = \boldsymbol{\beta}$$

$$\mathbf{J} \boldsymbol{\omega} = \boldsymbol{\gamma}$$

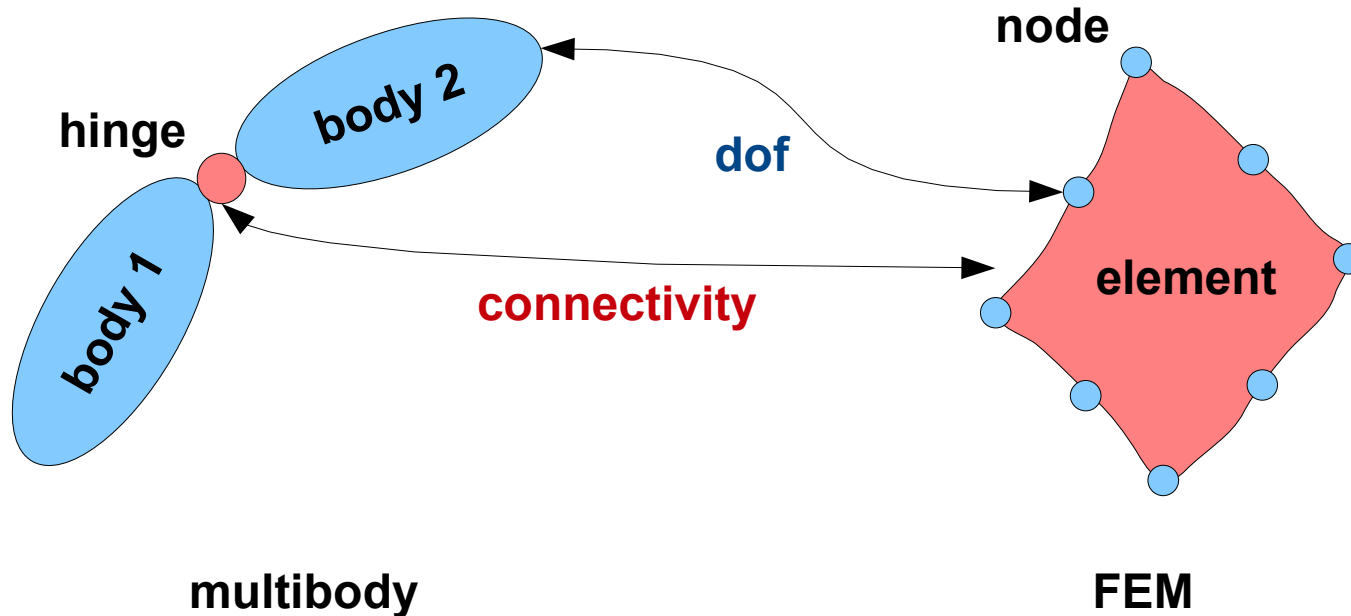
$$\dot{\boldsymbol{\beta}} = \sum \mathbf{f}$$

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{\gamma}} = \sum \mathbf{m}$$

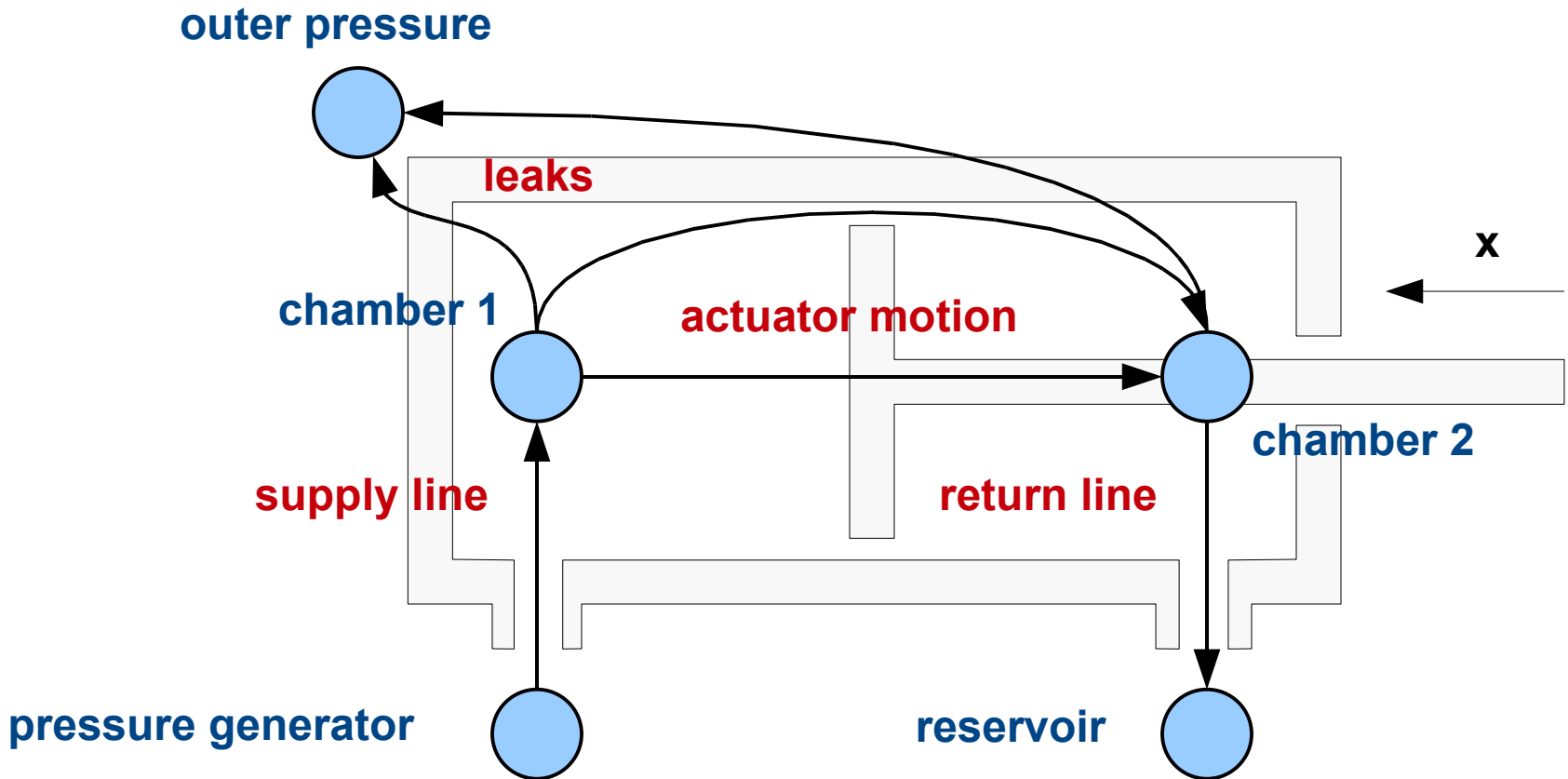
- **Hydraulic nodes (pressure) instantiate flow balance equations**

