

A STUDY OF FERROFLUID LUBRICATION BASED ROUGH SINE FILM SLIDER BEARING WITH ASSORTED POROUS STRUCTURE

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ABSTRACT. This paper attempts to study a ferrofluid lubrication based rough sine film slider bearing with assorted porous structure using a numerical approach. The fluid flow of the system is regulated by the Neuringer-Rosensweig model. The impact of the transverse surface roughness of the system has been derived using the Christensen and Tonder model. The corresponding Reynolds' equation has been used to calculate the pressure distribution which, in turn, has been the key to formulate the load carrying capacity equation. A graphical representation is made to demonstrate the calculated value of the load carrying capacity which is a dimensionless unit. The numbers thus derived have been used to prove that ferrofluid lubrication aids the load carrying capacity. The study suggests that the positive impact created by magnetization in the case of negatively skewed roughness helps to partially nullify the negative impact of the transverse roughness. Further investigation implies that when the Kozeny-Carman's model is used, the overall performance is enhanced. The Kozeny-Carman's model is a form of an empirical equation used to calculate permeability that is dependent on various parameters like pore shape, tortuosity, specific surface area and porosity. The success of the model can be accredited to its simplicity and efficiency to describe measured permeability values. The obtained equation was used to predict the permeability of fibre mat systems and of vesicular rocks.

KEYWORDS: Porous structure, roughness, ferrofluid, load carrying capacity.

1. INTRODUCTION

The last decade has seen a considerable shift wherein many tribological researches have been dedicated to study surface roughness and the impact of hydrodynamic lubrication. This is because every solid surface carries some amount of surface roughness, the height of which is usually parallel to the mean separation between lubricated contacts. As many researchers have suggested, studying the surface roughness will help to improve the performance of a bearing system. Due to this reason, many researchers [1–3] studied the performance of various bearing systems using the stochastic concept of [4–6].

Amongst the biggest inventions in the field is the use of ferrofluid as a bearing system lubricant. A number of authors [7–11] have worked to explain the performance and applications of ferrofluid when used in different types of bearing systems. These studies have suggested that ferrofluid impacts the bearing performance positively.

Many researchers have used different types of film geometries in order to study the effect of ferrofluid based squeeze film. Some of the researches conducted on this topic are listed, [12] studied exponential slider bearing, [13] worked on secant shaped slider bearing, [14–16] analysed inclined slider bearing, [17] stud-

ied curved slider bearings, [18] examined parallel slider bearing, [19] evaluated on Rayleigh step bearing, [20] investigated parabolic slider bearing, [21] worked on hyperbolic slider bearing, [22] discussed sine film thrust bearing, [23] studied convex pad slider bearing and [24] examined infinitely long slider bearing. From all the articles above, it can clearly be seen that the characteristics of ferrofluid and its effect on load bearing capacity are positive.

The lubrication theory of porous bearings was first studied by [25]. Porous structures are usually described using two common parameters, which are porosity and permeability. Porosity is a measure of existing voids within a dense material structure. Permeability defines the ease with which fluids can flow through the material, in case of open cell porosity. Darcy's law is generally used to determine the porosity. Porous metallic materials have a lot of applications including vibration and sound absorption, light materials, heat transfer media, sandwich core for different panels, various membranes and during the last years as suitable biomaterial structures for the design of medical implants. Porous matrix decreases the load carrying capacity and increase the frictional force on the slider. The porous layer has a beneficial property of self-lubrication, making it an important area of

study. [26] worked on studying the comparisons of porous structures and their impact on the load carrying capacity of a magnetic fluid based rough and short bearing. The studies have found that while magnetization has a positive impact on the bearing system's performance, transverse roughness impacts it negatively. However, in the case of Kozeny-Carman model, this negative impact is comparatively lower. In this model, the negative impact of porosity on the bearing performance can be neutralized with the negatively skewed roughness' positive impact. [27] worked on investigating the performance of a magnetic fluid based double layered rough porous slider bearing considering the combined porous structures. For a considerable range of combined porous structure, magnetization neutralizes the adverse effect of roughness. [28] studied Shliomis model-based magnetic squeeze film in rotating rough curved circular plates: making a contrast of two different porous structures. It was found out that by choosing a proper rotation ratio and appropriate curvature parameters, the negative impacts of transverse roughness on a bearing's load carrying capacity can be nullified by the positive impact of magnetization with a negatively skewed roughness. [29] studied squeeze film based on ferrofluid in curved porous circular plates with various porous structures. The studies showed that, with concave plates and porous structure given by Kozeny-Carman, there was a considerable increase in the load bearing capacity. Different forms of modification of Darcy's law have been studied in [30]. [31] investigated a bearing system based on a hyperbolic slider. They experiment with porous structure as well as roughness in accordance with the impact of sinusoidal magnetic field. Furthermore, the load bearing capacity is enhanced due to the influence of magnetization and the slip parameter being within the limited boundary. Recently, [32] analysed inclined slider bearing. In this work, we can identify that they worked in detail with all aspects of surface roughness, porosity and magnetic field. Somehow, by surprise, the result was that the load bearing capacity differs and gives a very effective ability when the sinusoidal magnetic field is applied in the form which appears in the presented study.

