

ME 57200 Aerodynamic Design

Lecture #3: Dimensional Analysis

Dr. Yang Liu

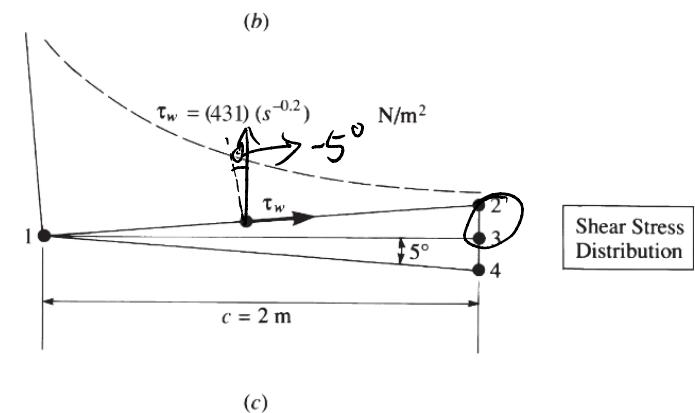
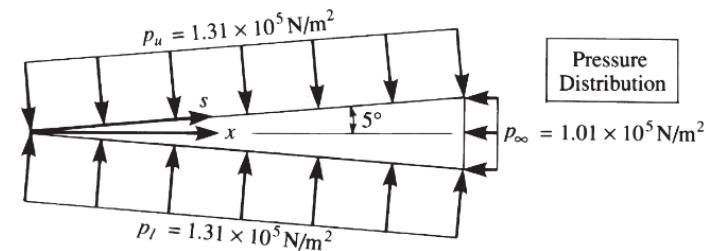
