

Homework #11 Solutions

1. (10 pts) Water drains from a large tank through a system made of $D = 0.2 \text{ m}$ inner diameter pipe having a surface roughness of $\varepsilon = 0.00026 \text{ m}$ (Fig. 1). Discharge to the atmosphere is $H = 4.5 \text{ m}$ below the free surface and the volume flow rate is $Q = 0.05 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$. If the four right-angle pipe components each have a loss coefficient of $K_a = 0.25$ and the exit itself has a loss coefficient of $K_e = 1$, calculate the total length of the straight pipe sections. (We assume that the inlet to the pipe is “well-rounded” so that its losses are negligible.) Assume a water viscosity and density of $\nu = 1.2 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$ and $\rho = 1000 \text{ kg/m}^3$, respectively.

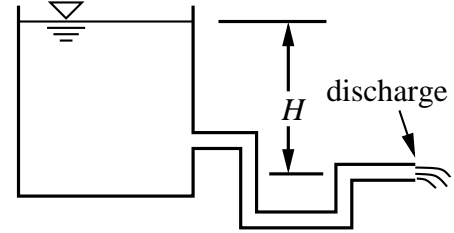


Fig. 1: Piping system.

Solution: We can write the extended Bernoulli equation from the free surface s to the discharge exit e in the form

$$\frac{P_s}{\rho g} + \frac{\bar{u}_s^2}{2g} + z_s - h_L = \frac{P_e}{\rho g} + \frac{\bar{u}_e^2}{2g} + z_e.$$

Here, $P_s = P_e$ (atmospheric pressure), $\bar{u}_s^2 = 0$, and $z_s - z_e = H$. Also, let us split the head loss h_L into 2 components, one representing the sum of all the “component losses” (the right-angle bends and the exit), h_{LC} , and one representing losses from all the straight sections of the pipe h_{LP} . Our Bernoulli equation is then

$$h_{LC} + h_{LP} = H - \frac{\bar{u}_e^2}{2g},$$

where

$$h_{LC} = (4K_a + K_e) \frac{\bar{u}_e^2}{2g} \quad \text{and} \quad h_{LP} = f \frac{L}{D} \frac{\bar{u}_e^2}{2g}.$$

Here, L represents the total length of all the straight sections of pipe. Substituting and solving, we find

$$\begin{aligned} f \frac{L}{D} \frac{\bar{u}_e^2}{2g} &= H - \frac{\bar{u}_e^2}{2g} - (4K_a + K_e) \frac{\bar{u}_e^2}{2g} \\ &= H - (1 + 4K_a + K_e) \frac{\bar{u}_e^2}{2g} \\ L &= \frac{D}{f} \left(\frac{H}{\bar{u}_e^2/(2g)} - (1 + 4K_a + K_e) \right). \end{aligned}$$

We have everything necessary to solve, except for the friction factor of the pipe flow, f . If the cross-sectional area of the pipe is A_c , then the Reynolds number is

$$Re = \frac{\bar{u} D}{\nu} = \frac{Q D}{A_c \nu} = \frac{0.05 \cdot 0.2}{\pi 0.1^2 \cdot 1.2 \times 10^{-6}} \approx 265,300 \quad (\text{turbulent regime}).$$

Also, the roughness ratio is $\varepsilon/D = 0.00026/0.2 = 0.0013$. From these values, we find $f \approx 0.022$ from the Moody chart. Also, $\bar{u}_e = Q/A_c = \dots = 1.59 \text{ m/s}$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \frac{0.2}{0.022} \left(\frac{4.5}{1.59^2/(2 \cdot 9.8)} - (1 + 4 \cdot 0.25 + 1) \right) \\ &= 289.9 \text{ m} . \end{aligned}$$

2. (10 pts) A water company is considering replacing a long section of a very old 0.5 m inner diameter “main”. This pipe has a relative roughness of $\varepsilon/D = 0.02$. One option is to dig the whole system up, but this would be very expensive. A junior engineer suggests pushing a hydrodynamically smooth plastic liner of inner diameter 0.4 m through the old pipe instead. Although this would be much cheaper, this new configuration would still need to carry the same volume flow rate $Q = 1 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ as the older, larger pipe. If there is to be no net increase in pressure drop, will this approach work? Assume a water viscosity of $\nu = 1.2 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$.

Solution: Let us first analyze the old pipe system. The average velocity is

$$\bar{u}_{old} = \frac{Q}{A_{old}} = \frac{1}{\pi 0.25^2} \approx 5.093 \text{ m/s} .$$

Consequently, the Reynolds number for the old system is

$$Re_{old} = \frac{\bar{u}_{old} D_{old}}{\nu} = \frac{5.093 \cdot 0.5}{1.2 \times 10^{-6}} \approx 2.1 \times 10^6 .$$

A quick glance at the Moody chart for $Re_{old} = 2.1 \times 10^6$ and $\varepsilon/D_{old} = 0.02$ indicates $f_{old} \approx 0.048$, so that the pressure drop from the *Darcy* equation is

$$\Delta P_{old} = f_{old} \frac{L}{D_{old}} \frac{\rho \bar{u}_{old}^2}{2} = 0.048 \frac{L}{0.5} \frac{\rho 5.093^2}{2} \approx 1.245 \rho L .$$

