





# Feedback control of liquid metal coating

 $19^{\underline{th}} \ ERCOFTAC \ DaVinci \ Competition$ 

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# Aim of the project



Develop an optimal control strategy for a feedback regulator aimed at minimizing undulation waves downstream of the jetwiping region, using gas jets and electromagnetic actuators.

Objectives

□ Carry out a linear stability analysis

□ Derive a simplified model of the liquid film

□ Explore different control methods

# Contents

Linear stability analysis

Computation of the threshold between absolute and convective instability /









We found the region of absolute instability studying the linearized 2D Navier-Stokes equations



Pino, Fabio, Miguel Alfonso Mendez, and Benoit Scheid. "Absolute and convective instabilities in a liquid film over a substrate moving against gravity." *arXiv preprint* Pino, Fabio, Miguel Alfonso Mendez, and Benoit Scheid. "Linear stability analysis of a vertical liquid film over a moving substrate." *Journal of Fluid Mechanics* (2024).

We found the region of absolute instability studying the linearized Navier-Stokes equations



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Derive simplified model Derivation liquid film reduced order model with actuators modelling

#### Liquid film modelling



#### Liquid film modelling











Ivanova, T., Pino, F., Scheid, B., & Mendez, M. A. (2023). Evolution of waves in liquid films on moving substrates. Physics of Fluids, 35(1).









Ivanova, T., Pino, F., Scheid, B., & Mendez, M. A. (2023). Evolution of waves in liquid films on moving substrates. Physics of Fluids, 35(1).



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Integral Boundary Layer model

$$\partial_{\hat{t}} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{h} \\ \hat{q}_x \\ \hat{q}_z \end{pmatrix} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{s}$$

Undulation waves



Integral Boundary Layer model

$$\partial_{\hat{t}} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{h} \\ \hat{q}_x \\ \hat{q}_z \end{pmatrix} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{s}$$
  
Performance measure



Undulation waves

 $\begin{array}{c|c} \textbf{a} & \underline{Control \ Parameter} \\ & U_j & \text{nozzle exit velocity} \\ & p_s & \text{jet's impingement pressure} \\ & \hat{b} & \text{Intensity magnetic field} \end{array}$ 

Liquid film as flat as possible in the reward area around target thickness 
$$h$$
  

$$\max_{\mathbf{a}} \int_{0}^{T} \int_{\Omega_{r}} \underbrace{\mathcal{L}(\hat{h}(\hat{x},\hat{t}) - \bar{h})}_{Running Cost} d\hat{x} d\hat{t} \qquad \Omega_{r} \text{ Reward area}$$



 $\begin{array}{c|c} \textbf{a} & \underline{Control \ Parameter} \\ & U_j & \text{nozzle exit velocity} \\ & p_s & \text{jet's impingement pressure} \\ & \hat{b} & \text{Intensity magnetic field} \end{array}$ 

Undulation waves

Model based control approach (White box)

□ Full knowledge of the Integral Boundary Layer equations

Governing equations  $\square$  L<br/>inearization around desired flat state  $\bar{h}$ 

□ Identify feedback gains that maintain the system within the stable region.





 $\begin{array}{c|c} \mathbf{a} & \underline{Control \ Parameter} \\ & U_j & \text{nozzle exit velocity} \\ & p_s & \text{jet's impingement pressure} \\ & \hat{b} & \text{Intensity magnetic field} \end{array}$ 

Machine learning approach (Black box)





<u>Machine learning approach (Black box)</u>



Free surface observations

Instantaneous reward

$$o_k = m(\hat{h}(\hat{x}, \hat{t}_k)) \qquad r_k = \int_{\Omega_r} \mathcal{L}(\hat{h}(\hat{x}, \hat{t}_k) - \bar{h}) \, d\hat{x}$$

Pino, Fabio, et al. "Comparative analysis of machine learning methods for active flow control." Journal of Fluid Mechanics 958 (2023): A39.



Pino, Fabio, et al. "Comparative analysis of machine learning methods for active flow control." Journal of Fluid Mechanics 958 (2023): A39.

Performance measure

Liquid film Governing Equations

$$\partial_{\hat{t}} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{h} \\ \hat{q}_x \\ \hat{q}_z \end{pmatrix} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{s}$$

Undulation waves

**a** <u>Control Parameter</u>  $U_j$  nozzle exit velocity  $p_s$  jet's impingement pressure  $\hat{b}$  Intensity magnetic field

Liquid film as flat as possible in the reward area around target thickness h $\int_{-\infty}^{T} \int_{-\infty}^{-\infty} \hat{\Omega}_{r}$  Reward area

$$\max_{\mathbf{a}} \int_{0}^{T} \int_{\Omega_{r}} \underbrace{\mathcal{L}(\hat{h}(\hat{x},\hat{t}) - \bar{h})}_{Running Cost} d\hat{x} d\hat{t}$$

Model based control approach (White box)

#### Advantages

- Fast and Efficient
- Stability Guarantees
- Established literature

#### **Disadvantages**

- Linear Systems Limitation
- Model Dependency

Governing

equations

• Difficulty with uncertainties and noise

Machine learning approach (Black box)

#### Advantages

- Model-Free Learning
- Nonlinear Systems
- Adaptability

#### **Disadvantages**

- No Stability Guarantees
- Sample Inefficiency
- Computational Complexity



Liquid film Governing Equations

$$\partial_{\hat{t}} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{h} \\ \hat{q}_x \\ \hat{q}_z \end{pmatrix} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{s}$$

<u>Control Parameter</u> a  $U_i$  nozzle exit velocity  $p_s$  jet's impingement pressure Intensity magnetic field

Undulation waves



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#### Control small amplitude waves

Governing equations

#### Learning $\mathbf{w}_{n+1}$ Method Controller/Agent performance measure: $\pi(o_k; \mathbf{w}_n)$ <u>Control large</u> amplitude waves observations action $o_{k+1}$ $\mathbf{a}_k$ Environment /Plant

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 $\hfill \Box$  Definition optimal control problem

Control methods

□ Small-amplitude control via linear stability methods

 $\square$  Large-amplitude control via machine learning methods

Independent pressure and shear stress distributions at the free surface



Independent pressure and shear stress distributions at the free surface Control jets with blowing and suction  $\hat{\tau}_g = f(\hat{p}_g)$ 



Complexity



Independent pressure and shear stress distributions at the free surface

Control jets with blowing and suction

$$\hat{\tau}_g = f(\hat{p}_g)$$

Blowing control jets









The controller was tested in the stabilization of a highly unstable liquid film





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- **□** Large-amplitude control via machine learning methods

Undulation control with machine learning methods

 $Fourier\ pseudo-spectral\ implementation$ 





#### Undulation control with machine learning methods





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Derive simplified model Derivation liquid film reduced order model with actuators modelling **Prospects** Generalization of the absolute instability window





# Thank you for your kind attention.



The larger the island of knowledge, the longer the shoreline of wonder

Credit: Oleg Riabcuk