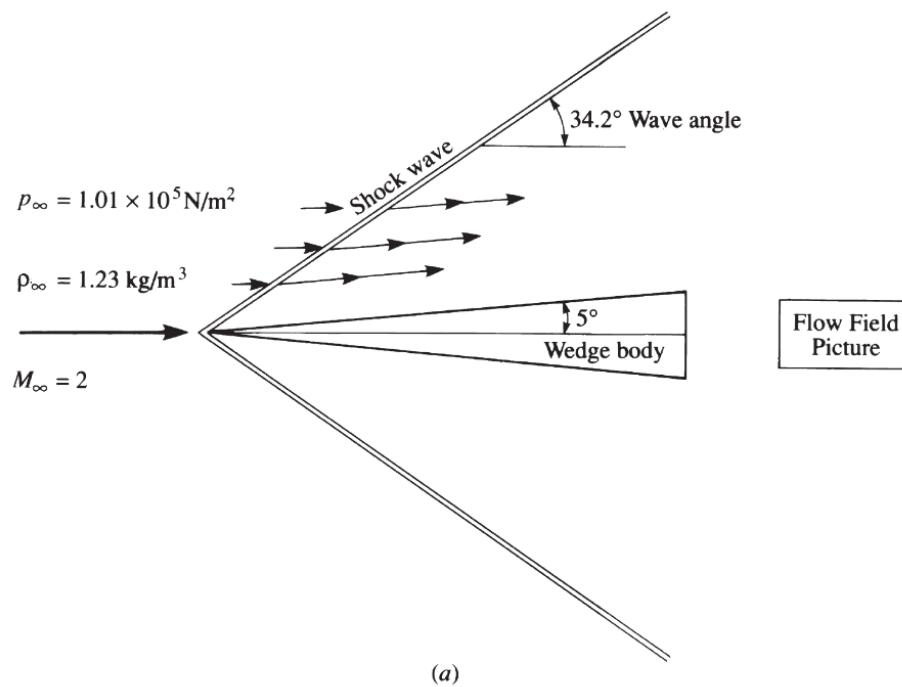
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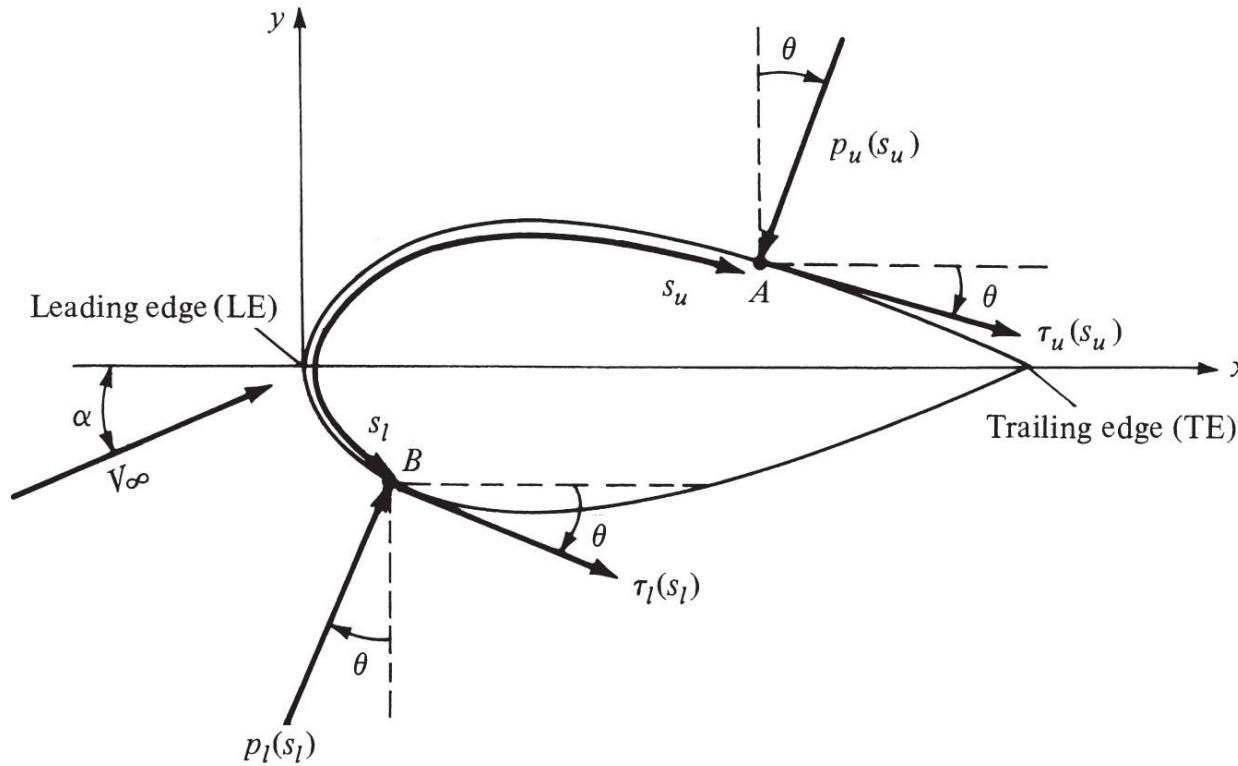
In-class Practice

