

7.16

7. The pressure rise,  $\Delta p$ , across a pump can be expressed as

$$\Delta p = f(D, \rho, \omega, Q)$$

where  $D$  is the impeller diameter,  $\rho$  the fluid density,  $\omega$  the rotational speed, and  $Q$  the flowrate. Determine a suitable set of dimensionless parameters.

$\Delta p \doteq FL^{-2}$      $D \doteq L$      $\rho \doteq FL^{-3}$      $\omega \doteq T^{-1}$      $Q \doteq L^3T^{-1}$   
 From the pi theorem,  $5-3=2$  pi terms required. Use  $D, \rho,$  and  $\omega$  as repeating variables. Thus,

$$\pi_1 = \Delta p D^a \rho^b \omega^c$$

and  
 so that  $(FL^{-2})(L)^a (FL^{-3})^b (T^{-1})^c \doteq F^0 L^0 T^0$

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + b &= 0 && \text{(for } F) \\ -2 + a - 3b &= 0 && \text{(for } L) \\ 2b - c &= 0 && \text{(for } T) \end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $a = -2, b = -1, c = -2$ , and therefore

$$\pi_1 = \frac{\Delta p}{D^2 \rho \omega^2}$$

Check dimensions using MLT system:

$$\frac{\Delta p}{D^2 \rho \omega^2} \doteq \frac{ML^{-1}T^{-2}}{(L)^2 (ML^{-3})(T^{-1})^2} \doteq M^0 L^0 T^0 \quad \therefore \text{OK}$$

For  $\pi_2$ :

$$\pi_2 = Q D^a \rho^b \omega^c$$

$$(L^3 T^{-1})(L)^a (FL^{-3})^b (T^{-1})^c \doteq F^0 L^0 T^0$$

$$\begin{aligned} b &= 0 && \text{(for } F) \\ 3 + a - 3b &= 0 && \text{(for } L) \\ -1 + 2b - c &= 0 && \text{(for } T) \end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $a = -3, b = 0, c = -1$ , and therefore

$$\pi_2 = \frac{Q}{D^3 \omega}$$

Check dimensions using MLT system:

$$\frac{Q}{D^3 \omega} \doteq \frac{L^3 T^{-1}}{(L)^3 (T^{-1})} \doteq M^0 L^0 T^0 \quad \therefore \text{OK}$$

Thus,

$$\frac{\Delta p}{D^2 \rho \omega^2} = \phi \left( \frac{Q}{D^3 \omega} \right)$$