None of the above-mentioned researchers worked on the impact of sine films in a slider bearing. In order to explore this field, this paper studies ferrofluid lubrication based rough sine film slider bearing with assorted porous structure.

2. ANALYSIS

Figure 1 represents the geometry and configuration of the given bearing system. U denotes the uniform velocity of the system in the direction x .

The thickness h is considered as

$$h = h_0 + h_s \quad (1)$$

where h is taken as [22]:

$$h = h_0 + (h_1 - h_0) \left[1 - \sin \left(\frac{\pi x}{2L} \right) \right]$$

using the works of [4-6]. Also, the study uses h_s using the probability density function

$$f(h_s) = \begin{cases} \frac{35}{32c} \left(1 - \frac{h_s^2}{c^2} \right)^3, & -c \leq h_s \leq c \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

c being the maximum deviation from the mean film thickness. α , σ and ε are considered by the relationships

$$\alpha = E(h_s), \quad \sigma^2 = E(h_s - \alpha)^2, \quad \varepsilon = E(h_s - \alpha)^3 \quad (3)$$

where $E(\bullet)$ denotes the expectancy operator given by

$$E(\bullet) = \int_{-c}^c (\bullet) f(h_s) dh_s \quad (4)$$

[9] formulated explaining the steady flow of a magnetic fluid. It was:

Equation of motion

$$\rho(\bar{q} \cdot \nabla) \bar{q} = -\nabla p + \eta \nabla^2 \bar{q} + \mu_0 (\bar{M} \cdot \nabla) \bar{H} \quad (5)$$

Equation of magnetization

$$\bar{M} = \bar{\mu} \bar{H} \quad (6)$$

Equation of continuity

$$\nabla \cdot \bar{q} = 0 \quad (7)$$

Maxwell equations

$$\nabla \times \bar{H} = 0 \quad (8)$$

and

$$\nabla \cdot (\bar{H} + \bar{M}) = 0 \quad (9)$$

where ρ , \bar{q} , \bar{M} , p and η are fluid density, fluid velocity, magnetization vector, film pressure and fluid viscosity respectively.

Also,

$$q = ui + vj + wk \quad (10)$$

where u , v , w are components of film fluid velocity in x , y and z - directions respectively. Further, the magnetic field's magnitude is given by

$$H^2 = kx(L - x) \quad (11)$$

where k is a suitable constant and, assuming the external magnetic field to come up from a potential function, the inclination angle of the magnetic field $\phi = \phi(x, z)$ satisfies the equation [7]

$$\cot \phi \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} = \frac{2x - L}{2x(L - x)} \quad (12)$$

The governing equation of motion of the fluid flow in the film region [33] is

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = \frac{1}{\eta} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(p - \frac{1}{2} \mu_0 \bar{\mu} H^2 \right) \quad (13)$$

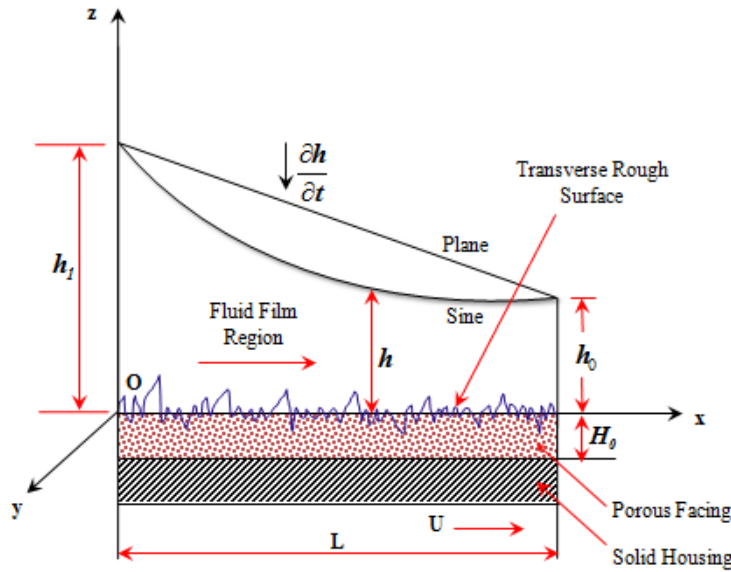


FIGURE 1. Configuration of a sine film porous slider bearing including squeeze action [22].