Consider the supersonic flow over a 5° half-angle wedge at zero angle of attack, as sketched in [Figure 1.23a](#). The freestream Mach number ahead of the wedge is 2.0, and the freestream pressure and density are $1.01 \times 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2$ and 1.23 kg/m^3 , respectively (this corresponds to standard sea level conditions). The pressures on the upper and lower surfaces of the wedge are constant with distance s and equal to each other, namely, $p_u = p_l = 1.31 \times 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2$, as shown in [Figure 1.23b](#). The pressure exerted on the base of the wedge is equal to p_∞ . As seen in [Figure 1.23c](#), the shear stress varies over both the upper and lower surfaces as $\tau_w = 431s^{-0.2}$. The chord length, c , of the wedge is 2 m. Calculate the drag coefficient for the wedge.



Type of Forces Acting on Airfoil

- How to calculate the aerodynamic forces



In-class Practice

$$D' = \int_{LE}^{TE} (-p_u \sin \theta + \tau_u \cos \theta) ds_u + \int_{LE}^{TE} (p_l \sin \theta + \tau_l \cos \theta) ds_l$$

$$\int_{LE}^{TE} -p_u \sin \theta ds_u$$

$$= \int_{s_1}^{s_2} -(1.31 \times 10^5) \sin(-5^\circ) ds_u$$

$$\int_{S_1}^{S_2} ds_u$$

$$+ \int_{s_2}^{s_3} -(1.01 \times 10^5) \sin 90^\circ ds_u$$

$$= 1.142 \times 10^4 (s_2 - s_1) - 1.01 \times 10^5 (s_3 - s_2)$$

$$= 1.142 \times 10^4 \left(\frac{c}{\cos 5^\circ} \right) - 1.01 \times 10^5 (c)(\tan 5^\circ)$$

$$= 1.142 \times 10^4 (2.008) - 1.01 \times 10^5 (0.175) = 5260N$$

$$\int_{LE}^{TE} p_l \sin \theta ds_l$$

$$= \int_{s_1}^{s_4} (1.31 \times 10^5) \sin(5^\circ) ds_l + \int_{s_4}^{s_3} (1.01 \times 10^5) \sin(-90^\circ) ds_l$$

$$= 1.142 \times 10^4 (s_4 - s_1) + 1.01 \times 10^5 (-1)(s_3 - s_4)$$

$$= 1.142 \times 10^4 \left(\frac{c}{\cos 5^\circ} \right) - 1.01 \times 10^5 (c)(\tan 5^\circ)$$

$$= 2.293 \times 10^4 - 1.767 \times 10^4 = 5260N$$

In-class Practice

$$D' = \int_{LE}^{TE} (-p_u \sin \theta + \tau_u \cos \theta) ds_u + \int_{LE}^{TE} (p_l \sin \theta + \tau_l \cos \theta) ds_l$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{LE}^{TE} \tau_u \cos \theta ds_u &= \int_{s_1}^{s_2} 431s^{-0.2} \cos(-5^\circ) ds_u \\ &= 429 \left(\frac{s_2^{0.8} - s_1^{0.8}}{0.8} \right) \\ &= 429 \left(\frac{c}{\cos 5^\circ} \right)^{0.8} \frac{1}{0.8} = 936.5N \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{LE}^{TE} \tau_l \cos \theta ds_l &= \int_{s_1}^{s_4} 431s^{-0.2} \cos(-5^\circ) ds_l \\ &= 429 \left(\frac{s_4^{0.8} - s_1^{0.8}}{0.8} \right) \\ &= 429 \left(\frac{c}{\cos 5^\circ} \right)^{0.8} \frac{1}{0.8} = 936.5N \end{aligned}$$

In-class Practice

$$D' = \int_{LE}^{TE} (-p_u \sin \theta + \tau_u \cos \theta) ds_u + \int_{LE}^{TE} (p_l \sin \theta + \tau_l \cos \theta) ds_l$$

$$D' = \underbrace{1.052 \times 10^4}_{\substack{\text{pressure} \\ \text{drag}}} + \underbrace{0.1873 \times 10^4}_{\substack{\text{skin friction} \\ \text{drag}}} = \boxed{1.24 \times 10^4 \text{ N}}$$

The drag coefficient is obtained as follows. The velocity of the freestream is twice the sonic speed, which is given by

$$q_0 = \frac{1}{2} \rho_\infty V_\infty^2$$

$$a_\infty = \sqrt{\gamma R T_\infty} = \sqrt{(1.4)(287)(288)} = 340.2 \text{ m/s}$$

$$V_\infty = 2(340.2) = 680.4 \text{ m/s.}$$

$$M_\infty = \frac{V_\infty}{a_\infty}$$

$$= 2$$

$$q_\infty = \frac{1}{2} \rho_\infty V_\infty^2 = (0.5)(1.23)(680.4)^2 = 2.847 \times 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2$$

$$S = c(1) = 2.0 \text{ m}^2$$

$$c_d = \frac{D'}{q_\infty S} = \frac{1.24 \times 10^4}{(2.847 \times 10^5)(2)} = \boxed{0.022}$$

In-class Practice

An alternate solution?

