ME:5160

The exam is closed book and closed notes.

The pressure rise, Δp , across a centrifugal pump in Figure can be expressed as $\Delta p = f(D, \omega, \rho, Q)$, where D is the impeller diameter, ω the angular velocity of the impeller (unit for ω is T^{-1}), ρ the fluid density, and Q the volume rate of flow through the pump. (a) By using dimensional analysis find the pi terms. (b) A model pump having a diameter of 8 in. is tested in a laboratory using water ($\rho = 998 \text{ kg/m}^3$). When operated at an angular velocity of 40π rad/s the model pressure rise as a function of Q is shown in Figure. Use this curve to predict the pressure rise across a geometrically similar pump (prototype) for a prototype flowrate of 6 ft³/s. The prototype has a diameter of 12 in. and operates at an angular velocity of 60π rad/s. The prototype fluid is also water.



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Pi terms

$$\Pi_1 = D^a \omega^b \rho^c \Delta p \doteq (L)^a (T^{-1})^b (ML^{-3})^c (ML^{-1}T^{-2}) \doteq L^0 T^0 M^0$$

Thus, *a* = -2, *b* = -2, and *c* = -1.

$$\therefore \Pi_1 = \frac{\Delta p}{\rho \omega^2 D^2} \qquad \text{(+2)}$$

 $\Pi_2 = D^a \omega^b \rho^c Q \doteq (L)^a (T^{-1})^b (ML^{-3})^c (L^3 T^{-1}) \doteq L^0 T^0 M^0$

Thus, a = -3, b = -1, and c = 0.

$$\therefore \Pi_2 = \frac{Q}{\omega D^3} \qquad (+2)$$

(b) Similarity

$$\frac{Q}{\omega D^3} = \frac{Q_m}{\omega_m D_m^3}$$
$$Q_m = \left(\frac{\omega_m}{\omega}\right) \left(\frac{D_m}{D}\right)^3 Q$$
$$Q_m = \left(\frac{40\pi}{60\pi}\right) \left(\frac{8}{12}\right)^3 (6) = 1.19 \, \text{ft}^3/\text{s} \quad (+1)$$

Prediction equation

$$\frac{\Delta p}{\rho \omega^2 D^2} = \frac{\Delta p_m}{\rho_m \omega_m^2 D_m^2}$$
$$\Delta p = \left(\frac{\rho}{\rho_m}\right) \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_m}\right)^2 \left(\frac{D}{D_m}\right)^2 \Delta p_m$$

From Fig., Δp_m = 5.5 psi at Q_m = 1.19 ft³/s.

$$\therefore \Delta p = (1) \left(\frac{60\pi}{40\pi}\right)^2 \left(\frac{12}{8}\right)^2 (5.5) = 27.8 \text{ psi} \quad (+1)$$