By solving equation (13) following the no slip boundary conditions:

$$u = 0 \text{ at } z = h \text{ and } u = U \text{ at } z = 0$$

One can find

$$u = \frac{1}{\eta} \left(\frac{z^2}{2} - \frac{h}{2}z \right) \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + U \left(1 - \frac{z}{h} \right) \quad (14)$$

Integrating equation (14) over the film region, yields

$$\int_0^h u dz = \frac{-h^3}{12\eta} \frac{dp}{dx} + \frac{Uh}{2} \quad (15)$$

Using equation (15) in continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int_0^h u dz + w_h - w_0 = 0 \quad (16)$$

yields

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[\frac{-h^3}{12\eta} \frac{dp}{dx} + \frac{Uh}{2} \right] + w_h - w_0 = 0 \quad (17)$$

where

$$w_h = -\dot{h}_0 \text{ and } w_0 = 0$$

Equation (17) leads to:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[h^3 \frac{d}{dx} \left(p - \frac{1}{2} \mu_0 \bar{\mu} H^2 \right) \right] = 6\eta U \frac{dh}{dx} + 12\eta \dot{h}_0 \quad (18)$$

which is the Reynolds' equation [7, 21] modified according to the general hydrodynamic lubrication assumption.

According to the stochastically average process of [4], Equation (18) becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} \left[E(h^3) \frac{d}{dx} \left(p - \frac{1}{2} \mu_0 \bar{\mu} H^2 \right) \right] = \\ = 6\eta U \frac{d}{dx} [E(h)] + 12\eta \dot{h}_0 \end{aligned}$$

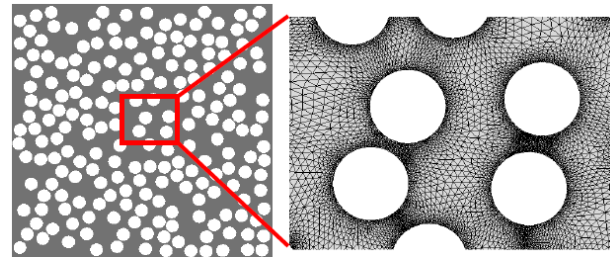


FIGURE 2. Structure model of porous sheet given by Kozeny-Carman [34].

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} \left[g(h, \alpha, \sigma, \varepsilon, \psi) \frac{d}{dx} \left(p - \frac{1}{2} \mu_0 \bar{\mu} H^2 \right) \right] = \\ = 6\eta U \frac{d}{dx} \left[g(h, \alpha, \sigma, \varepsilon, \psi)^{1/3} \right] + 12\eta \dot{h}_0 \quad (19) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} g(h, \alpha, \sigma, \varepsilon, \psi) = h^3 + 3\alpha h^2 + 3(\sigma^2 + \alpha^2)h + \\ + 3\sigma^2\alpha + \alpha^3 + \varepsilon + 12\psi l_1 \quad (20) \end{aligned}$$

2.1. A GLOBULAR SPHERE MODEL

Globular particles (a mean particle size D_c) are used to fill a porous material which is given in Fig. 2.

In fluid dynamics, the Kozeny-Carman equation [35] plays a major role in calculating the pressure drop when working with a fluid flowing in a packed bed of solids. Although, the equation only remains valid for a laminar flow. This equation makes use of few general experimental trends, which makes it an efficient quality control tool that can be used for both physical as well as digital experimental results. The equation is commonly displayed as permeability versus porosity, pore size and tortuosity.

The pressure gradient is assumed to be linear here. Following the ideas of discussion [36] the use of Kozeny-

Carman formula becomes:

$$\psi = \frac{D_c^2 e^3}{72(1-e)^2} \frac{l}{l'}$$

where e is the porosity and $\frac{l}{l'}$ is the length ratio.

The following dimensionless quantities are used,

$$\begin{aligned} g(\bar{h}, \bar{\alpha}, \bar{\sigma}, \bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\psi}) &= \frac{g(h, \alpha, \sigma, \varepsilon, \psi)}{h_0^3}, \quad X = \frac{x}{L}, \quad a = \frac{h_1}{h_0}, \\ \bar{\alpha} &= \frac{\alpha}{h_0}, \quad \bar{\sigma} = \frac{\sigma}{h_0}, \quad \bar{\varepsilon} = \frac{\varepsilon}{h_0^3}, \quad \bar{p} = \frac{ph_0^2}{\eta UL}, \\ \mu^* &= \frac{\mu_0 \bar{\mu} h_0^2 L k}{\eta U}, \quad \beta_1 = -\frac{U h_0}{2 h_0 L}, \\ \bar{h} = \frac{h}{h_0} &= 1 + (a-1) \left[1 - \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} X\right) \right], \quad l^* = \frac{l}{l'}, \\ g(\bar{h}, \bar{\alpha}, \bar{\sigma}, \bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\psi})^{1/3} &= \frac{g(h, \alpha, \sigma, \varepsilon, \psi)^{1/3}}{h_0}, \\ \psi &= \frac{D_c^2 e^3 l}{72(1-e)^2 l'}, \quad \bar{\psi} = \frac{D_c^2 l_1}{h_0^3} \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