Aerodynamic Coefficients

Lift coefficient:

$$C_L \equiv \frac{L}{q_\infty S}$$

Drag coefficient:

$$C_D \equiv \frac{D}{q_\infty S}$$

Normal force coefficient:

$$C_N \equiv \frac{N}{q_\infty S}$$

Axial force coefficient:

$$C_A \equiv \frac{A}{q_\infty S}$$

Aerodynamic Coefficients

Moment coefficient: $C_M \equiv \frac{M}{q_\infty Sl}$

Aerodynamic Coefficients

- The symbols in capital letters (i.e., C_L , C_D , C_A , C_N , C_M) denote the force and moment coefficients for a complete three-dimensional body such as an airplane or a finite wing.
- For a two-dimensional body, the forces and moments are per unit span. The aerodynamic coefficients are denoted by lowercase letters:

$$c_l \equiv \frac{L'}{q_\infty c} \quad c_d \equiv \frac{D'}{q_\infty c} \quad c_m \equiv \frac{M'}{q_\infty c^2}$$

where the reference area $S = c(1) = c$.

Aerodynamic Coefficients

- Two additional dimensionless quantities:

Pressure coefficient:

$$C_p \equiv \frac{p - p_\infty}{q_\infty}$$

Skin friction coefficient:

$$c_f \equiv \frac{\tau}{q_\infty}$$

In-class Practice

An alternate solution?

1. Calculate the pressure coefficients and skin friction coefficients.
2. Then integrate the pressure coefficients and skin friction coefficients to obtain the drag coefficient.

Dimensions/Units



- Maximum thrust is in the 70,000 lbf (312 kN) class.
- *Is the engine performance of F-22 good or bad?*

The F-22 Raptor

Dimensions/Units

Person 1

Weight: **40 kg**



Age: 8

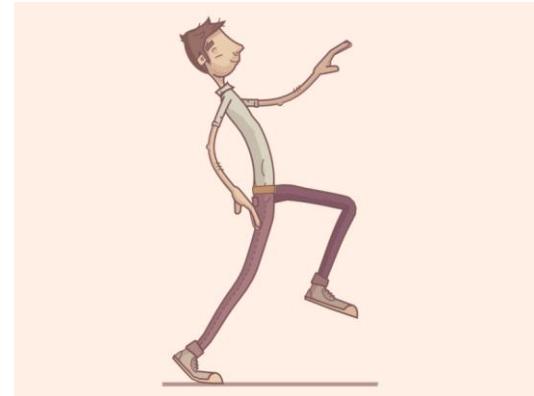
Height: 105 cm

Average Weight at 8: **25.6 kg**

BMI: 30.0 (Obesity)

Person 2

Weight: **50 kg**



Age: 25

Height: 180 cm

Average Weight at 25: **73.8 kg**

BMI: 15.4 (Underweight)

Dimensions/Units



- Maximum thrust is in the 70,000 lbf (312 kN) class.
- *Is the engine performance of F-22 good or bad?*

**Dual Pratt & Whitney F119-PW-100
augmented turbofan engines**

The F-22 Raptor

Dimensions/Units

Type	Takeoff weight/(10 ³ kg)	Maximum thrust of engine/(10 ³ kg)	Takeoff thrust-weight ratio
Su-27	22.5	2×7.7	0.68
Mig-29	15.24	2×5	0.67
F-15	20	2×6.7	0.67
F-16C	10.8	1×6.7	0.62
Su-30	25.7	2×7.7	0.60
X-47A	2.5	1×1.45	0.58
X-45A	5.5	1×3	0.55
X-45B	9.7	1×4.8	0.49
A-10	20	2×4.18	0.42
X-47B	20.9	1×6.7	0.32
X-45C	16.6	1×4.8	0.29
B-2	152.6	4×8.6	0.23

The F-22's thrust-to-weight ratio at typical combat weight is nearly at unity in maximum military power and 1.25 in full afterburner.

