



#### Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Ship Technology

### Institute of Naval Architecture and Ocean Engineering

# GdańskTech Tribology Lab 2nd divison – "marine"

since 1998



Tribology is the science and engineering of interacting surfaces in relative motion. It includes the study and application of the principles of friction, lubrication and wear.









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## Early begings



Experimental tests of water lubricated bearings with installation-ready propeller shaft and stern tube in 2000 – just before installation on small fishing vessel





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#### Facility and five test rigs

- System of three multipurpose test rigs
- High power test rig
- Rudder bearings test rig



Our lab building was fully renovated in 2018





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#### System of three multipurpose test rigs







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#### Bearings properties tests



Water lubricated bearings test rig, with possibility of testing water / bio / water base liquids Shaft diameter 100 mm, bearing specific pressure up to 2 MPa, speed 0 ÷ 3000 rpm





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#### Wear tests



Long time wear tests – constant speed or start – stop cycle EAL / water base liquids wear test

Shaft diameter 30 mm, bearing specific pressure up to 5 MPa, speed 0 – 3000 rpm





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#### Wear tests – water with particles



Long time wear tests – constant speed or start – stop cycle Contaminated lubrciant with particles Shaft diameter 60 ÷ 70 mm, bearing specific pressure up to 2 MPa, speed 0 – 3000 rpm





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#### Destructive tests - lack of lubricant flow etc.



High power water lubricated bearings test rig (240kW), With possibility of testing bio / water base liquids, Shaft diameter 100 mm, bearing specific pressure up to 1 MPa, speed 0 - 12 rev/s





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#### **Rudder bearings**





#### **EXAMPLE 1: Friction measurements**



- Precise friction measurements possible thanks to hydrostatic support
- Measurements of lip seal friction for precise measurements







#### EXAMPLE 2: Measured hydrodynamic pressure distribution



The same operational conditions – stiff vs. elastic bearing bush



#### EXAMPLE 3: Shaft orbits and clearance circles – unique possibity of film thicknes estimation





#### EXAMPLE 4: INSUFFICIENT LUBRICATION – lack of flow or others











#### EXAMPLE 5: Bearing bush wear measurements







#### EXAMPLE 5: Shaft wear measurements







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II ILUBRICATION

International cooperation

Lignum-Vitae

COMPOSITE BEARINGS





DEVA & FederalMogul











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#### **Results of scientyfic work**

Publications in high rank scientyfic journals like: Wear, Tribology International, Tribology Transactions

Papers published in 2023:

- "Experimental comparison of the transition speed of a hydrodynamic journal bearing lubricated with oil and magnetorheological fluid", Tribology International, vol. 189, 2023r
- "Environmentally acceptable lubricants (EAL) compared with a reference mineral oil as marine stern tube bearing lubricant Experimental and theoretical investigations", Tribology International, vol. 189, nr. 11, 2023r
- "Sliding bearings with sintered bronze bush lubricated by contaminated water with solid particles Theoretical and experimental studies", Wear, nr. 11, 2023r
- "Comparative wear test of journal sliding bearings with sintered bronze and Babbitt alloy bushes lubricated by environmentally acceptable/adapted lubricants (EAL)", Tribology Transactions, vol. 66, nr 3, 2023r.
- "The influence of polymer bearing material and lubricating grooves layout on wear of journal bearings lubricated with contaminated water", Tribology International, vol. 179, 2023r.



#### WATER LUBRICATED JOURNAL BEARINGS

MARINE APPLICATIONS, DESIGN, AND OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS



WOJCIECH LITWIN



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION