

MODEL SIMILARITY (PART-II)

Yesterday, we discussed about geometric, kinematic and dynamic similarities that can exist between a model and a prototype.

Today, we will quickly work on an example problem.

Example (Adapted from FM White's Fluid Mechanics)

The pressure drop due to friction in a long circular pipe is a function of average flow velocity, density, viscosity, and pipe length and diameter

$$\text{i.e. } \Delta p = f(V, \rho, \mu, L, D)$$

We wish to know how  $\Delta p$  varies with  $V$ . Use Pi-theorem to rewrite this function in dimensionless form.

D (cm)	L (m)	Q (m <sup>3</sup> /h)	$\Delta p$ (Pa)	$\rho$ (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	$\mu$ (kg/ms)	V (m/s)
1.0	5.0	0.30	4680	680	$2.92 \times 10^{-4}$	1.06
1.0	7.0	0.60	22300	680	$2.92 \times 10^{-4}$	2.12
1.0	9.0	1.00	70800	680	$2.92 \times 10^{-4}$	3.54
2.0	4.0	1.00	2080	998	0.0010	0.88
2.0	4.0	2.00	10500	998	0.0010	1.77
2.0	8.0	3.10	30400	998	0.0010	2.74
3.0	3.0	0.50	540	13550	$1.56 \times 10^{-3}$	0.20
3.0	4.0	1.00	2480	13550	$1.56 \times 10^{-3}$	0.39
3.0	6.0	1.70	9600	13550	$1.56 \times 10^{-3}$	0.67

Note here the velocity -  $V = \frac{Q}{A} = \frac{Q}{\frac{\pi}{4} D^2}$

②

You are provided the information

$$\Delta p = f(V, \rho, \mu, L, D)$$

There are six variables  $\Delta p, V, \rho, \mu, L, D$  (ie.  $n=6$ )

The basic dimensions in the expressions are  $M, L, T$  ( $k=3$ )

$\therefore$  We expect  $j = n - k = 6 - 3 = 3$   $\pi$  groups.

In this case, as we want to see how  $\Delta p$  varies with  $V$ , we would not keep them as repeating variables.

$\therefore$  Therefore, as basic dimensions are  $M, L, T$  here, we will keep  $\rho, \mu, D$  as repeating variables

$$\begin{aligned}\pi_1 &= \rho^a \mu^b D^c \Delta p && \rightarrow M^0 L^0 T^0 \\ \pi_2 &= \rho^d \mu^e D^f V && \rightarrow M^0 L^0 T^0 \\ \pi_3 &= \rho^g \mu^h D^i L && \rightarrow M^0 L^0 T^0\end{aligned}$$

Solving for exponents, you get

$$\pi_1 = \frac{\rho D^2 \Delta p}{\mu^2}, \quad \pi_2 = \frac{\rho V D}{\mu}, \quad \pi_3 = \frac{L}{D}$$

$\therefore$  We will get a dimensionless expression

$$\frac{\rho D^2 \Delta p}{\mu^2} = f\left(\frac{\rho V D}{\mu}, \frac{L}{D}\right)$$

$$\pi_1 = f(\pi_2, \pi_3)$$

③

⇒ We can now plot  $\pi_1$  versus  $\pi_2$  with  $\pi_3$  as a parameter or  $\pi_1$  versus  $\pi_3$  with  $\pi_2$  as a parameter. As our objective was to find  $\Delta p$  versus  $V$  then we have to go with  $\pi_1$  versus  $\pi_2$  with  $\pi_3$  as a parameter.

→ From the first row of the data,

$$\frac{L}{D} = 500, \quad \text{evaluate} \quad \frac{S D^2 \Delta p}{\mu^2} = 3.73 \times 10^9$$

$$\frac{S V D}{\mu} = 24700$$

From second row of the data

$$\frac{L}{D} = \frac{700}{3.0}, \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{S D^2 \Delta p}{\mu^2} = 1.78 \times 10^{10}$$

$$\frac{S V D}{\mu} = 49370$$

→ Like this you evaluate for each row.

You will get nine data points.

→ There are definitely length effects.

For same value of  $\frac{L}{D}$  say  $\frac{L}{D} = 200$ , we

get for  $D = 3.0 \text{ cm}$ ,  $\frac{S D^2 \Delta p}{\mu^2} = \underline{\underline{5.34 \times 10^9}}$

$D = 2.0 \text{ cm}$ ,  $\frac{S D^2 \Delta p}{\mu^2} =$

~~$\Delta p$  is now~~ For same  $\frac{L}{D}$  ratio, we can see that  $\Delta p$  is increasing linearly with  $L$ .

(2)

$L$  is present only in  $\pi_3 = \frac{L}{D}$ ,  
the function  $\pi_1 = f(\pi_2, \pi_3) = \frac{L}{D} g(\pi_2)$

$$\text{i.e. } \frac{\rho D^2 \Delta p}{\mu^2} = \frac{L}{D} g\left(\frac{\rho V D}{\mu}\right)$$

$$\text{or } \underline{\underline{\frac{\rho D^3 \Delta p}{L \mu^2} = g\left(\frac{\rho V D}{\mu}\right)}}$$

By going through the given data, you can now see or plot the above relation and see that

$$\frac{\rho D^3 \Delta p}{L \mu^2} \approx 0.155 \left(\frac{\rho V D}{\mu}\right)^{1.75}$$

All Newtonian smooth pipe flows correlate in this manner.  
This will be the principle in many pipe flows.

## VISCOUS FLOWS OR PIPE FLOWS

You have already been told about the basic flow equations  
(i.e. Momentum equation and continuity equation).

→ These equations can be applied for many practical cases.

→ However, you should note that there is no general fluid motion analysis possible.

\* You can have only particular solutions for particular problems.

\* Sometimes for certain problems you may have to neglect viscosity.

\* Sometimes you may have to neglect compressibility.

As a civil engineer, you may have to consider mostly incompressible liquids.

→ For a fluid mechanics specialist, one of the most utilized applications will be in Pipe Flow Analysis.

Any common man may first ask you to - how will you detect the type of flow or amount of flow in a pipe.

→ Pipe flows are generally viscous.

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So Reynolds number play a prominent part in understanding the pipe flow.

You can have based on Reynolds number

→ Laminar flows

→ Turbulent flows

Example (Adopted from FM WHITE's Fluid Mechanics)

From Reynold's experiments on pipe flow of various diameters, it was found that there is a critical Reynolds number

$Re_{critical} \approx 2300$ . Below this value, pipe flow is laminar.

For flow through a 5-cm diameter pipe, at what velocity will this critical Reynolds number occur at  $20^\circ\text{C}$ .

a) for air flow,      b) for water flow.

Solution

In pipe flow, the Reynolds number is defined

$$Re = \frac{\rho V D}{\mu}$$

$$\mu_{air} = 1.80 \times 10^{-5} \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m.s}}, \quad \rho_{air} = 1.205 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

$$\mu_{water} = 0.001 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m.s}}, \quad \rho_{water} = 998 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

$$\therefore Re_{critical} \Big|_{air} = 2300 = \frac{\rho V D}{\mu} = \frac{1.205 \times V \times 0.05}{1.80 \times 10^{-5}}$$

$$\text{or } V_{air} = 0.687 \text{ m/s}$$

$$Re_{critical} \Big|_{water} = 2300 = \frac{\rho V D}{\mu} = \frac{998 \times V \times 0.05}{0.001}; \quad \underline{V_w = 0.0461 \text{ m/s}}$$