- **Elements write contributions to nodes equations**
- **Elements represent “connectivity” and “constitutive properties”**
- **Elements can add further, “private” equations (e.g. algebraic constraints)**
- **Mechanical elements typically add forces and moments to equilibrium equations**
- **Mechanical constraints (“joints”) may add algebraic relationships between kinematic degrees of freedom**
- **Hydraulic elements typically add flow contributions to flow balance equations in nodes**

- **Multibody vs. FEM: nodes at bodies vs. nodes at frontier**  
(node  $\leftrightarrow$  body; element  $\leftrightarrow$  hinge)



- Hydraulic modeling: network



# Hydraulic Element Library: Pressure Generator

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- **Not specifically implemented; use a “clamp” genel instead**
- **This element adds a scalar algebraic equation that enforces a specific value (possibly time-dependent) on a scalar node**

$$p = p_0(t)$$

- **This algebraic equation implies a Lagrange multiplier on the flow balance equation related to the pressure node**

$$\sum q + \lambda = 0$$

- **The multiplier corresponds to the flow required to grant the imposed pressure value**

# Hydraulic Element Library: Imposed Flow

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- **Not specifically implemented, use an “abstract” force instead**
- **This element adds a contribution, possibly time-dependent, to an arbitrary scalar equation**  
$$q = q(t)$$
- **Note: a negative flow enters the circuit at the given node, a positive flow leaves the circuit at the given node**

# Hydraulic Element Library: Dynamic Pipeline

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- Dynamic pipes formulated by a finite-volume approach
- Degenerate into static when pressure time derivatives neglected

- Differential mass balance:

$$\frac{D}{Dt} dm = 0 \rightarrow \mathbf{q}_{/x} + \mathbf{A} \rho_{/t} = 0$$

- Differential momentum balance:

$$\frac{D}{Dt} dq = df \rightarrow \mathbf{q}_{/t} + \left( \frac{\mathbf{q}^2}{\rho \mathbf{A}} + \mathbf{A} \mathbf{p} \right)_{/x} = \mathbf{f}_v$$

- Discretization:

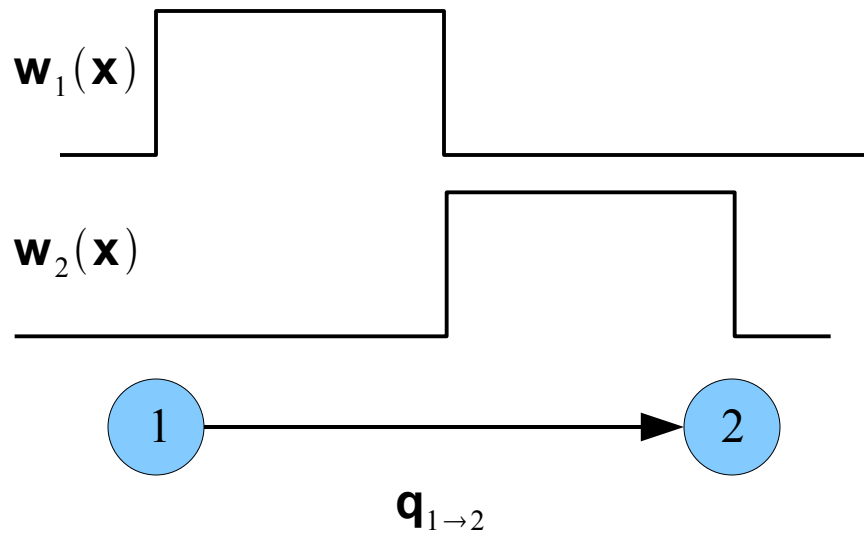
$$\mathbf{q}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1-\xi}{2} & \frac{1+\xi}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{q}_1 \\ \mathbf{q}_2 \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1-\xi}{2} & \frac{1+\xi}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_1 \\ \mathbf{p}_2 \end{Bmatrix}$$

