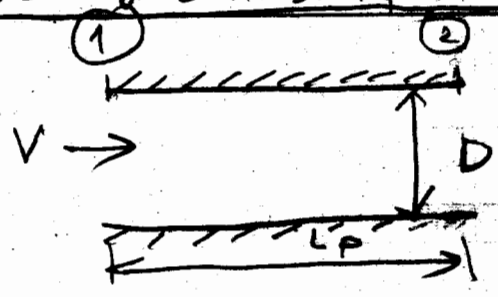


# Example of Dimensional Analysis on pipe flows



$$h_L = f \frac{L}{D} \frac{V^2}{2g} \quad (V \equiv \bar{V})$$

$$\hookrightarrow f(Re, k_s/D)$$

$$\Delta P = P_1 - P_2$$

$$h_L = \frac{P_1 - P_2}{\rho g}$$

↑ (for horizontal pipes)

How did we come up with this?

$$\frac{\Delta P}{L_p} = f(D, V, \mu, \rho)$$

If we wanted to do experiments for a large range of parameters:  $D, V, \mu, \rho$  we would need say:  $10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 = 10^4$  experiments!  
(if we also included 10  $k_s$ 's that would be  $10^5$  exp!)

It is important to reduce independent parameters  $\Rightarrow$  dimensional analysis  
(Buckingham  $\pi$ -theorem)

First we express all variables in terms of  $[L], [T], [M]$  <sup>basic</sup> dimensions (or more, e.g. length time mass  
T=temperature, if needed)

$$\frac{\Delta P}{L_p} = \frac{(N/m^2)}{m} = \frac{N}{m^3} = \frac{kg \frac{m}{s^2}}{m^3} = \frac{kg}{m^2 s^2} = \frac{[M]}{[L]^2 [T]^2}$$

$$D \rightarrow [L]$$

$$V \rightarrow [L]/[T]$$

$$\mu \rightarrow Pa \cdot s = \frac{N}{m^2} \cdot s = \frac{kg \frac{m}{s^2}}{m^2} \cdot s = \frac{kg}{m \cdot s} = \frac{[M]}{[L][T]}$$

$$\rho \rightarrow \frac{kg}{m^3} = \frac{[M]}{[L]^3}$$

$$n = \# \text{ of variables} = 5$$

$$m = \text{number of basic (independent parameters)} = 3$$

$$n - m = 5 - 3 = 2 \text{ } \pi\text{-groups} = 2 \text{ groups of } \underline{\text{non-dimensional parameters, i.e.}}$$

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

2 methods to determine parameters:

1) step-by-step method:

$\Delta P / L_p$	$\frac{[M]}{[L]^2 [T]^2}$	$\frac{\Delta P}{L_p} D^2$	$\frac{[M]}{[T]^2}$	$\frac{\Delta P D^2 D^4}{L_p D^2 V^2}$	$[M]$	$\frac{\Delta P D^4}{L_p V^2 \rho D^3}$
(D)	$[L]$	—	—	—	—	—
V	$[L]/[T]$	$V/D$	$1/[T]$	—	—	—
$\mu$	$[M]/[L][T]$	$\mu D$	$[M]/[T]$	$\mu D \frac{D}{V}$	$[M]$	$\mu D^2 \times 1/\rho D^3$
$\rho$	$[M]/[L]^3$	$\rho D^3$	$[M]$	$\rho D^3$	$[M]$	—

$$\pi_1 = \frac{\Delta P}{L_p} \frac{D}{\rho V^2}$$

$$\pi_2 = \frac{\mu D^2}{V} \frac{1}{\rho D^2} = \frac{\mu}{\rho V D} = \frac{\mu}{V D} = \frac{1}{Re}$$

$$\frac{\Delta P}{L_p} \frac{D}{\rho V^2} = f(Re)$$

$$\frac{\Delta P}{\left(\frac{L_p}{D}\right)} \frac{1}{\frac{\rho}{g} V^2} = g(Re)$$

$$\frac{(\Delta P)/g}{(L_p/D)} \frac{1}{\frac{V^2}{2g}} = g(Re) \Rightarrow h_L = \left(2 g(Re)\right) \frac{L_p}{D} \frac{V^2}{2g}$$

Remember:  
 $h_L = \frac{\Delta P}{g}$   
 (for horizontal pipe)

$f = \text{friction factor}$

2) Exponent method:

$$\frac{\Delta P}{L_p} \equiv D^a V^b \mu^c \rho^d$$

← meant dimensionally (i.e. dimensions of LHS same as those of RHS)

$$\frac{[M]}{[L]^2 [T]^2} = [L]^a \frac{[L]^b}{[T]^b} \frac{[M]^c}{[L]^c [T]^c} \frac{[M]^d}{[L]^{3d}}$$

$$= [L]^{a+b-c-3d} [T]^{-b-c} [M]^{c+d}$$

$$\begin{cases} c+d=1 \\ a+b-c-3d=-2 \\ -b-c=-2 \end{cases}$$

- 4 unknowns
- 3 equations  $\Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow d &= 1-c \\ \rightarrow b &= 2-c \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$  make one of the unknowns an independent parameter e.g.  $c$

$\rightarrow$  (after substituting  $d, b$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow a + (2-c) - c - 3(1-c) &= -2 \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow a + 2 - c - c - 3 + 3c &= -2 \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow a + c - 1 &= -2 \Rightarrow \underline{a = -c - 1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then: } \frac{\Delta P}{L_p} &= D^{-c-1} V^{2-c} \mu^c \rho^{1-c} = \\ &= D^{-1} V^2 \rho \bar{D}^c V^{-c} \mu^c \rho^{-c} = \\ &= \rho \frac{V^2}{D} \cdot \left( \frac{\mu}{D V \rho} \right)^c = \rho \frac{V^2}{D} \left( \frac{1}{Re} \right)^c \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left( \frac{\Delta P}{L_p} \frac{D}{\rho V^2} \right) = f(Re)$$

$\pi_1$   $\pi_2$

same final answer as from the step-by-step method!