

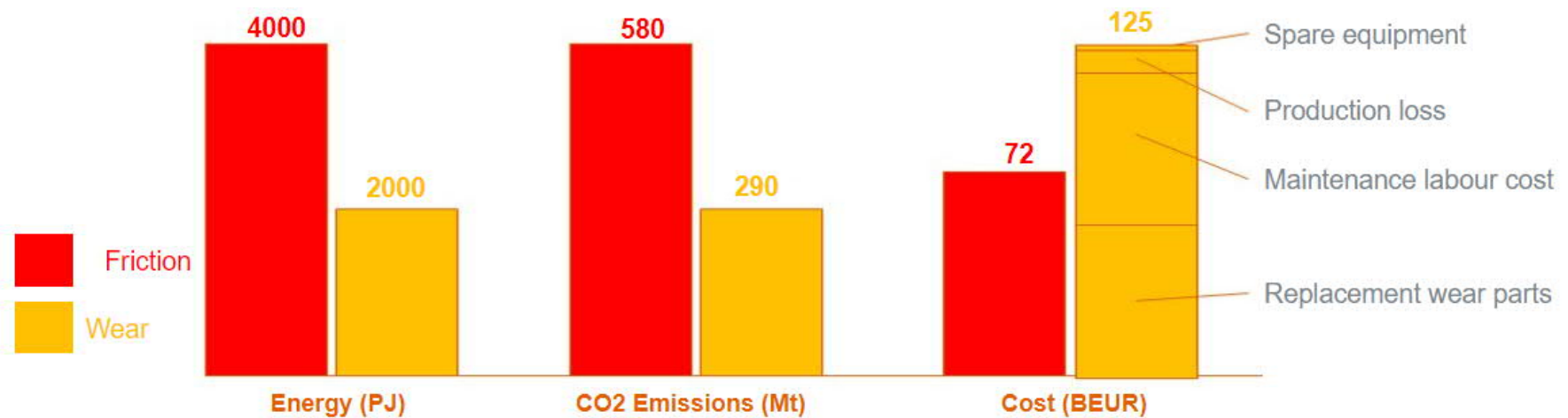
Tribological performance – from model scale to component scale tests

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Research Centre of Finland**

25/03/2022 VTT – beyond the obvious

Motivation

Financial and Climate Cost of Friction and Wear to Global Mining Industry¹



2.7% of global emissions

50% of mining energy consumption

Holmberg et al, VTT (2017)