Now we analyze the new system, which has a smaller cross section, but must still carry the same volume flow rate. The average velocity is

$$\bar{u}_{new} = \frac{Q}{A_{new}} = \frac{1}{\pi 0.2^2} \approx 7.958 \text{ m/s} .$$

Consequently, the Reynolds number for the new system is slightly higher at

$$Re_{new} = \frac{\bar{u}_{new} D_{new}}{\nu} = \frac{7.958 \cdot 0.4}{1.2 \times 10^{-6}} \approx 2.65 \times 10^6 .$$

However, the inside is now hydrodynamically smooth, i.e. $\varepsilon/D_{old} \rightarrow 0$. A quick glance at the Moody chart indicates $f_{new} \approx 0.01$, so that the pressure drop from the *Darcy* equation is

$$\Delta P_{new} = f_{new} \frac{L}{D_{new}} \frac{\rho \bar{u}_{new}^2}{2} = 0.01 \frac{L}{0.4} \frac{\rho 7.958^2}{2} \approx 0.792 \rho L .$$

The new configuration actually has substantially better performance (less pressure drop), but can still carry the same volume flow rate! Evidently, the gain in using a “smoother” material outweighed the liability of using a significantly smaller cross section.

3. (10 pts) A pump moves water into a very large tank at a flow rate of $Q = 0.01 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ through $L = 100 \text{ m}$ of hydrodynamically smooth pipe (Fig. 2, not shown to scale). The pipe is horizontal and has an inner diameter of $D = 0.075 \text{ m}$. At the instant shown, there is an $h = 10 \text{ m}$ -deep column of water already in the tank. What pressure, P_p , must the pump step the flow up to at its outlet? Assume $\nu = 1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$ and $\rho = 1000 \text{ kg}/\text{m}^3$ and that the viscous losses due to the flow entering the tank are characterized by the loss coefficient $K = 1$.

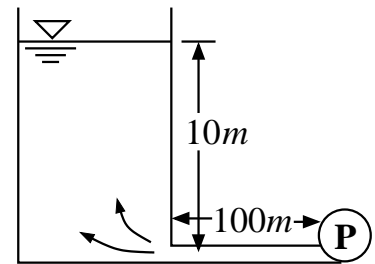


Fig. 2: Pumping water.

Solution: Assume flow in the pipe is fully-developed. We can write the extended Bernoulli equation from the pump p to the free surface of the tank s in the form

$$\frac{P_p}{\rho} + \frac{\bar{u}_p^2}{2} + z_p g - h_L = \frac{P_s}{\rho} + \frac{\bar{u}_s^2}{2} + z_s g.$$

Here, $P_s = 0$ (atmospheric pressure), $\bar{u}_s = 0$ (large tank), and $z_s - z_p = h$. The head loss, h_L , has 2 contributions: losses in the $L = 100 \text{ m}$ straight section and losses in the tank entrance, i.e.

$$h_L = f \frac{L}{D} \frac{\bar{u}_p^2}{2} + K \frac{\bar{u}_p^2}{2},$$

where we know $K = 1$. Our Bernoulli equation is then

$$\frac{P_p}{\rho} + \frac{\bar{u}_p^2}{2} = g h + f \frac{L}{D} \frac{\bar{u}_p^2}{2} + K \frac{\bar{u}_p^2}{2},$$

which can be solved for the pressure as

$$P_p = \rho g h + \frac{\rho \bar{u}_p^2}{2} \left(f \frac{L}{D} + K - 1 \right).$$

We have everything necessary to evaluate, except for the friction factor of the pipe flow, f . If the cross-sectional area of the pipe is A_c , then the Reynolds number is

$$Re = \frac{\bar{u}_p D}{\nu} = \frac{Q D}{A_c \nu} = \frac{0.01 \cdot 0.075}{\pi (0.075/2)^2 \cdot 1 \times 10^{-6}} \approx 170,000 \quad (\text{turbulent regime}).$$

The pipe is “smooth”, i.e. $\varepsilon/D = 0$ and from these values, we find $f \approx 0.016$ from the Moody chart. Also, $\bar{u}_p = Q/A_c = \dots \approx 2.26 \text{ m}/\text{s}$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} P_p &= 1000 \cdot 9.8 \cdot 10 + \frac{1000 \cdot 2.26^2}{2} \left(0.016 \frac{100}{0.075} + 1 - 1 \right) \\ &\approx 152,700 \text{ N}/\text{m}^2. \end{aligned}$$

4. (10 pts) Oil flows steadily in a horizontal pipe of constant diameter $D_1 = 0.2 \text{ m}$ at an average velocity of $\bar{u}_1 = 1 \text{ m/s}$ (Fig. 3). Oil viscosity is $\nu = 0.001 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$ and the flow is fully-developed. The flow eventually reaches a smooth contraction and enters into a smaller pipe of diameter $D_2 = 0.1 \text{ m}$, quickly becoming fully developed. Determine the respective friction factors f_1 and f_2 in the larger and smaller pipes.

