

Fluid Power with Applications

Fifth Edition

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PRENTICE HALL

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*To my wife, Mary,
and to my grandchildren:
Carly, Chelsea, Kevin, Bryan, and Drew*

Preface

INTRODUCTION

The primary purpose of the fifth edition of *Fluid Power with Applications* remains the same as that of the previous editions: to provide the student with an in-depth background in the vast field of fluid power. As such, this book covers the subjects essential to understanding the design, analysis, operation, maintenance, and application of fluid power systems. It is written for associate-degree technology students at community and technical colleges as well as baccalaureate-degree technology students at four-year colleges and universities.

As in the previous editions, although theory is presented where desirable, the emphasis is placed on understanding how fluid power systems operate and on practical applications as well. In this way, the student learns not only the "why" but also the "how" of fluid power system operation.

MAJOR CHANGES IN FIFTH EDITION

Based on input from users of the fourth edition and from my colleagues, the following major changes have been incorporated in this book:

1. The material on the maintenance of hydraulic systems (formerly Chapter 14) has been revised and moved forward to become new Chapter 10. In this way, information on hydraulic system maintenance immediately follows the coverage of hydraulics (Chapters 2 through 9). This provides better subject continuity because hydraulics is presented in its entirety before pneumatics is introduced.
2. Many of the example problems and end-of-chapter exercises have been changed to better reflect current industrial applications. The example problems and exercises encompass a wide range of subject matter and difficulty to allow the student to progress in an orderly manner.

3. Information on the maintenance-related properties of hydraulic fluids has been revised and moved from Chapter 2 "Physical Properties of Hydraulic Fluids," to Chapter 10, "Maintenance of Hydraulic Systems." This allows the student to develop an in-depth understanding of the operation of hydraulic systems before delving into maintenance-related subjects.
4. A number of photographs and illustrations have been updated to reflect current fluid power technology. These include the areas of programmable logic controllers, microprocessors, and electrohydraulic servo systems.
5. Section 5.13 has been revised to include the use of Mathcad computer software to analyze hydraulic systems. It is frequently desirable to optimize the operation of hydraulic systems based on a performance versus cost analysis. To perform the huge number of calculations to optimize complete hydraulic systems in a reasonable period of time, it is necessary to utilize computers. By using Mathcad computer software, the value of any system parameter can be changed, and the effect on system performance can be quickly determined and compared to the cost of changing the corresponding component in the actual system.
6. Section 8.4 has been expanded and Section 9.14 has been added to provide an analytical method for controlling the speed of hydraulic cylinders and motors using flow control valves. This allows the student to properly select flow control valves for a wide variety of actuator speed control applications.
7. A list of key equations has been added to the end of each chapter. This allows the student to more easily access equations when needed in later chapters. These equations show the units to be used for each parameter where appropriate, to expedite problem solving.
8. The material on the efficiencies of pumps and hydraulic motors has been rewritten for better comprehension. For example, the distinction between brake power and hydraulic power is emphasized when dealing with the performance of pumps and hydraulic motors.
9. The material on the two subjects of viscosity and viscosity index has been rewritten for better clarity and placed into separate sections. This allows viscosity in CGS metric units, SI metric units and English units, to be more readily applied as a parameter in the solution of fluid power problems.
10. Tables of English to English and metric to metric unit conversion factors have been added to the existing table of English to metric unit conversion factors in Appendix E. This allows for more expedient solution of many fluid power problems since unit conversion (such as $1 \frac{ft^3}{s} = 448 \text{ gpm}$ and $1 \frac{m^3}{s} = 60,000 \text{ Lpm}$) do not have to be derived when needed.

Acknowledgments

As in the case of the previous editions, I am indebted to the numerous fluid power equipment manufacturing companies for permitting the inclusion of their photographs and other illustrations in this textbook.