The EU has set the renewable energy target at 32 % for year 2030

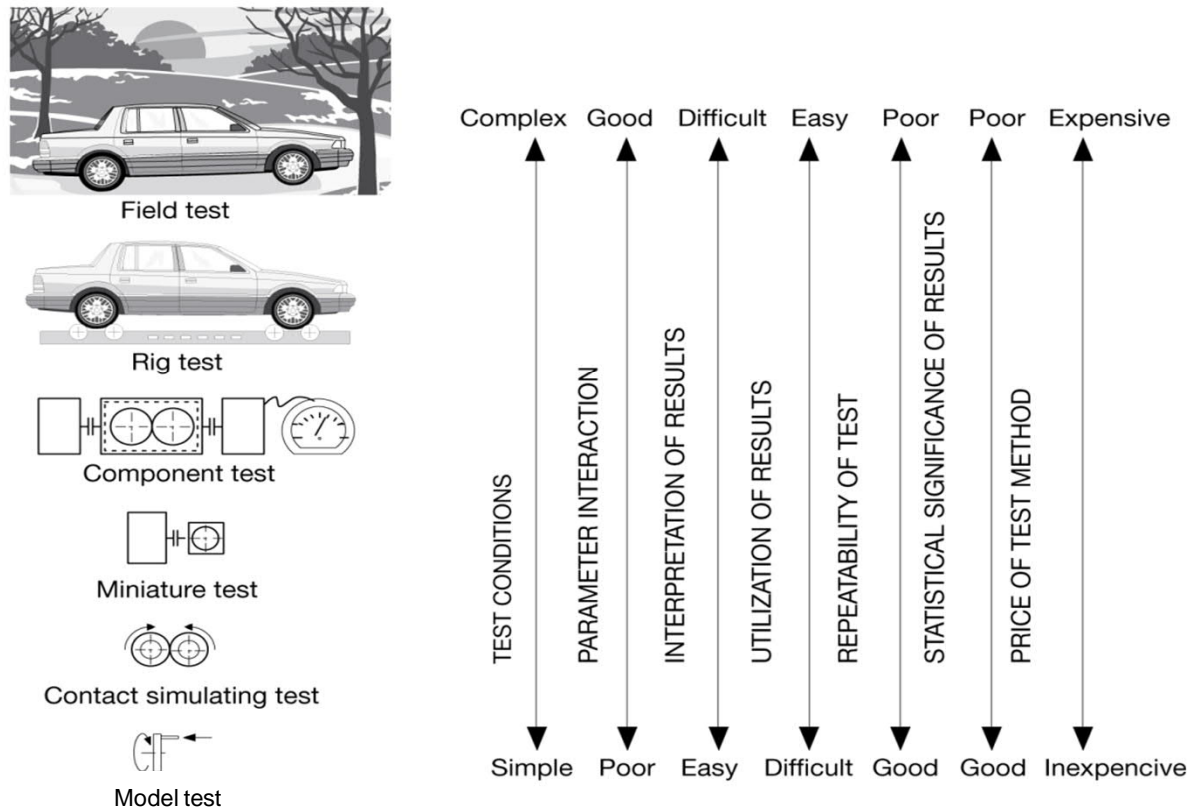


The current trend is to build bigger and more powerful wind turbines with request of longer lifetime expectancy.



Image Shutterstock

The use of novel material solutions require extensive evaluation and testing of material properties



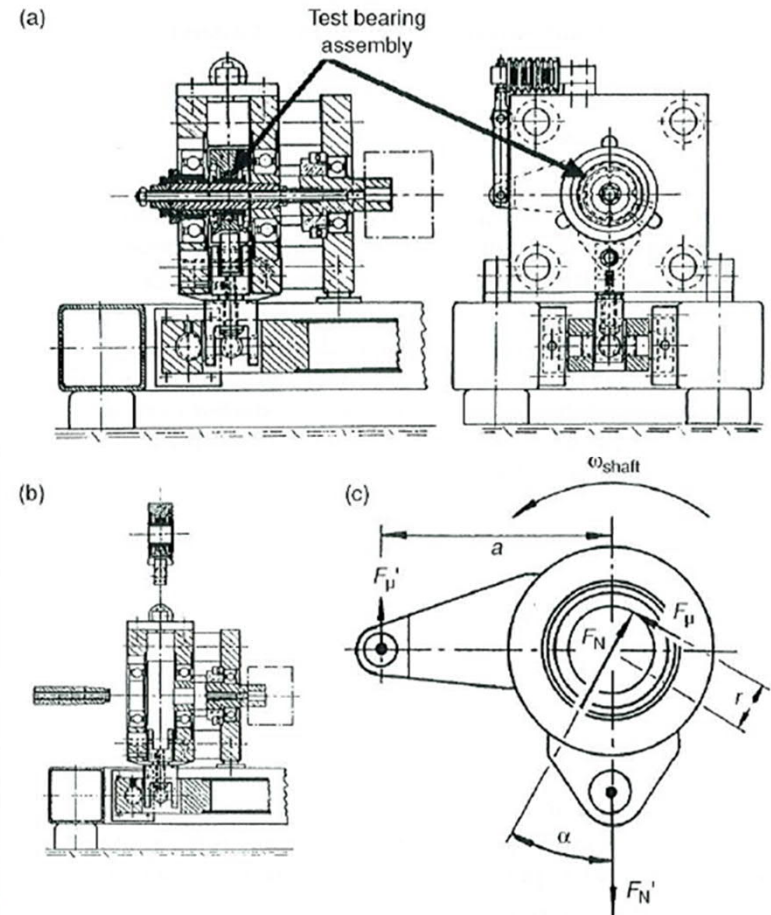
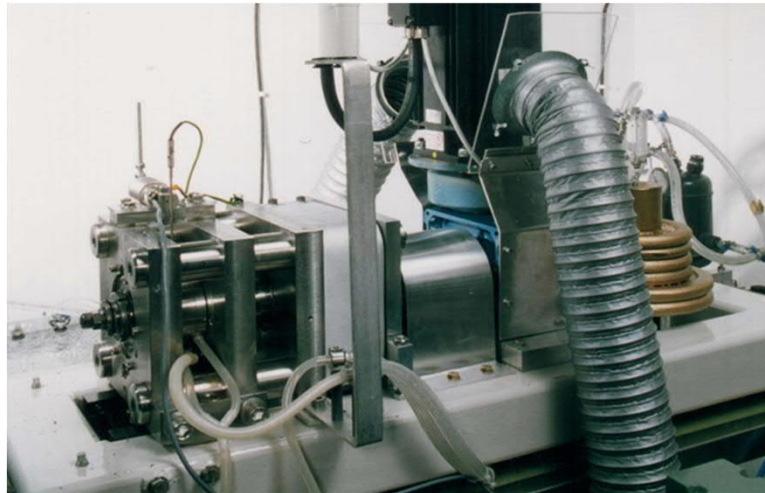
Journal bearing component tests