# Hydraulic Element Library: Dynamic Pipeline

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- Piecewise-constant weight functions:
- Weight the mass and momentum balance equations
- Four constitutive equations in pressure and flow at nodes



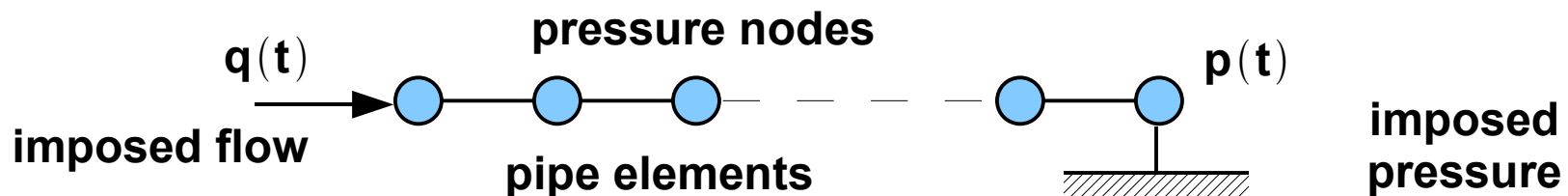
# Example: Pressure Wave in Pipeline

**MBDyn**

- From: R. Piché, A. Ellman, “A Fluid Transmission Line Model for Use with ODE Simulators”, 8<sup>th</sup> Bath International Fluid Power Workshop, Sep. 20-22 1995, University of Bath, UK

- Length: 19.74 m
- Radius: 6.17e-3 m
- Density: 870 kg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Viscosity: 8.e-5 m<sup>2</sup>/s
- Sound celerity: 1.4e3 m/s
- Impulsive flow: 0.001 m<sup>3</sup>/s
- Duration: 0.1e-3 s

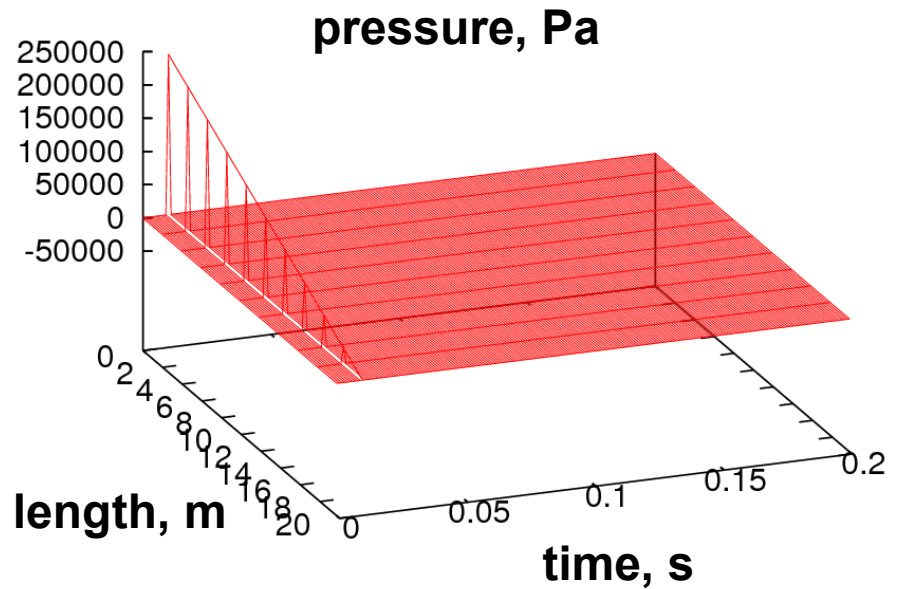
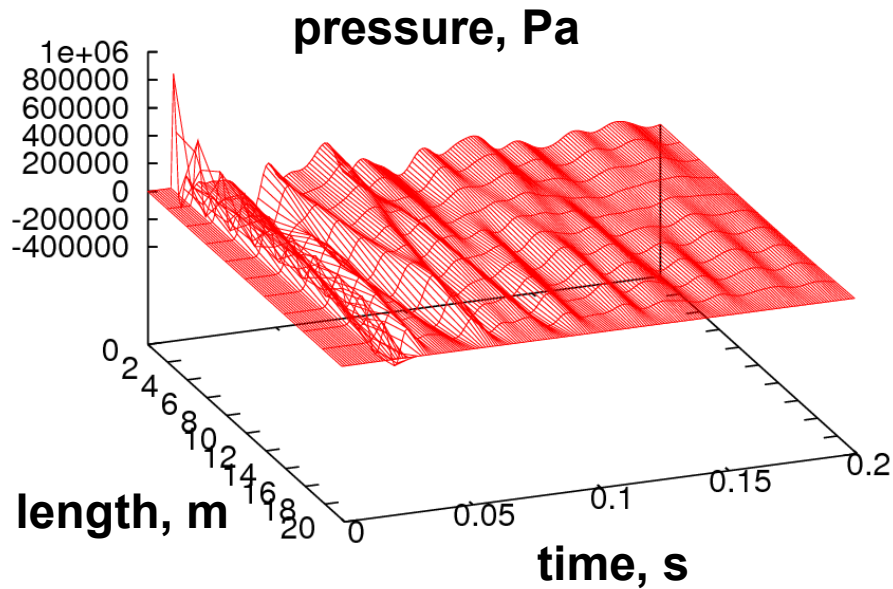
- Impulsive dynamics