The associated boundary conditions are

$$\bar{p} = 0 \text{ at } X = 0, 1 \quad (22)$$

With the aid of equation (22) the pressure distribution in a non-dimensional form comes out to be

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{p} &= \frac{1}{2} \mu^* X(1-X) + 6 \int_0^X \left[\frac{g(\bar{h}, \bar{\alpha}, \bar{\sigma}, \bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\psi})^{1/3} - \dots}{g(\bar{h}, \bar{\alpha}, \bar{\sigma}, \bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\psi})} \right. \\ &\quad \left. \dots - g(1, \bar{\alpha}, \bar{\sigma}, \bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\psi})^{1/3} + \beta_1^{-1}(1-X) \right] dX \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} g(\bar{h}, \bar{\alpha}, \bar{\sigma}, \bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\psi}) &= \bar{h}^3 + 3\bar{\alpha}\bar{h}^2 + 3(\bar{\sigma}^2 + \bar{\alpha}^2)\bar{h} + \\ &\quad + 3\bar{\sigma}^2\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\alpha}^3 + \bar{\varepsilon} + \frac{\bar{\psi}e^3 l^*}{6(1-e)^3} \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

The load bearing capacity in dimensionless form is obtained

$$\bar{W} = \frac{h_0^2}{\eta UL^2 B} W \quad (25)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{W} &= \frac{\mu^*}{12} + 6 \int_0^1 \left[\frac{g(\bar{h}, \bar{\alpha}, \bar{\sigma}, \bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\psi})^{1/3} - \dots}{g(\bar{h}, \bar{\alpha}, \bar{\sigma}, \bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\psi})} \right. \\ &\quad \left. \dots - g(1, \bar{\alpha}, \bar{\sigma}, \bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\psi})^{1/3} + \beta_1^{-1}(1-X) \right] (1-X) dX \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

where the load bearing capacity is calculated using

$$W = \int_0^L p B dX \quad (27)$$

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results calculated for the dimensionless load-carrying capacity \bar{W} given by equation (26) are found using Simpson's one-third rule with a step size of 0.2 for the Kozeny-Carman model. It proves that the load bearing capacity increases by:

$$\frac{\mu^*}{12}$$

Equation (26) suggests that even in the absence of a flow, a bearing system can handle a given amount of load for the Kozeny-Carman model. By keeping the roughness zero, the study reduces to the impact of an assorted porous structure on the Neuringer-Rosenzweig model based ferrofluid squeeze film for a slider bearing [7]. Considering the magnetization parameter as a zero, it reduces to the study of [37] in the absence of porosity.

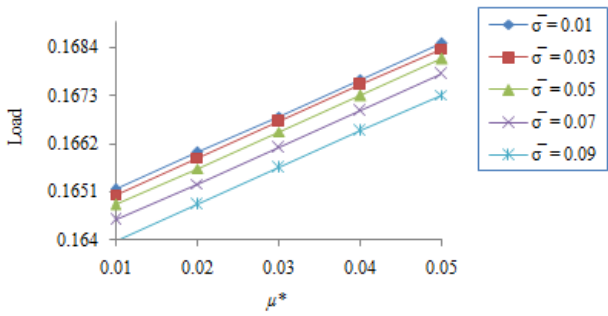
Equation (26) clearly suggests that the expression for \bar{W} is linear with respect to the magnetization parameter μ^* . Thus, when the Kozeny-Carman model is applicable, by increasing magnetization, the load bearing capacity can also be increased (Fig. 3). Figures 3-10 display a graphical representation of the Kozeny-Carman model results. They suggest that:

- (1.) According to Fig. 4, it is evident that a standard deviation has a relatively lower impact when compared to porosity.
- (2.) As the positive variance increases, the load carrying capacity decreases. A decrease in the negative variance leads to an increase in the load carrying capacity (Fig. 5). As suggested by Fig. 6, the impact of skewness on the load carrying capacity is similar to variance.
- (3.) Effect of $\bar{\psi}$ on \bar{W} with respect to e and l^* is seen to be adversely from Fig. 7.
- (4.) Figure 8 demonstrates the impact of porosity on the distribution of load carrying capacity. It suggests that porosity considerably reduces the load bearing capacity. In case of a measure of symmetry, this scenario is further exaggerated.
- (5.) Figure 9 displays the impact of the ratio l^* on the load bearing capacity. It is evident that, with an increase in l^* , the load bearing capacity decreases. The rate of it is further increased with an increase in porosity parameter e .