Journal bearing component test:

- Tests can be carried out with different material solutions and lubricants
- Possibly the damping and stiffness of the journal bearing can be measured

Example of test parameters:

- CuSn-bearing, steel shaft
- Lubricant:
 - Synthetic industrial gear oil
- Test parameters:
 - Speed: 35 – 330 RPM
 - Load: 0.5 – 15 kN



Modeling the journal bearing test - MBS



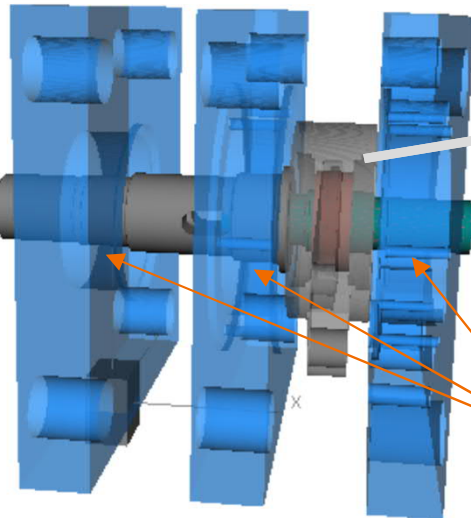
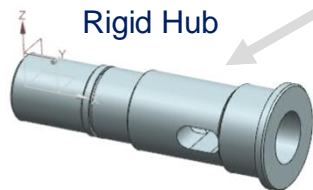
Auxiliary roller bearing support (rigid)

Roller bearing support (rigid)

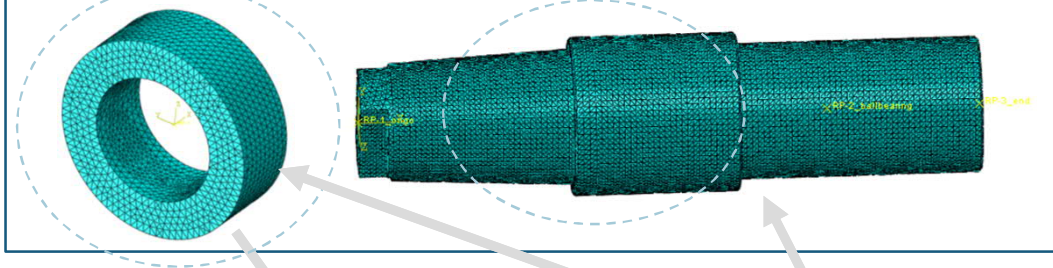
Roller bearing support (rigid)