I thank Robert B. Lantz, Cleveland State Community College; Pascal Zanzano, Niagara County Community College; and Tim Brown, Tri-County Technical College for reviewing the manuscript and providing many helpful suggestions and comments for improving this fifth edition. Thanks to Kirsten Kauffman at York Production Services and Louise Sette at Prentice Hall for handling the production of this edition.

I also wish to thank the users of the previous editions for their many constructive suggestions, which have also been incorporated.

Anthony Esposito

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with Applications***

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1

Introduction to Fluid Power

Learning Objectives

Upon completing this chapter, you should be able to:

1. Explain what fluid power is.
2. Differentiate between the terms *hydraulics* and *pneumatics*.
3. Understand the difference between fluid power systems and fluid transport systems.
4. Appreciate the history of the fluid power industry.
5. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of fluid power.
6. Describe key applications of fluid power.
7. Specify the basic components of fluid power systems.
8. Distinguish between open-loop and closed-loop fluid power systems.
9. Recognize the various types of fluid power control systems.
10. Appreciate the size and scope of the fluid power industry.
11. Identify the categories of personnel who are employed in the fluid power industry.
12. Describe the environmental issues dealing with developing biodegradable fluids, reducing oil leakage, maintaining and disposing of hydraulic fluids, and reducing noise levels.

1.1 WHAT IS FLUID POWER?

Fluid power is the technology that deals with the generation, control, and transmission of power-using pressurized fluids. It can be said that fluid power is the muscle that moves industry. This is because fluid power is used to push, pull, regulate, or drive virtually all the machines of modern industry. For example, fluid power steers and brakes automobiles, launches spacecraft, moves earth, harvests crops, mines coal, drives machine tools, controls airplanes, processes food, and even drills teeth. In fact, it is almost impossible to find a manufactured product that hasn't been "fluid-powered" in some way at some stage of its production or distribution.

Since a fluid can be either a liquid or a gas, fluid power is actually the general term used for hydraulics and pneumatics. Hydraulic systems use liquids such as petroleum oils, water, synthetic oils, and even molten metals. The first hydraulic fluid to be used was water because it is readily available. However, water has many deficiencies. It freezes readily, is a relatively poor lubricant, and tends to rust metal components. Hydraulic oils are far superior and hence are widely used in lieu of water. Pneumatic systems use air as the gas medium because air is very abundant and can be readily exhausted into the atmosphere after completing its assigned task.

It should be realized that there are actually two different types of fluid systems: fluid transport and fluid power.

Fluid transport systems have as their sole objective the delivery of a fluid from one location to another to accomplish some useful purpose. Examples include pumping stations for pumping water to homes, cross-country gas lines, and systems where chemical processing takes place as various fluids are brought together.

Fluid power systems are designed specifically to perform work. The work is accomplished by a pressurized fluid bearing directly on an operating fluid cylinder or fluid motor. A fluid cylinder produces a force, whereas a fluid motor produces a torque. Fluid cylinders and motors thus provide the muscle to do the desired work. Of course, control components are also needed to ensure that the work is done smoothly, accurately, efficiently, and safely.

Liquids provide a very rigid medium for transmitting power and thus can provide huge forces to move loads with utmost accuracy and precision. On the other hand, pneumatic systems exhibit spongy characteristics due to the compressibility of air. However, pneumatic systems are less expensive to build and operate. In addition, provisions can be made to control the operation of the pneumatic actuators that drive the loads.

Fluid power equipment ranges in size from huge hydraulic presses to miniature fluid logic components used to build reliable control systems.

How versatile is fluid power? In terms of brute power, a feather touch by an operator can control hundreds of horsepower and transmit it to any location where a hose or pipe can go. In terms of precision such as applications in the machine tool industry, tolerances of one ten-thousandth of an inch can be achieved and repeated over and over again. Fluid power is not merely a powerful muscle; it is a controlled, flexible muscle that provides power smoothly, efficiently, safely, and precisely to accomplish useful work.