# Example: Pressure Wave in Pipeline

*MBDyn*

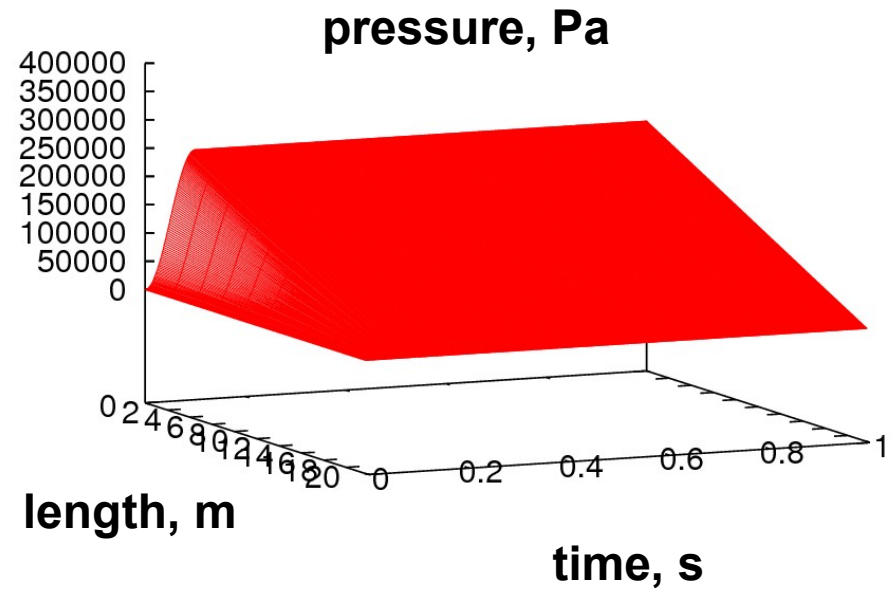
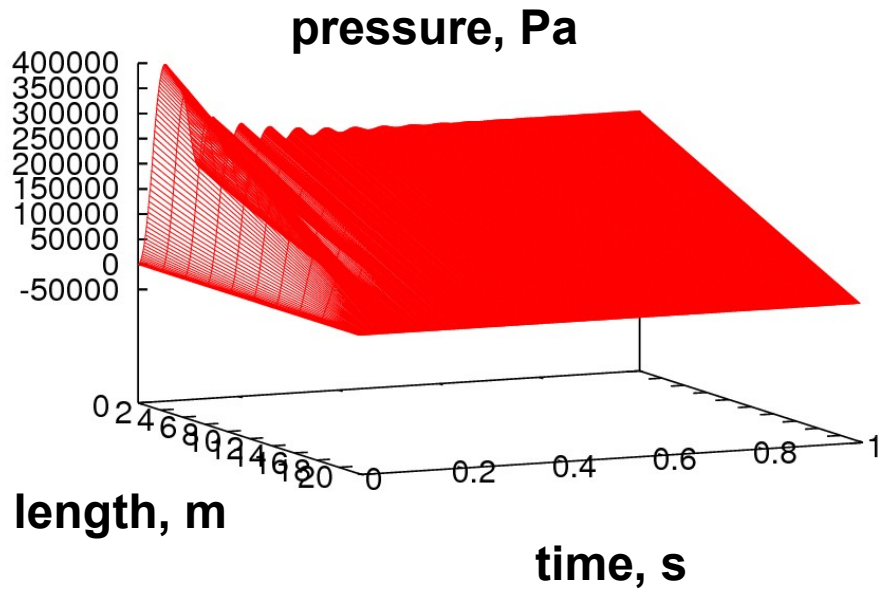
- **Dynamic pipe (10 “dynamic pipe” elements) compared to static pipe:**



## Example: Pressure Wave in Pipeline

*MBDyn*

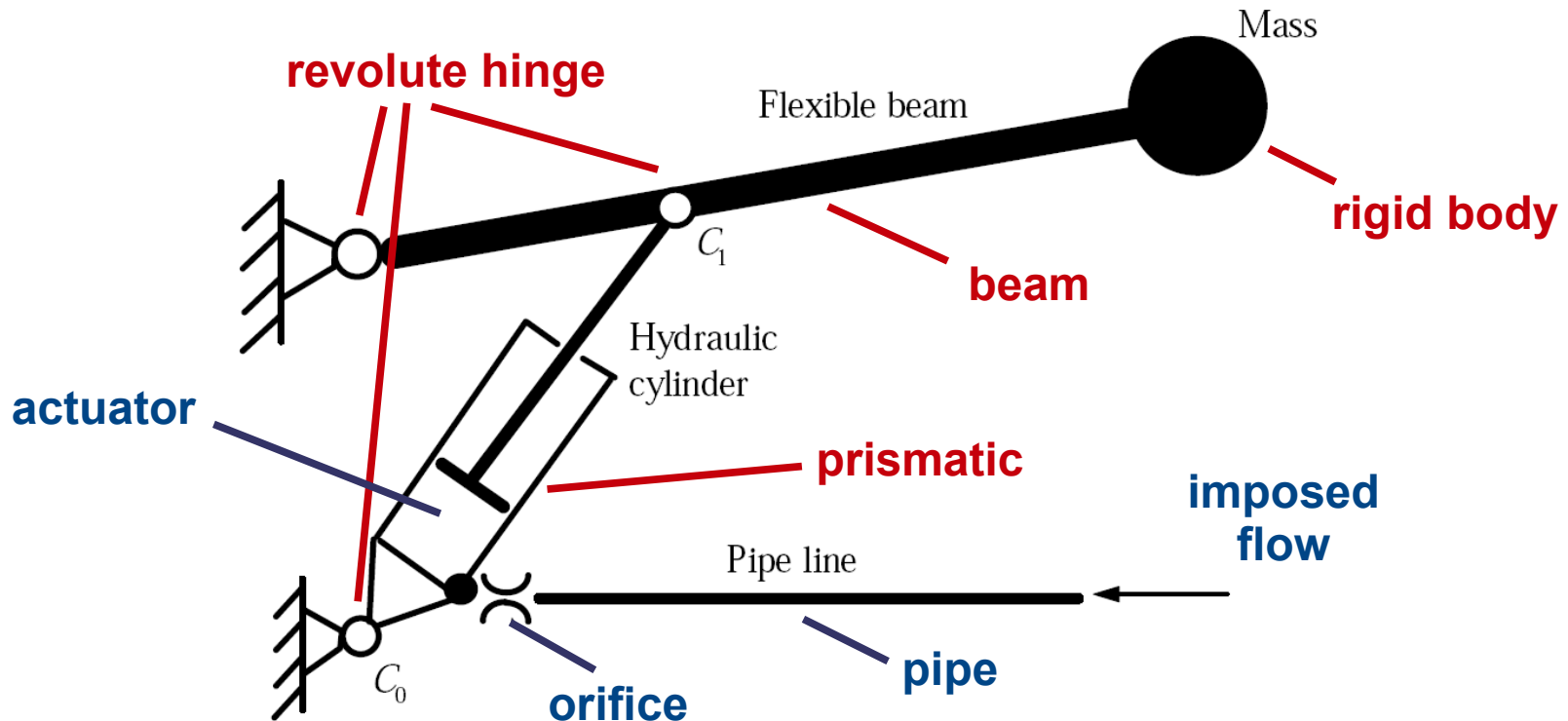
- Dynamic pipe (10 “dynamic pipe” elements) compared to static pipe, “smooth” input:



# Example: Hydraulically Actuated Beam

**MBDyn**

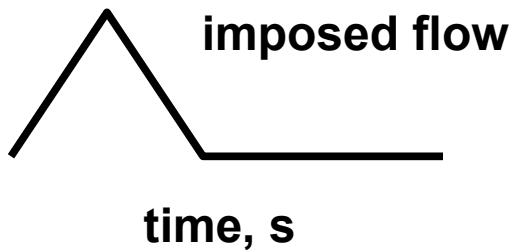
- From: J. Mäkinen, A. Ellman, R. Piché, “Dynamic Simulations of Flexible Hydraulic-Driven Multibody Systems using Finite Strain Beam Theory”, 5<sup>th</sup> Scandinavian International Conference on Fluid Power, Linköping, 1997, Sweden