Dimensions/Units



F-111B Take-off

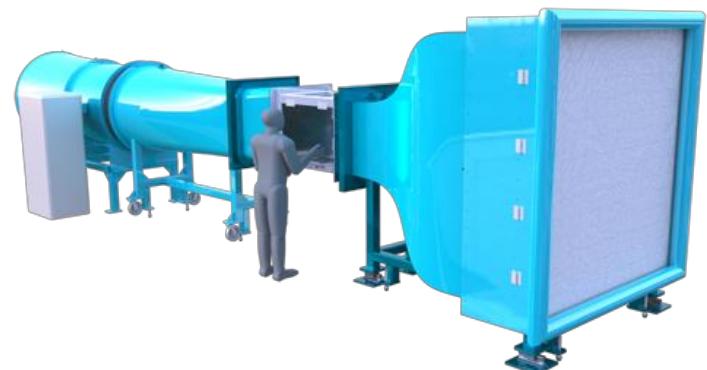


Geleta Air & Space Museum
www.AirandSpace.com

F-111B Model



*Full-Scale Wind Tunnel Test at
NASA Ames Research Center*



Laboratory Wind Tunnel Facility

Dimensional Analysis and Similitude

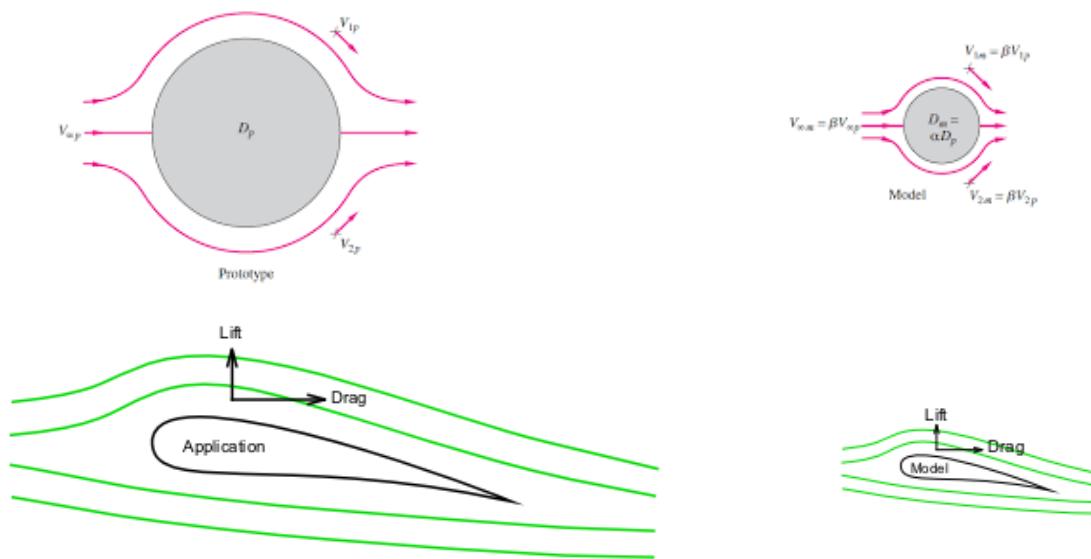
- Geometric similarity: The model have the same shape as the prototype:



