

Which Parameters to Simulate?

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Outline

Which parameters to simulate?

Buckingham's π -theorem

Normalizing equations

Application to plasmas

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Typical case: My problem depends on too many parameters! How do I choose?

Example: Obtain drag on sphere in a viscous flow.

$$F_d = f(D, U, \rho, \mu)$$

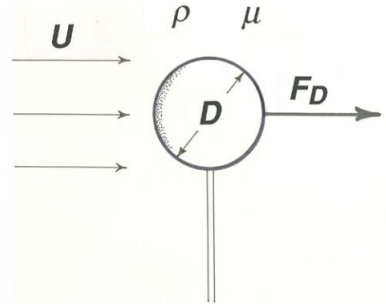


Figure: Viscous flow past sphere.

<https://ocw.mit.edu/courses/earth-atmospheric-and-planetary-sciences/12-090-introduction-to-fluid-motions-sediment-transport-and-current-generated-sedimentary-structures-fall-2006/course-textbook/ch2.pdf>

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Sweeping 4 variables over 10 values = 10^4 simulations!

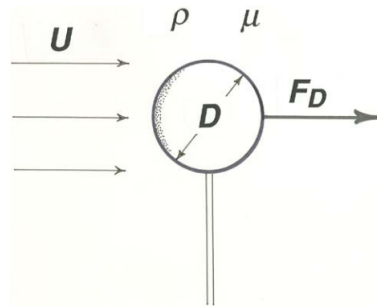


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Useful techniques:

- ▶ Buckingham's π -theorem
- ▶ Normalize governing equations
- ▶ Physical arguments (e.g., $n_i \approx n_e$)
- ▶ Look for common quantities

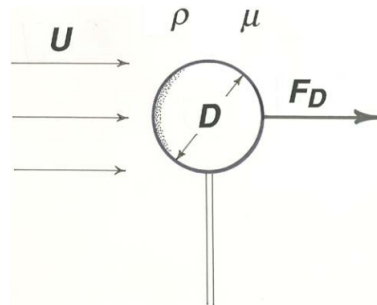


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Buckingham's π -theorem: Flow past sphere

5 parameters (1 out, 4 in):

- ▶ Drag F_d [kg m s^{-2}]
- ▶ Diameter D [m]
- ▶ Flow velocity U [m s^{-1}]
- ▶ Mass density ρ [kg m^{-3}]
- ▶ Viscosity μ [$\text{kg m}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$]

3 base units (m, kg, s)

$5 - 3 = 2$ indep. dim.less groups

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Input:

1. Eliminate kg: $\frac{\mu}{\rho}$ [$\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$]
2. Eliminate s: $\frac{\mu}{\rho U}$ [m]
3. Eliminate m: $\pi_1 = \frac{\mu}{\rho U D} = \text{Re} [1]$

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Output :

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There is a relation $\mathcal{F}(\pi_1, \pi_2) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{F_d}{\rho U^2 D^2} = f(\text{Re})$ – Sweep 1 variable!

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Output (alternative):

1. Eliminate kg: $\frac{F_d}{\mu}$ [$\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$]
2. Eliminate s: $\frac{F_d}{\mu U}$ [m]
3. Eliminate m: $\pi'_2 = \frac{F_d}{\mu U D} = \frac{\pi_2}{\text{Re}}$ [1]

There is a relation $\mathcal{F}(\pi_1, \pi'_2) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{F_d}{\mu U D} = f(\text{Re})$ – Sweep 1 variable! **Still works!**

Buckingham's π -theorem: A simple pendulum

Assume period is a function $T = f(g, l, m)$

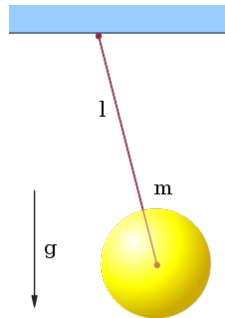


Figure: From Wikipedia

Buckingham's π -theorem: A simple pendulum

Assume period is a function $T = f(g, l, m)$

4 parameters – 3 base units (kilogram, second, meter) = 1 group:

$$\pi = \frac{gT^2}{l} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{F}\left(\frac{gT^2}{l}\right) = 0$$