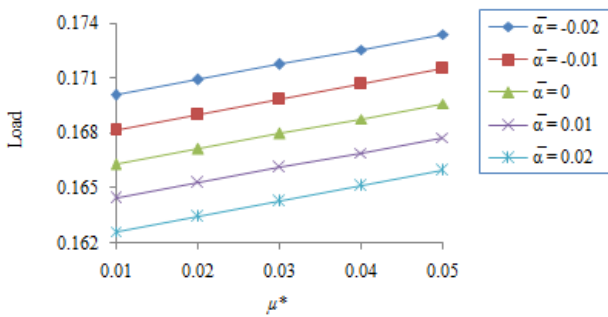
If we look on the results presented in Fig. 10a and correlate them with the results from Fig. 10, we can firmly conclude that the Kozeny-Carman model is highly activated in reference to the conventional porosity case.

4. VALIDATION

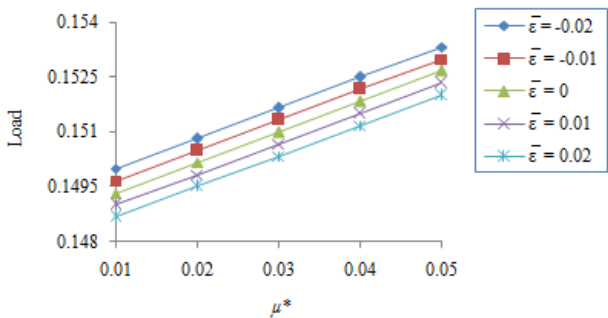
Undoubtedly, Tables 1-5 underline that an enhancement in the load bearing capacity by almost 5% is registered here.



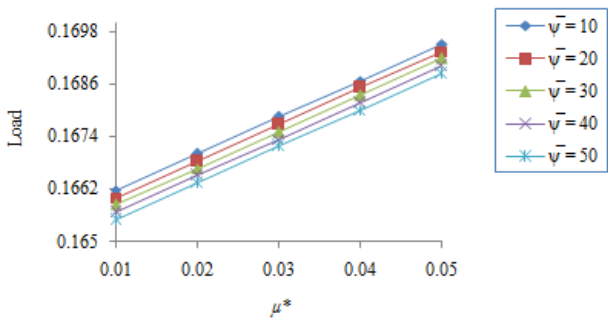
(A).



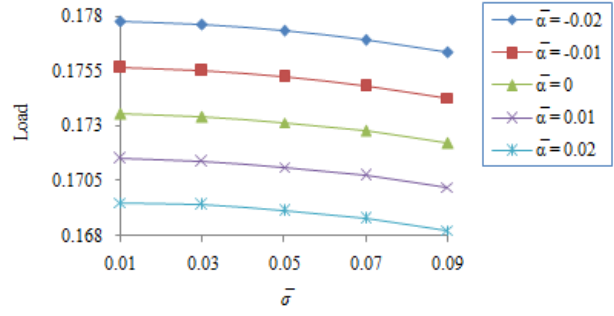
(B).



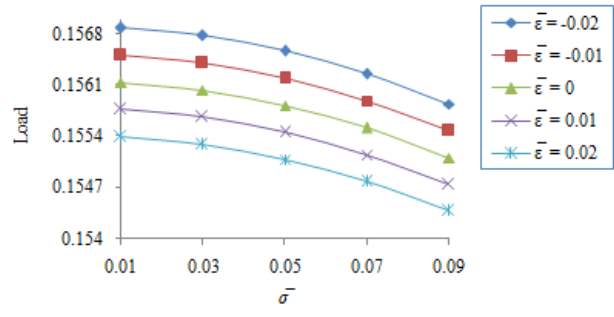
(C).



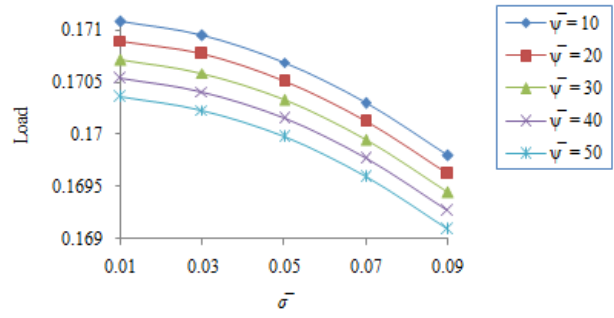
(D).



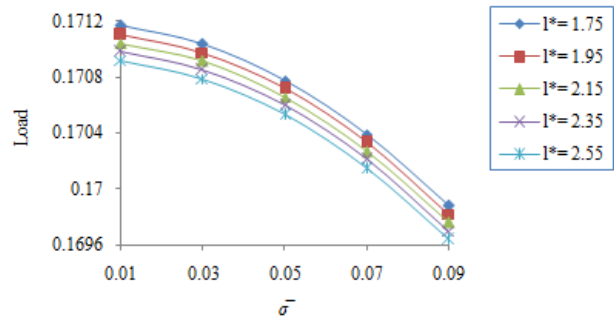
(A).



(B).



(C).



(D).

FIGURE 3. Profile of load bearing capacity with regards to μ^* .

FIGURE 4. Profile of load bearing capacity with regards to $\bar{\sigma}$.