Excitation from (electric motor) as rotary motion

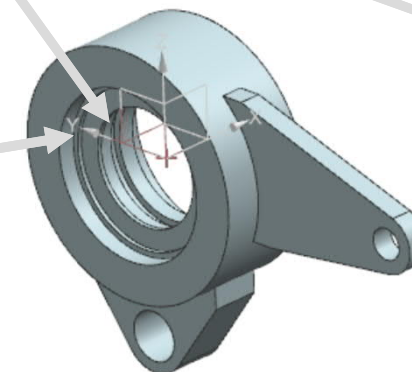
Rigid Hub



Bearing shell and Journal modelled as deformable parts
- Flexible bodies from the FE-software



Test equipment allows different bearing geometry combinations



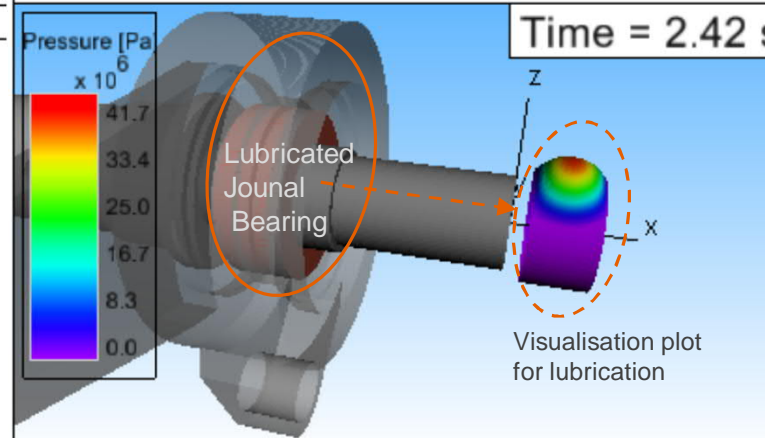
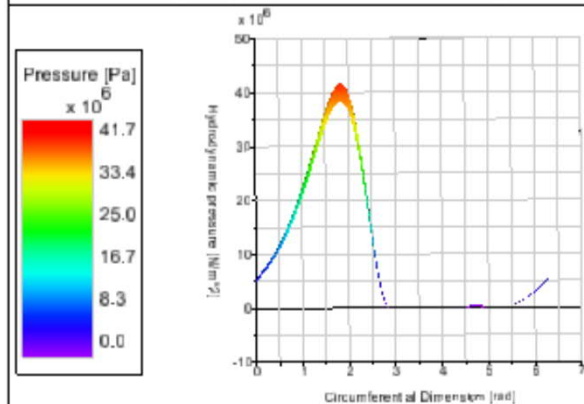
Rigid Bearing house