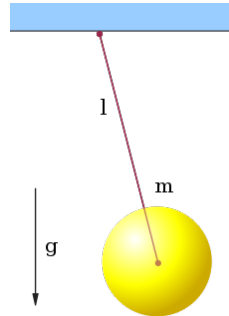


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$$\frac{gT^2}{l} = C \Rightarrow T = C\sqrt{\frac{l}{g}}, \quad (C = 2\pi)$$

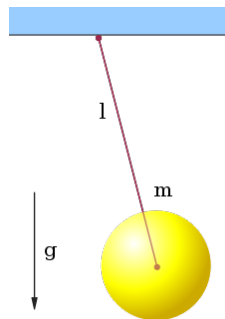


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Can also use linear algebra:

$$\pi = T^{\alpha_1} g^{\alpha_2} l^{\alpha_3} m^{\alpha_4} \quad [\text{kg}^{\beta_1} \text{m}^{\beta_2} \text{s}^{\beta_3}]$$

$$\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0$$

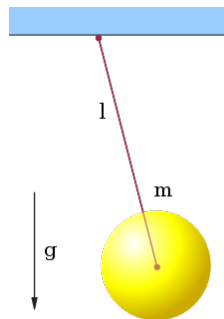


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Normalize governing equations: Flow past sphere

$$\rho \frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} = -\nabla p + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}$$

3 base units (m, kg, s) \Rightarrow use 3 normalizing constants (D , U , ρ):

$$\mathbf{x}' = \frac{\mathbf{x}}{D}, \quad \mathbf{u}' = \frac{\mathbf{u}}{U}, \quad p' = \frac{p}{\rho U^2}, \quad t' = \frac{tD}{U}$$

$$\frac{D\mathbf{u}'}{Dt'} = -\nabla' p' + \underbrace{\frac{\mu}{\rho U R}}_{\text{Re}} \nabla'^2 \mathbf{u}'$$

Truly only one input parameter: Re.

Also only one way to non-dimensionalize F_d using D , U , ρ (try it!)

Normalize governing equations: Flow past sphere

$$\rho \frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} = -\nabla p + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}$$

3 base units (m, kg, s) \Rightarrow use 4 normalizing constants (D , U , ρ , T):

$$\mathbf{x}' = \frac{\mathbf{x}}{D}, \quad \mathbf{u}' = \frac{\mathbf{u}}{U}, \quad p' = \frac{p}{\rho U^2}, \quad t' = \frac{D}{T}$$

$$\frac{D\mathbf{u}'}{Dt'} = - \underbrace{\frac{UT}{R}}_{\text{param. 1}} \nabla' p' + \underbrace{\frac{\mu T}{\rho R^2}}_{\text{param. 2}} \nabla'^2 \mathbf{u}'$$

Coefficient split in two \Rightarrow Did not work!

F_d can be non-dimensionalized in multiple ways using D , U , ρ , and T (try it!)

Normalize governing equations: Flow past sphere

Normalizing constants are actually new units. Another example of “too many” units:

Heaviside-Lorentz units (cm, g, s)

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \rho$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \frac{1}{c} \left(\mathbf{J} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \right)$$

One constant: c

SI units (m, kg, s, A)

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \rho / \epsilon_0$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \left(\mathbf{J} + \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \right)$$

Two constants: ϵ_0, μ_0 .

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Example: finite length cylinder

Find current due to attracted species s for finite length cylinder:

$$I_s = f(V, q_s, m_s, n_s, T_s, r, l, \varepsilon_0) - 9 \text{ parameters}$$

1. Look for common quantities to reuse in OML theory:

$$I_s = C \underbrace{A q_s n_s \sqrt{\frac{k T_s}{2 \pi m_s}}}_{I_{\text{th},s}} \left(1 - \underbrace{\frac{q_s V}{k T_s}}_{\eta_s} \right)^{0.5}$$

2. Buckingham's π -theorem:

$$\mathcal{F}\left(\frac{I_s}{I_{\text{th},s}}, \eta_s, \frac{l}{\lambda_D}, \frac{r}{\lambda_D}, n \lambda_D^3\right) = 0$$

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2. Buckingham's π -theorem:

$$\mathcal{F}\left(\frac{I_s}{I_{\text{th},s}}, \eta_s, \frac{l}{\lambda_D}, \underbrace{\frac{r}{\lambda_D}}_{\rightarrow 0}, \underbrace{n \lambda_D^3}_{\rightarrow \infty}\right) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad I_s = I_{\text{th},s} f\left(\eta_s, \frac{l}{\lambda_D}\right)$$

3. Use physical arguments