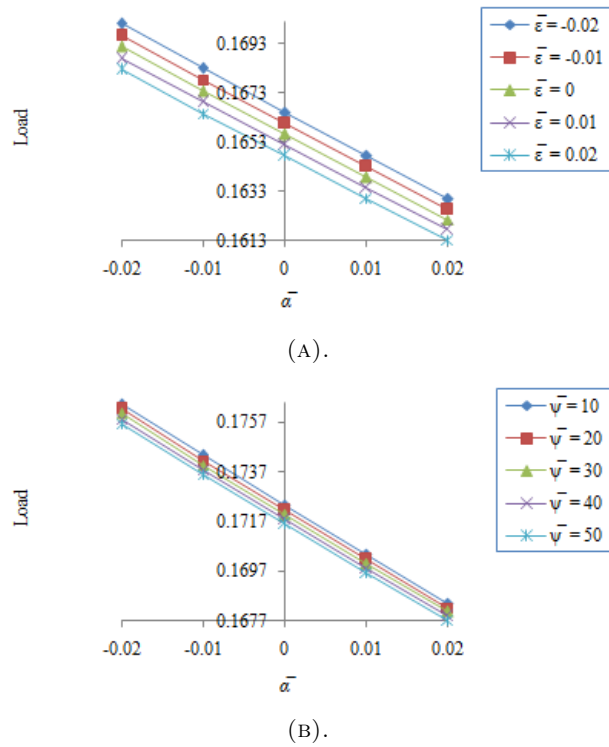


FIGURE 5. Profile of load bearing capacity with regards to $\bar{\alpha}$.

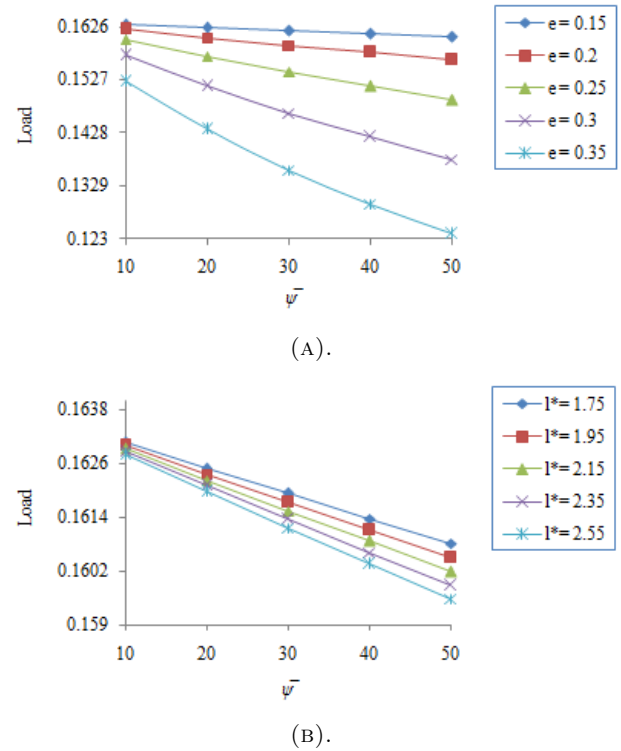


FIGURE 7. Profile of load bearing capacity with regards to $\bar{\psi}$.

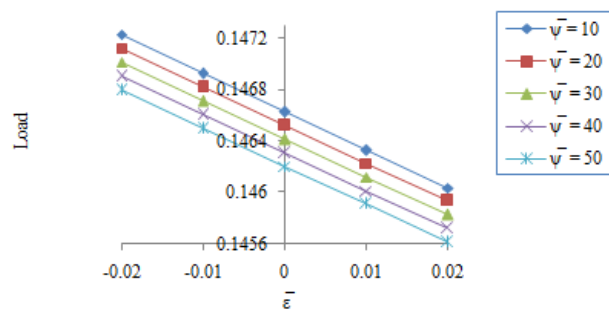


FIGURE 6. Profile of load bearing capacity with regards to $\bar{\epsilon}$.

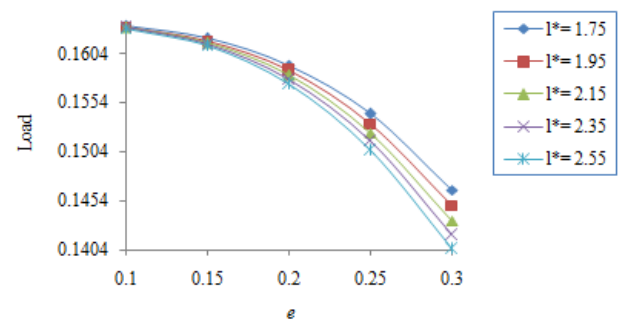


FIGURE 8. Profile of load bearing capacity with regards to e .