- Oil inputs
- Sensors
- Loadings

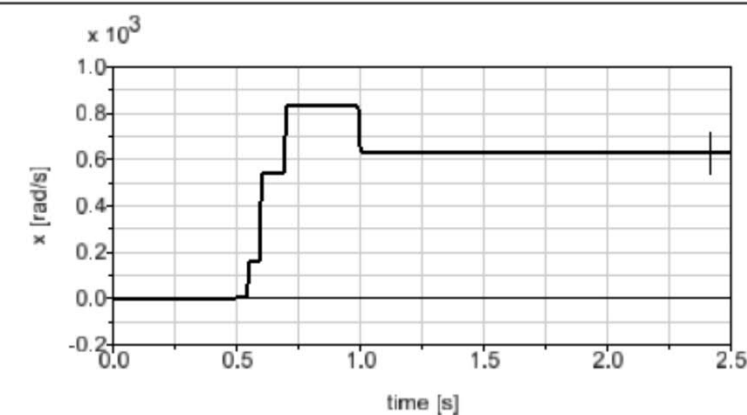
Rolling element Bearings

Modeling of bearing lubrication – FEM & EHD

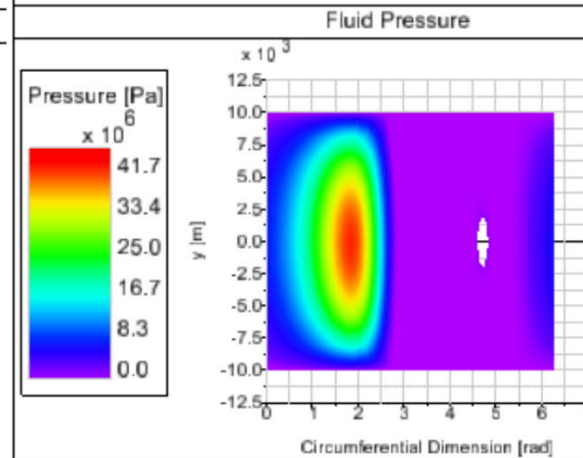
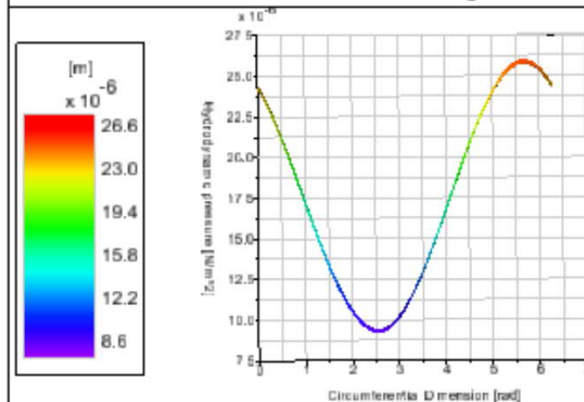
Hydrodynamic Pressure at Bearing Center Line