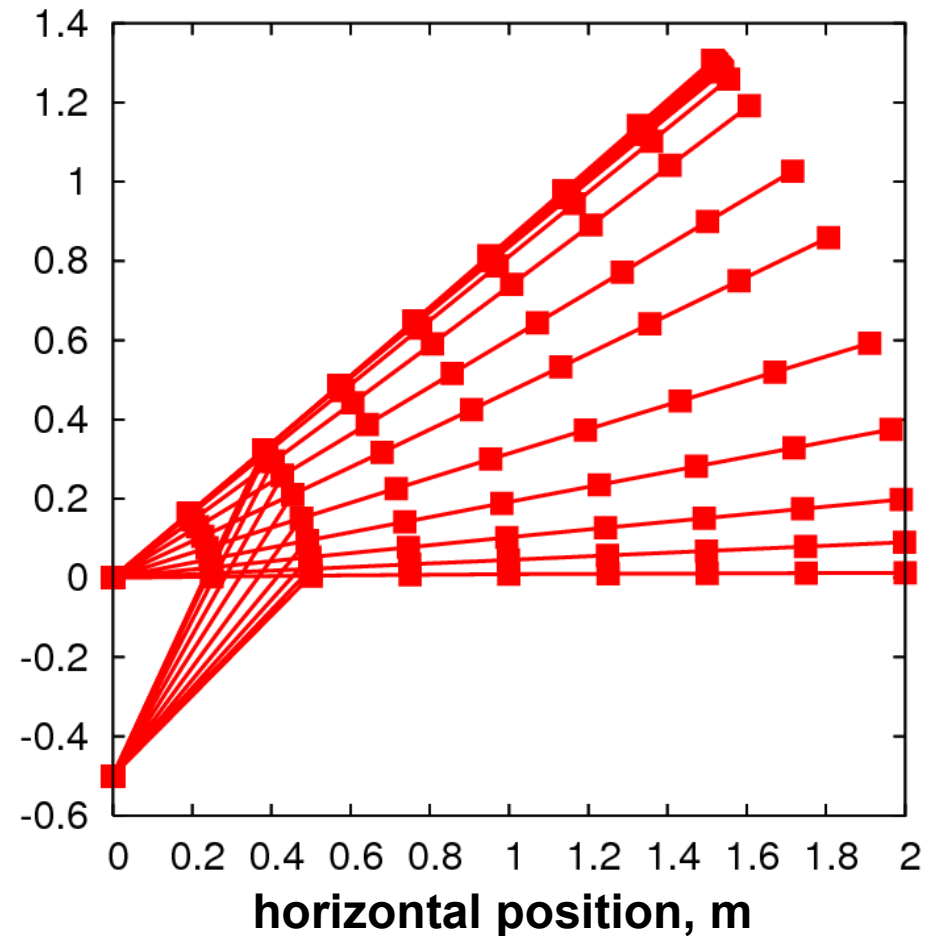
# Example: Hydraulically Actuated Beam

*MBDyn*

- 4 3-node beam elements



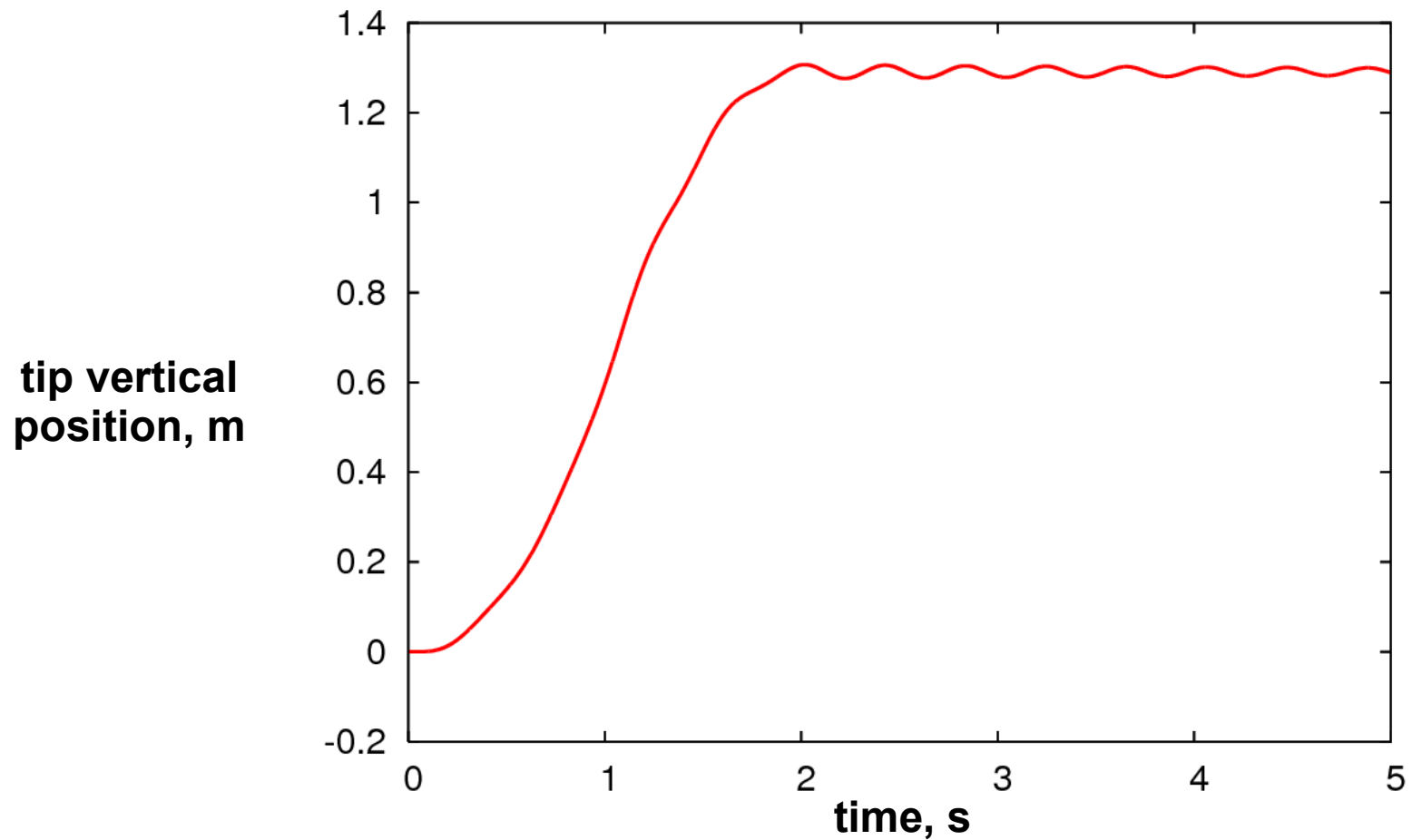
vertical  
position, m



# Example: Hydraulically Actuated Beam

*MBDyn*

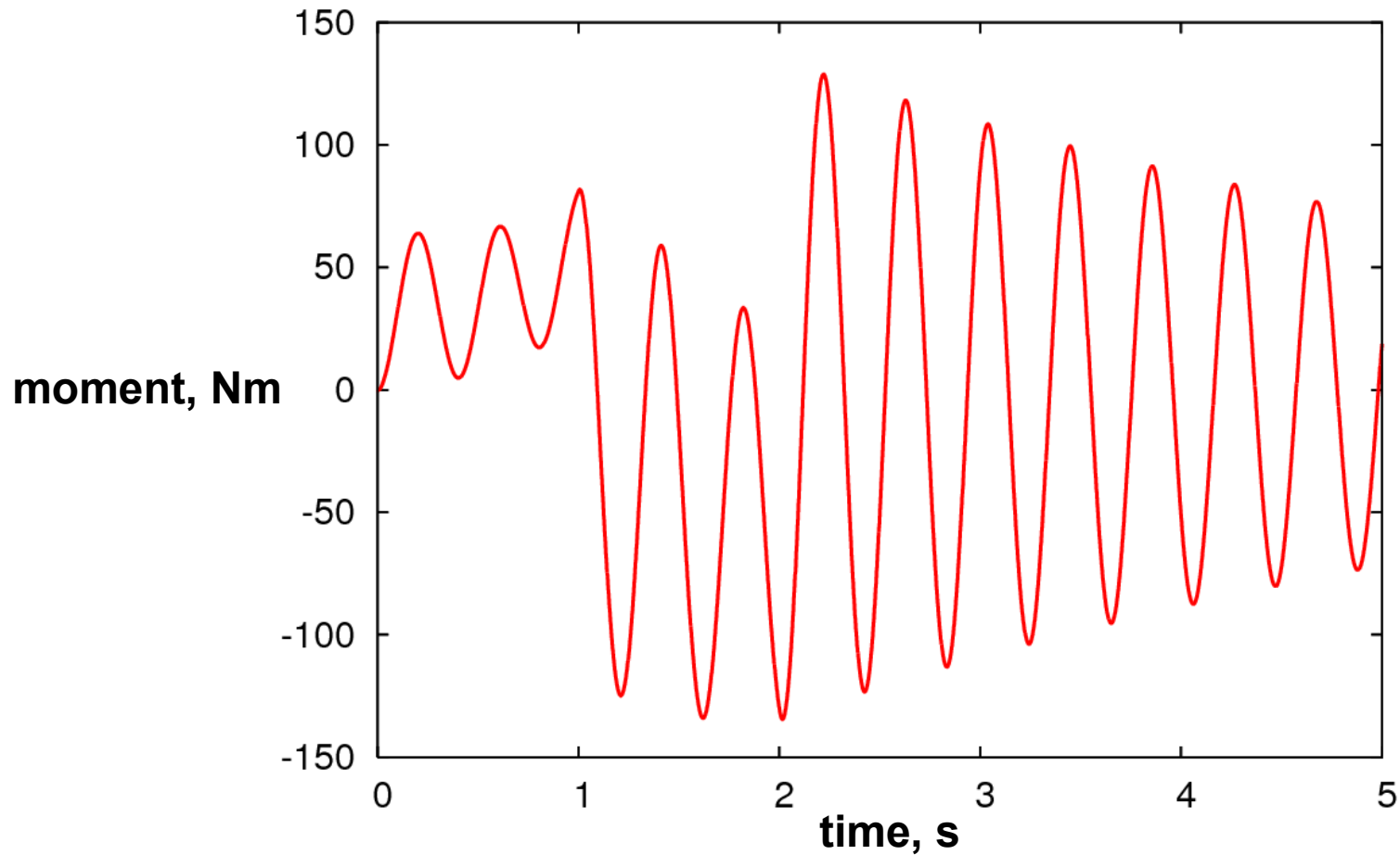
- Tip vertical displacement



# Example: Hydraulically Actuated Beam

*MBDyn*