μ^*	Load bearing capacity calculated for ($\bar{\alpha} = 0.01, \bar{\sigma} = 0.01, \bar{\epsilon} = 0.05,$ $\bar{\psi} = 30, 1/\beta_1 = 0.01, l^* = 1.75,$ $e = 0.15, \psi^* = 0.02)$	
	Result for assorted porosity	Result for conventional porosity
0.01	0.1651655	0.1567618
0.02	0.1659988	0.1575952
0.03	0.1668321	0.1584285
0.04	0.1676655	0.1592618
0.05	0.1684988	0.1600952

TABLE 1. Comparison of \bar{W} calculated for μ^* .

$\bar{\alpha}$	Load bearing capacity calculated for ($\mu^* = 0.02, \bar{\sigma} = 0.01, \bar{\epsilon} = 0.05,$ $\bar{\psi} = 30, 1/\beta_1 = 0.01, l^* = 1.75,$ $e = 0.15, \psi^* = 0.02)$	
	Result for assorted porosity	Result for conventional porosity
-0.02	0.1716939	0.1623983
-0.01	0.1697629	0.1607764
0	0.1678648	0.1591755
0.01	0.1659988	0.1575952
0.02	0.1641643	0.1560354

TABLE 2. Comparison of \bar{W} calculated for $\bar{\alpha}$.

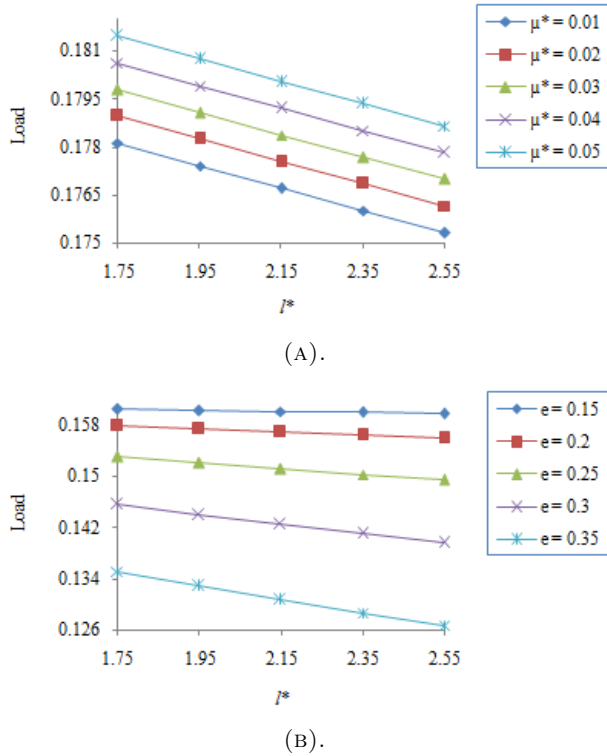


FIGURE 9. Profile of load bearing capacity with regards to l^* .

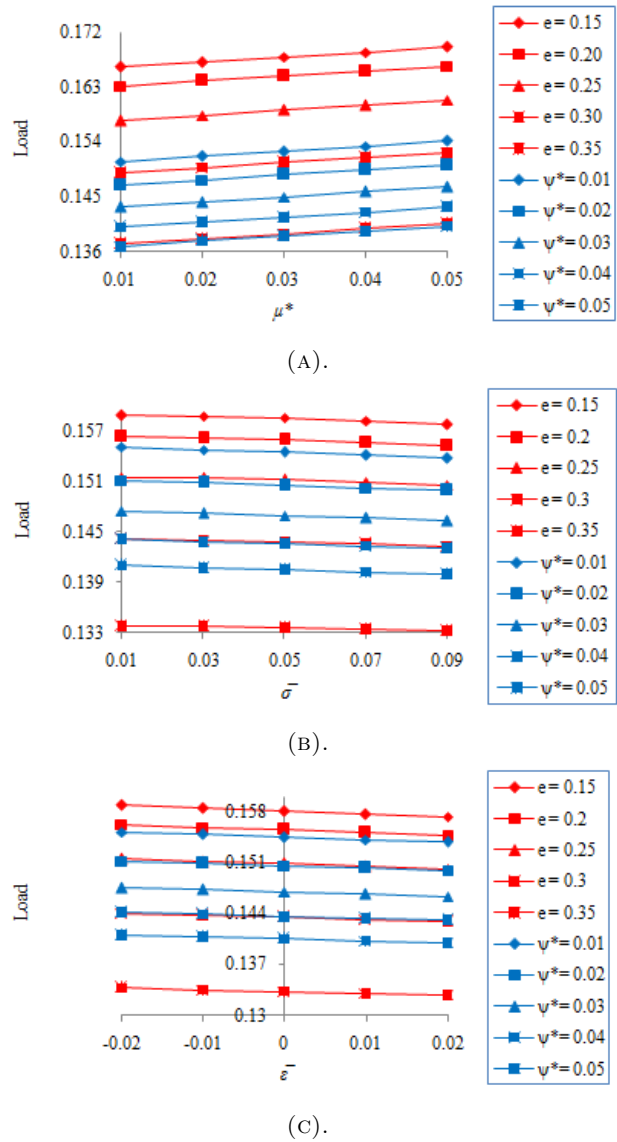


FIGURE 10. Profile of load bearing capacity with regards to μ^* , $\bar{\sigma}$ and $\bar{\epsilon}$ for the comparison of e and ψ^* .