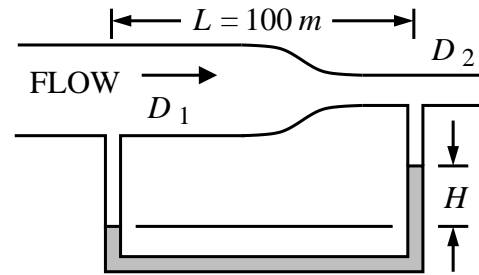


Fig. 3: Oil flow in a pipe.

Solution: For the large pipe, calculate the Reynolds number as

$$Re_1 = \frac{\bar{u}_1 D_1}{\nu} = \frac{1 \cdot 0.2}{0.001} = 200,$$

whereby we see the flow is laminar, since $Re_1 < 2100$, so that the friction factor follows the formula $f = 64/Re$, whereby

$$f_1 = \frac{64}{Re} = \frac{64}{200} = 0.32.$$

For the smaller section of pipe, the average velocity can be calculated via conservation of mass as

$$\frac{\bar{u}_1 D_1^2}{4} = \frac{\bar{u}_2 D_2^2}{4} \quad \therefore \quad \bar{u}_2 = \frac{\bar{u}_1 D_1^2}{D_2^2} = \frac{1 \cdot 0.2^2}{0.1^2} = 4 \text{ m/s}.$$

Now, calculate the Reynolds number as

$$Re_2 = \frac{\bar{u}_2 D_2}{\nu} = \frac{4 \cdot 0.1}{0.001} = 400,$$

whereby we see the flow is still laminar, so that the friction factor is

$$f_2 = \frac{64}{Re} = \frac{64}{400} = 0.16.$$

5. (10 pts) The configuration in Question 4 is exactly horizontal and two static ports are separated by $L = 100 \text{ m}$, as measured along the pipe. These ports are connected by a liquid mercury manometer (also shown in Fig. 3), whose fluid density is $\rho_m = 13500 \text{ kg/m}^3$. Here, the contraction is halfway between the static ports and is very short compared to the overall length of $L = 100 \text{ m}$. Therefore, taking as a first approximation that f_1 applies over the first 50 m of pipe length and f_2 applies over the subsequent 50 m of length, determine the manometer reading, H . Gravitational acceleration is $g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$ and oil density is $\rho_o = 900 \text{ kg/m}^3$. From a design perspective, comment whether this manometer configuration would be a good method for measuring pressure drop.

Solution: The extended Bernoulli equation for this system can be written as

$$\frac{P_1}{\rho_o g} + \frac{\bar{u}_1^2}{2g} + y_1 - h_L = \frac{P_2}{\rho_o g} + \frac{\bar{u}_2^2}{2g} + y_2,$$

where we take stations “1” and “2” as the pipe centerline points at the upstream and downstream static ports, respectively. Noting that $y_1 = y_2$ because the pipe is horizontal, we can write this equation in the form

$$\frac{P_1 - P_2}{\rho_o g} = h_L + \frac{\bar{u}_2^2 - \bar{u}_1^2}{2g}.$$

Substituting the Darcy–Weissbach relation in 2 parts, one for the first $L/2 = 50\text{ m}$ and one for the second $L/2 = 50\text{ m}$, we find

$$\begin{aligned} P_1 - P_2 &= f_1 \frac{L}{2D_1} \frac{\rho_o \bar{u}_1^2}{2} + f_2 \frac{L}{2D_2} \frac{\rho_o \bar{u}_2^2}{2} + \frac{\rho_o \bar{u}_2^2}{2} - \frac{\rho_o \bar{u}_1^2}{2} \\ &= \frac{\rho_o \bar{u}_1^2}{2} \left(f_1 \frac{L}{2D_1} - 1 \right) + \frac{\rho_o \bar{u}_2^2}{2} \left(f_2 \frac{L}{2D_2} + 1 \right) \\ &= \frac{900 \cdot 1^2}{2} \left(0.32 \cdot \frac{100}{2 \cdot 0.2} - 1 \right) + \frac{900 \cdot 4^2}{2} \left(0.16 \cdot \frac{100}{2 \cdot 0.1} + 1 \right) \\ &= 35,500 + 583,200 \\ &= 618,700 \frac{N}{m^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Calling W the vertical distance between the pipe centerline and the top of the downstream mercury column, we can write a manometer relationship as

$$P_1 + \rho_o g W + \rho_o g H - \rho_m g H - \rho_o g W = P_2,$$

which can be re-arranged as

$$P_1 - P_2 = g H (\rho_m - \rho_o),$$

where we would like to solve for H . Using $P_1 - P_2$ found above, we calculate

$$H = \frac{P_1 - P_2}{g(\rho_m - \rho_o)} = \frac{618,700}{9.8 \cdot (13,500 - 900)} \approx 5\text{ m}.$$

The fact that the vertical displacement of manometer fluid is so large suggests that this would not actually be a very good design choice for measuring pressure drop.