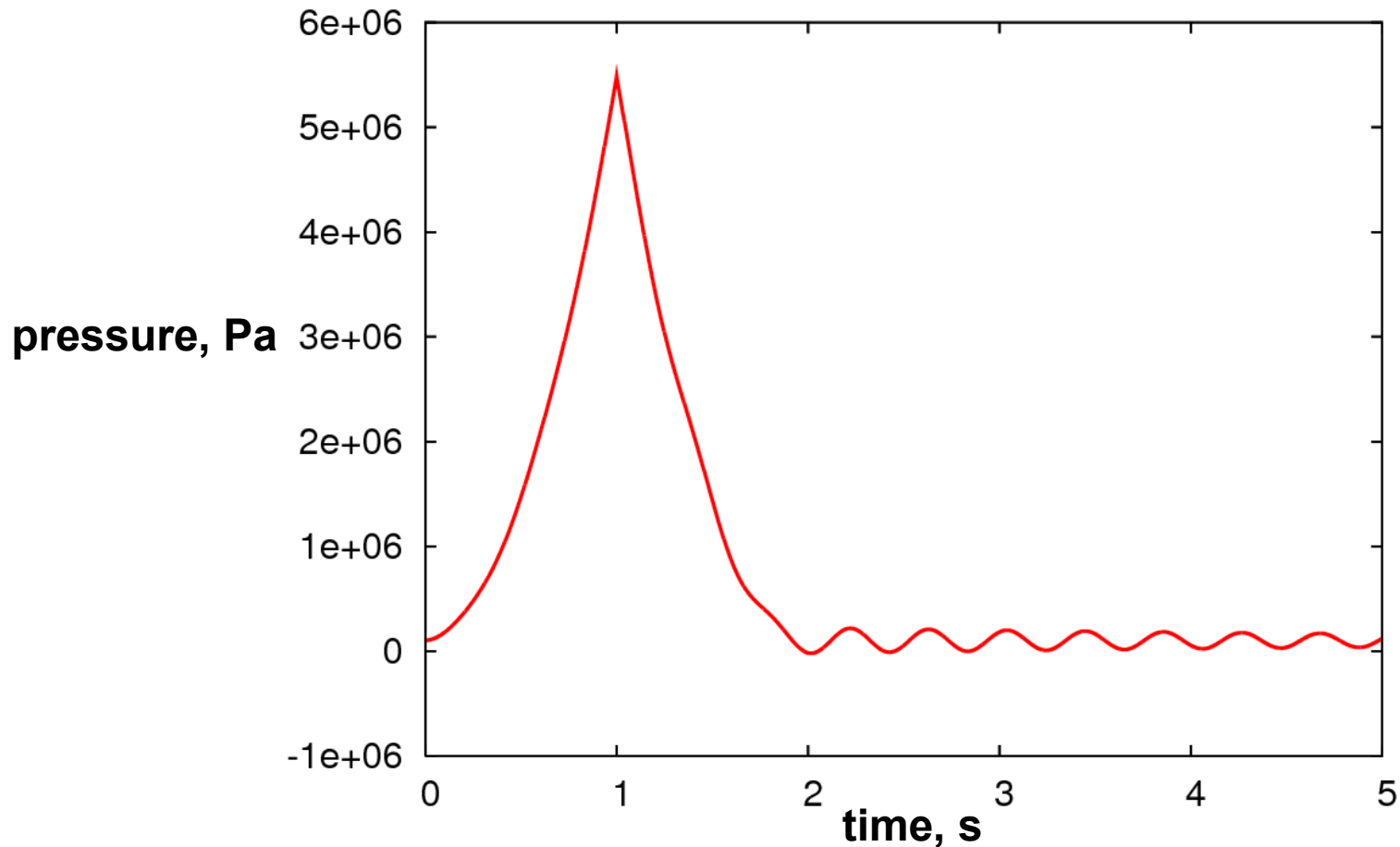
- Internal moment close to actuator



# Example: Hydraulically Actuated Beam

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- Pressure at imposed flow node



# Conclusions

**MBDyn**

- **Multibody: natural environment for integration of multiphysics**
- **Need for further development: complete library, build test suite, validate components**
- **The software is free: try it, and feed back!**

**[mbdyn-users@mbdyn.org](mailto:mbdyn-users@mbdyn.org)**

A light blue circular graphic with the text "RT-MBDyn" in a bold, grey, sans-serif font. Below the circle, the word "Questions?" is written in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font.

**RT-MBDyn**  
**Questions?**