$\bar{\sigma}$	Load bearing capacity calculated for ($\mu^* = 0.02, \bar{\alpha} = 0.01, \bar{\epsilon} = 0.05,$ $\bar{\psi} = 30, 1/\beta_1 = 0.01, l^* = 1.75,$ $e = 0.15, \psi^* = 0.02)$	
	Result for assorted porosity	Result for conventional porosity
0.01	0.1659988	0.1575952
0.03	0.1658797	0.1574952
0.05	0.1656424	0.1572959
0.07	0.1652885	0.1569985
0.09	0.1648207	0.1566048

TABLE 3. Comparison of \bar{W} calculated for $\bar{\sigma}$.

$\bar{\epsilon}$	Load bearing capacity calculated for ($\mu^* = 0.02, \bar{\alpha} = 0.01, \bar{\sigma} = 0.03,$ $\bar{\psi} = 30, 1/\beta_1 = 0.01, l^* = 1.75,$ $e = 0.15, \psi^* = 0.02)$	
	Result for assorted porosity	Result for conventional porosity
-0.02	0.1692074	0.1602794
-0.01	0.168718	0.1598716
0	0.1682335	0.1594672
0.01	0.1677536	0.1590663
0.02	0.1672784	0.1586686

TABLE 4. Comparison of \bar{W} calculated for $\bar{\epsilon}$.

e	Load bearing capacity calculated for ($\mu^* = 0.02, \bar{\alpha} = 0.01, \bar{\sigma} = 0.01,$ $\bar{\psi} = 30, \bar{\varepsilon} = -0.01, 1/\beta_1 = 0.01,$ $l^* = 0.08, \psi^* = 0.02$)	
	Result for assorted porosity	Result for conventional porosity
0.1	0.1706303	0.1599767
0.15	0.1699394	0.1599767
0.2	0.1684007	0.1599767
0.25	0.1655293	0.1599767
0.3	0.1607807	0.1599767

TABLE 5. Comparison of \bar{W} calculated for e .

5. CONCLUSIONS

This paper has studied the effect of ferrofluid lubrication when used with a rough sine film slider bearing with an assorted porous structure on the load carrying capacity. A modified Reynolds' equation used for the sine profile slider bearing lubrication has been derived with the ferrohydrodynamic theory by Neuringer-Rosensweig and equation of continuity for film as well as porous region. The Reynolds' equation has also been used to determine the pressure equation and an expression for dimensionless load-carrying capacity. From the numerical calculations, the following conclusions have been derived:

- (1.) By increasing the strength of the external magnetic field, a bearing system's pressure and its load bearing capacity can be increased considerably. Also, unlike conventional lubricants, this type of a system can carry a given amount of load even if there is no flow. Additionally, as suggested by equation (13), when the Neuringer-Rosensweig ferrofluid flow model is applicable, a constant magnetic field does not increase the load bearing capacity.
- (2.) Comparing the present paper with [15] makes it evident that the system, in this case, enhances the load carrying capacity threefold at minimum. Also, when a sine film profile is used to design the slider bearing, it enhances the bearing capacity, as can be seen when compared with an inclined slider bearing.

Lastly, the article determines that, when Kozeny-Carman's model is appropriate, the surface roughness must be studied properly in order to design a more efficient bearing system.

LIST OF SYMBOLS

a	inlet-outlet ratio
B	breadth of the bearing
g	function of different parameters
h	film thickness [mm]
h	mean film thickness [mm]

h_s	deviation from mean level
h_1	maximum film thickness
h_0	minimum film thickness
\bar{h}	non dimensional film thickness
\bar{H}	external magnetic field
\dot{h}_0	squeeze velocity in z-direction
H_0	thickness of porous facing
L	length of the bearing
\bar{p}	non-dimensional film pressure
w_0	values of w at $z = 0$
w_h	values of w at $z = h$
W	load capacity [N]
\bar{W}	non-dimensional load capacity
α	variance [mm]
$\bar{\alpha}$	non-dimensional variance
β_1	squeeze parameter
ε	skewness [mm ³]
$\bar{\varepsilon}$	skewness in dimensionless form
μ_0	magnetic characteristic
$\bar{\mu}$	magnetic susceptibility of particles
μ^*	dimensionless magnetization parameter
σ	standard deviation [mm]
$\bar{\sigma}$	dimensionless standard deviation
ψ	permeability of porous region
ψ^*	dimensionless conventional porosity

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