

CHAPTER TWO: SOLUTION OF SIMPLE PIPE FLOW PROBLEMS

The 3 simple pipe flow cases that are basic to solutions of the more complex problems are:

- (i) **Given:** Discharge, Diameter, Length, Coefficient of dynamic/absolute of Kinematics' Viscosity, and absolute rough ness and **required to find Head loss due to friction.** (i.e. given $Q, D, L, \mu, \nu, \varepsilon$ and **required to find h_f**)
- (ii) **Given:** $h_f, L, D, \mu, \text{ or } \nu, \varepsilon$ **required to find Q**
- (iii) Given: $h_f, Q, L, \mu, \text{ or } \nu, \varepsilon$ **required to find D**

CASE 1: EXAMPLE 1

- (i) Calculate the loss head due to friction and the power required to maintain flow in a horizontal circular pipe 40mm diameter and 750m long when water with coefficient of dynamic viscosity equals $1.14 \times 10^{-3} \frac{N \cdot s}{m^2}$, flows at (a) 4liter/minute (b) 30Liter/minute. Assume that for the pipe the absolute roughness is $8 \times 10^{-5} m$.

SOLUTION

- Establish whether the flow is Laminar or Turbulent:

$$Re = \frac{\rho v d}{\mu} = \frac{v d}{\nu}$$

$$\text{Note: } \nu = \frac{\mu}{\rho}$$

$$Q = \frac{4 \times 10^{-3}}{60} = 6.67 \times 10^{-5} m^3 / s$$

$$A = \frac{\pi D^2}{4} = 1.26 \times 10^{-3} m^2$$

$$V = \frac{Q}{A} = 0.053 m / s$$

$$Re = \frac{\rho v d}{\mu} = \frac{10^3 \times 0.053 \times 0.04}{1.14 \times 10^{-3}} = 1862$$

- The flow is Laminar $Re < 2000$
- For Laminar flow the friction factor can be calculated thus:

$$f' = \frac{64}{Re} = 0.03436$$

- Head loss due to friction, $h_f = f' \frac{LV^2}{D2g}$ normally referred to as Darcy

Weisbach formula/equation

- $\therefore h_f = f' \frac{LV^2}{D2g} = 0.092m$

- Power required to maintain flow

$$P = \rho g h_f Q = \gamma H_f Q = 10^3 \times 9.81 \times 0.092 \times 6.67 \times 10^{-5} = 0.06 \text{ Watts}$$

$$Q = \frac{30 \times 10^{-3}}{60} = 5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^3 / \text{s}$$

(ii) $V = \frac{Q}{A} = 0.4 \text{ m/s}$

$$Re = \frac{\rho V D}{\mu} = 14,035 = 1.4 \times 10^4$$

$$Re > 2000$$

The flow is Turbulent

Calculate the relative roughness $\frac{\epsilon}{D} = \frac{8 \times 10^{-5}}{0.04} = 0.02$

Use Moody's Chart for $Re = 1.4 \times 10^4$ and $\frac{\epsilon}{D} = 0.02$

$$f' = 0.032$$

$$h_f = 4.89 \text{ m}$$

$$\text{Power} = 24.0 \text{ Watts}$$

CASE 2 EXAMPE 2

2. Water at 15°C flows through a 30cm diameter riveted steel pipe, absolute roughness of 3mm, with head loss of 6m in 300m. Determine the flow.

SOLUTION

$$\frac{\varepsilon}{D} = \frac{0.003}{0.3} = 0.01$$

Assume $f' = 0.04$

$$h_f = \frac{f' LV^2}{d2g}$$

$$6 = 0.04 \frac{300}{0.3} \frac{V^2}{19.62}$$

$$V = 1.715 \text{ m/s}$$

From table of physical properties of water (in any standard text book SI units) at 15°C , Kinematic Viscosity is $1.139 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2 / \text{s}$.

$$\therefore \text{Re} = \frac{Vd}{\nu} = 451712 \cong 4.5 \times 10^5$$

from Mood's Chart for $\frac{\varepsilon}{D} = 0.01$ and $\text{Re} = 4.5 \times 10^5$

$f' = 0.038$ (this value is close enough to the assumed value) it is okay.

$$Q = AV = \pi r^2 \sqrt{\frac{h_f d 2g}{f' L}} = \pi (r^2) \sqrt{\frac{6 \times 0.3 \times 19.62}{0.038 \times 300}} = 0.1245 \text{ m}^3 / \text{s}$$

CASE 3 EXAMPLE 3

In the third case with **Diameter** unknown:

- (i) There are 2 unknowns in the Darcy-Weisbach equation f' , V and D .

$$h_f = \frac{f'LV^2}{d2g}, \quad f', V, d \text{ unknown}$$

- (ii) There are 2 unknowns in the continuity equation V and d .
 (iii) There are 3 unknowns in Reynolds Number equation V , D , Re
 (iv) The relative roughness is also unknown

SOLUTION

Using the continuity equation to eliminate the **velocity** in darcy-Weisbach equation and in the expression for **Re** the problem will be simplified.

$$V = \frac{Q}{A}$$

$$h_f = f' \frac{L}{D} \frac{Q^2}{2g \left(\frac{\pi D^2}{4} \right)^2} \dots\dots\dots 1$$

$$D^5 = \frac{8LQ^2}{h_f g \pi^2} f' = C_1 f'$$

Where $C_1 = \text{the known quantities} = \frac{8LQ^2}{h_f g \pi^2}$

But $VD^2 = \frac{4Q}{\pi} \dots\dots\dots$ continuity equation

$$Re = \frac{VD}{\nu} = \frac{4Q}{\pi \nu D} = \frac{C_2}{D} \dots\dots\dots 2$$

$$C_2 = \text{known quantities} = \frac{4Q}{\pi \nu}$$

The solution is now effected by the following procedure:

- (i) Assume a value of f'
- (ii) Solve equation 1 for D
- (iii) Solve equation 2 for Re
- (iv) Find the relative roughness
- (v) Find new f' from moody's chart with the $\left(Re, \frac{\varepsilon}{D} \right)$
- (vi) Use the new f' and repeat procedure
- (vii) When the value of f' does not change in the first two significant figures all equations are satisfied and the problem is solved.

EXAMPLE 3

1. Determine the size of clean wrought iron pipe required to convey 260L/s of oil of kinematic viscosity of $9.26 \times 10^{-6} \text{m}^2/\text{s}$, and 3048m length, with head loss of 22.8m. Absolute roughness is 0.046mm.

SOLUTION

$$D^5 = \frac{8LQ^2 f'}{h_f g \pi^2} = 0.745 f'$$

$$Re = \frac{4Q}{\pi \nu D} = \frac{35634}{D}$$

Assume $f'=0.02$

$$D = 0.431 \text{m}$$

$$\frac{\varepsilon}{d} = 1.067 \times 10^{-4}$$

$$Re = 8.268 \times 10^4$$

From Moody's chart $f'=0.019$

$$\frac{\varepsilon}{D} = 0.00011$$

$$Re = 83,451$$

$$f' = 0.019$$

f' doesn't change significantly

2nd trial for $f'=0.019$