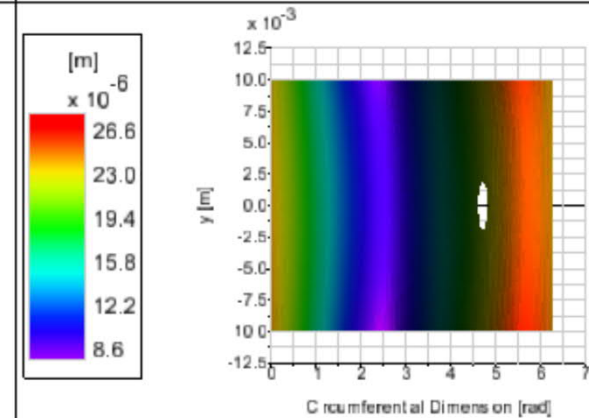
Shaft Angular Velocity



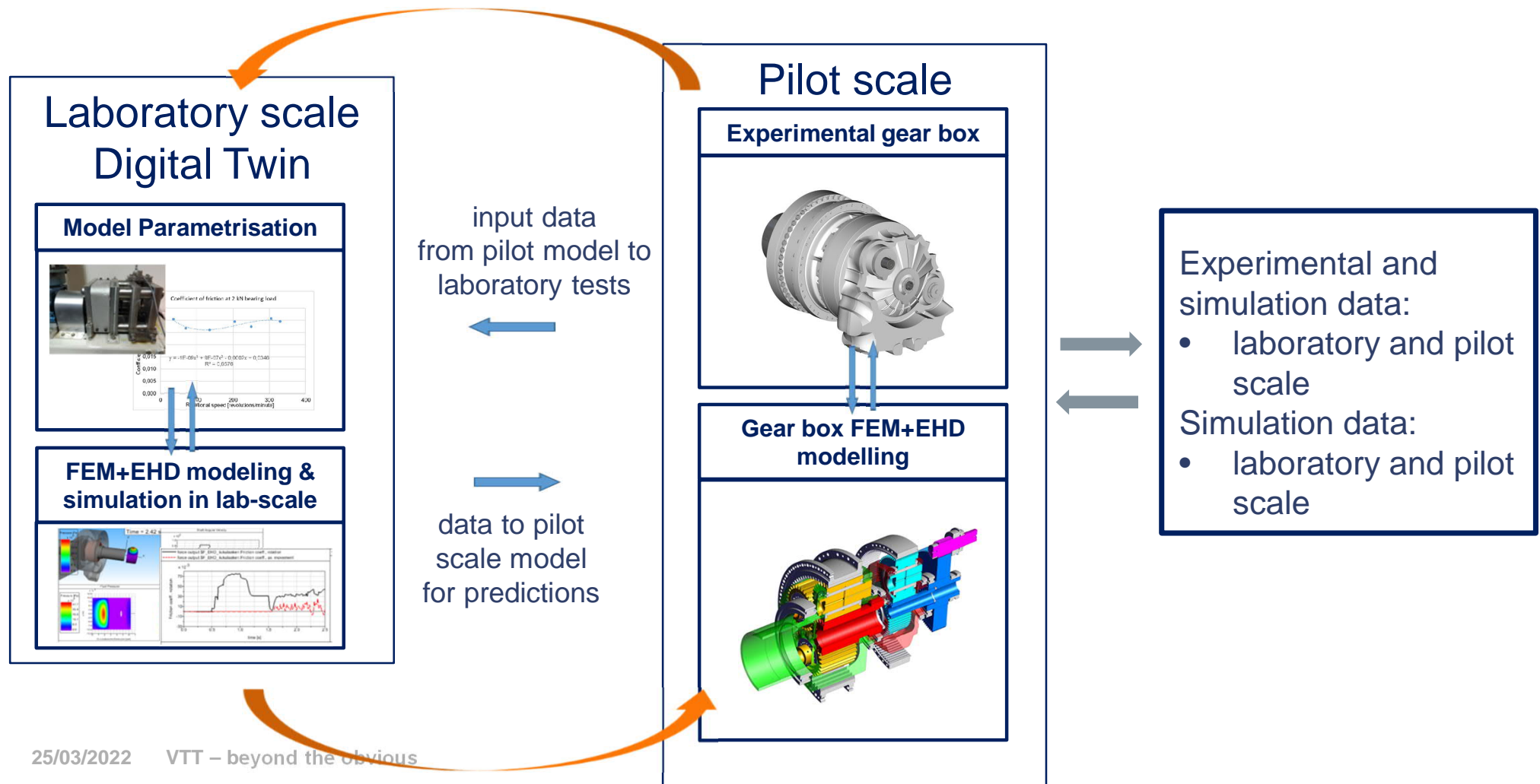
Oil Film Thickness at Bearing Center Line



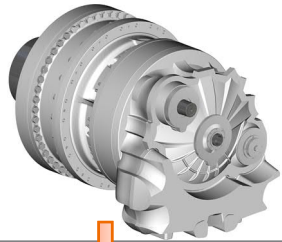
Oil Film Thickness



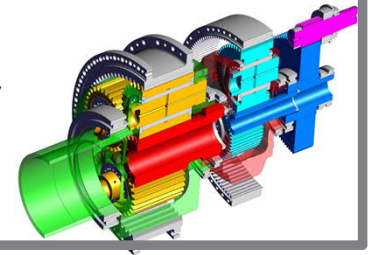
Lab-to-Field upscaling



Journal bearing – Laboratory-to-Field upscaling

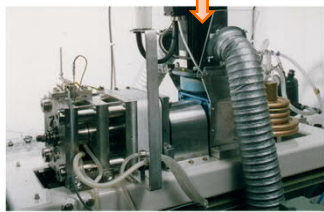


- Determine the operational parameters leading to BL conditions -> **HD/EHD – ML - BL transition**
- **Predict wear in boundary lubricated conditions** -> contacts within BL region causing wear
- Provide **estimates of lifetime/durability** of new material concept
- Generate the Lab-to-Field upscaling tool for **materials upscaling** based on laboratory scale and pilot scale experimental tests and modelling



Down-scaling: projection pressure, sliding speed, lubrication, temperature

Upscaling: Shift between lubrication regimes during operation



Materials:
TestSet1,
TestSet2

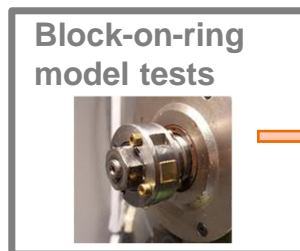
Journal bearing component tests



Upscaling: Estimation of the bearing wear performance

Down-scaling:

- contact pressure → load
- sliding speed → rpm
- temperature
- contact conditions
- surface roughness