$$\frac{l}{L} = \frac{w}{W} = \frac{h}{H} = \dots = \text{constant}$$

Dimensional Analysis and Similitude

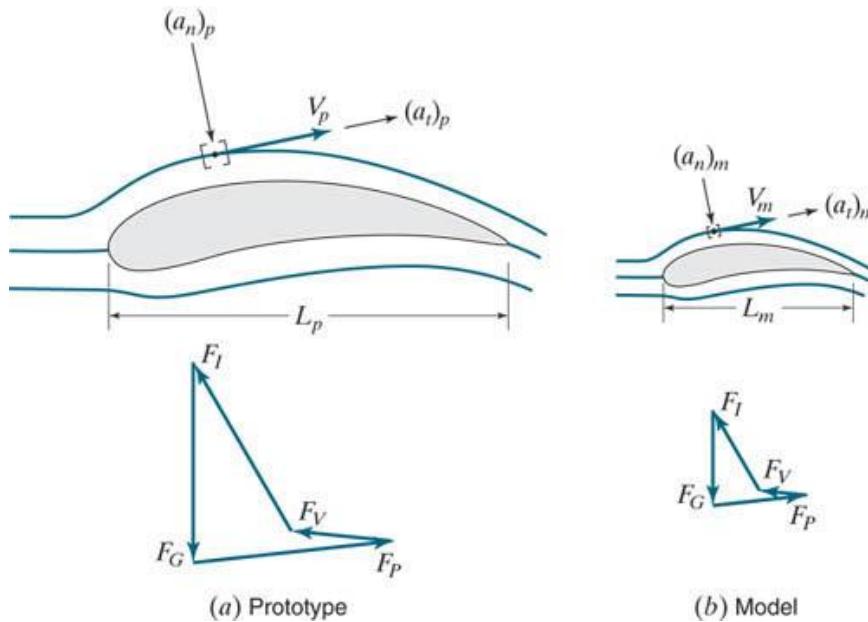
- *Kinematic similarity: Condition where the velocity ratio is a constant between all corresponding points in the flow field.*
 - The streamline pattern around the model is the same as that around the prototype



$$\frac{v_1}{V_1} = \frac{v_2}{V_2} = \frac{v_3}{V_3} = \dots = \text{constant}$$

Dimensional Analysis and Similitude

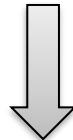
- **Dynamic similarity:** Forces which act on corresponding masses in the model flow and prototype flow are in the same ratio through out the entire flow.



$$\frac{f_1}{F_1} = \frac{f_2}{F_2} = \frac{f_3}{F_3} = \dots = \text{constant}$$

Dimensional Analysis and Similitude

- ❑ ***Dimensional analysis: a dimensionless quantity is a quantity to which no physical dimension is assigned.***



- ❑ ***Similitude: the study of predicting prototype conditions from model observations.***

Dimensions/Units

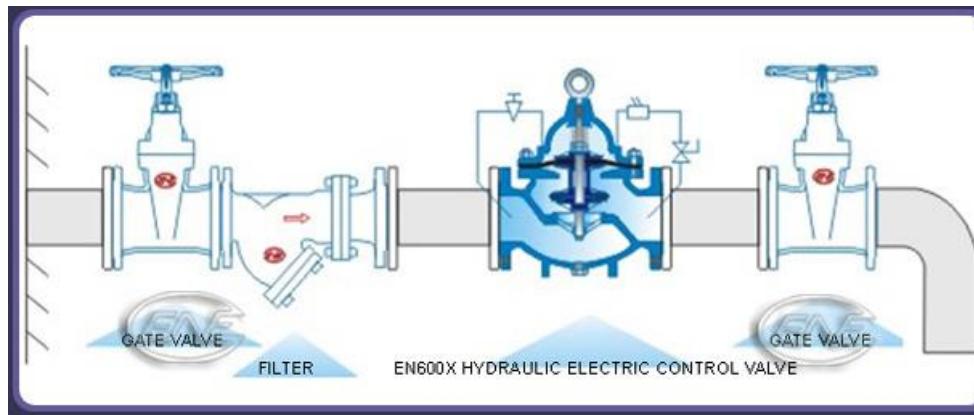
Primary dimensions and their associated primary SI and English units