Data: wear volume for different sliding distances and loads



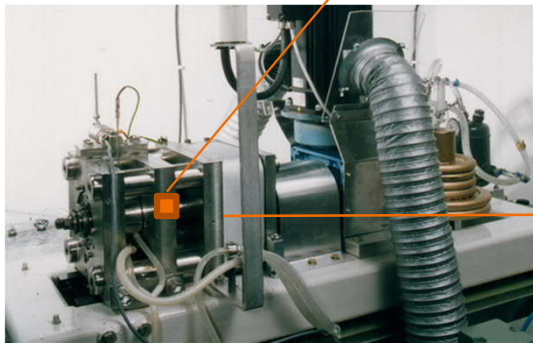
Wear model for the bearing material wear



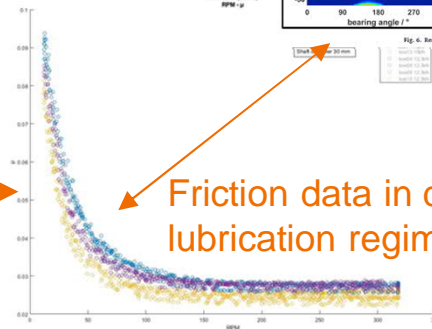
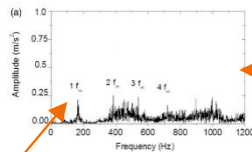
Journal bearing - Virtual sensing concept

- Combining acoustic emission (AE) sensor data, friction data and simulation data to predict the lubricant film thickness (lubrication regime)
 - Monitoring lubricant film thickness, lubrication regime
 - Predicting transformation from HD/EHD to mixed lubrication and boundary lubrication regimes

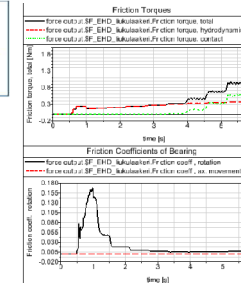
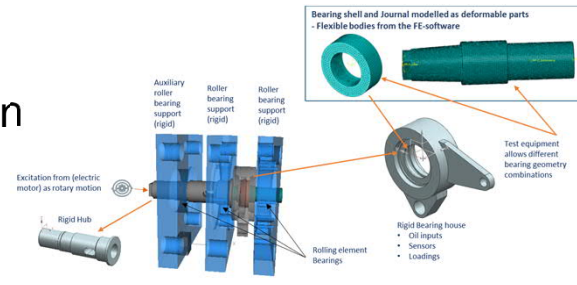
AE-sensor data in different lubrication regimes



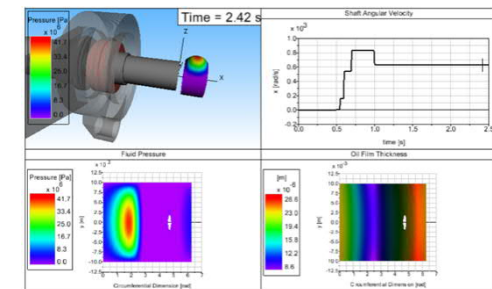
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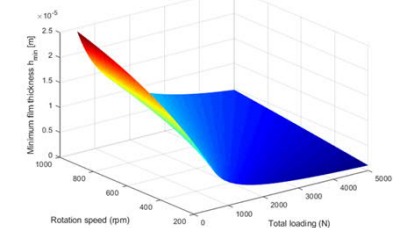
Friction data in different lubrication regimes



MBS/FEM – EHD/HD modeling



Minimum film thickness distribution as function of loading and rotation speed
(max = 2.435E-05 m, min = 1.039E-06 m)



Modeling data in different lubrication regimes

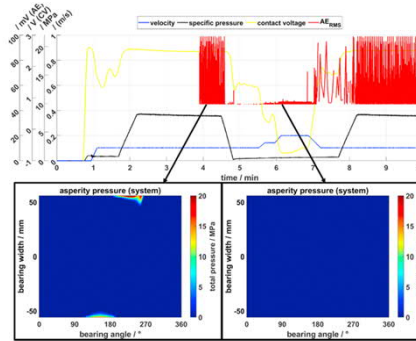


Fig. 6. Results of experiment and simulation of system test rig

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