Dimension	Symbol	SI Unit	English Unit
Mass	m	Kg (kilogram)	lbm (pound-mass)
Length	L	m (meter)	ft (foot)
Time	t	s (second)	s (second)
Temperature	T	K (kelvin)	R (rankine)
Electric current	I	A (ampere)	A (ampere)
Amount of light	C	Cd (candela)	Cd (candela)
Amount of Matter	N	mol (mole)	mol (mole)

All nonprimary dimensions can be formed by some combination of the seven primary dimensions: e.g., Force ($F = m L/t^2$)

Dimensional Analysis

Example: Pressure drop in pipe flow



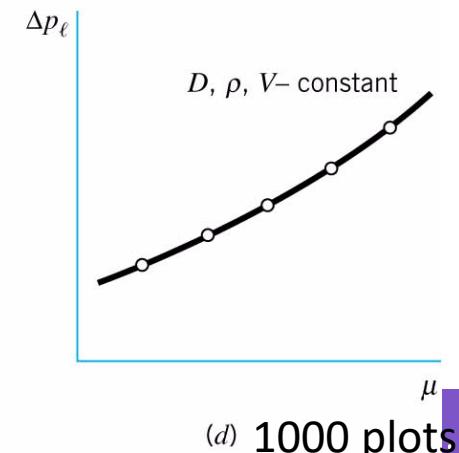
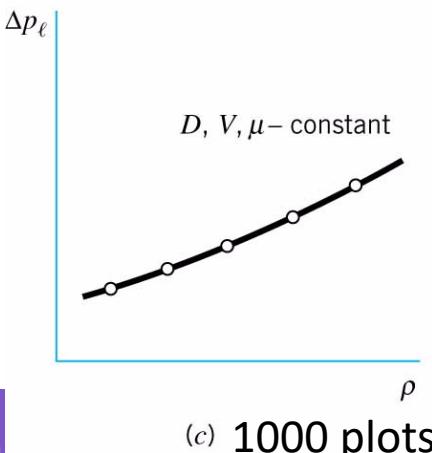
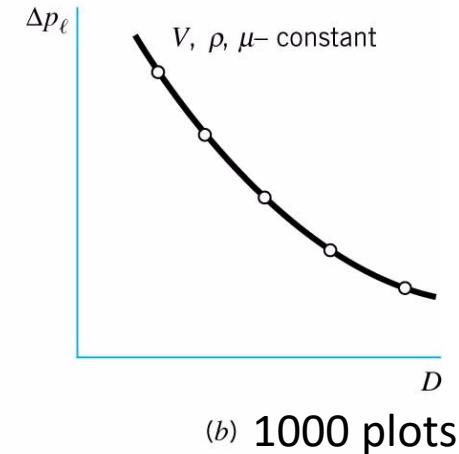
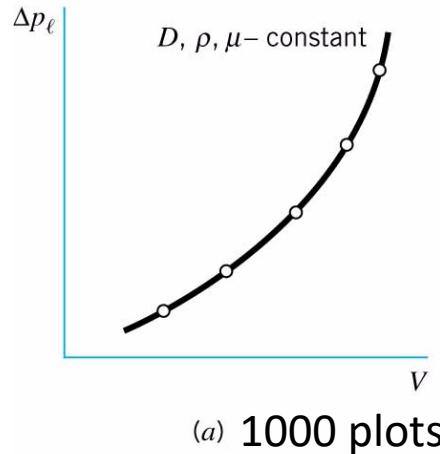
$$\Delta p_l = f(D, \rho, \mu, V)$$

Dimensional Analysis

Example: Pressure drop in pipe flow

$$\Delta p_l = f(D, \rho, \mu, V)$$

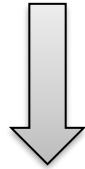
- Diameter: D_1, D_2, \dots, D_{10}
- Density: $\rho_1, \rho_2, \dots, \rho_{10}$
- Viscosity: $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_{10}$
- Velocity: V_1, V_2, \dots, V_{10}



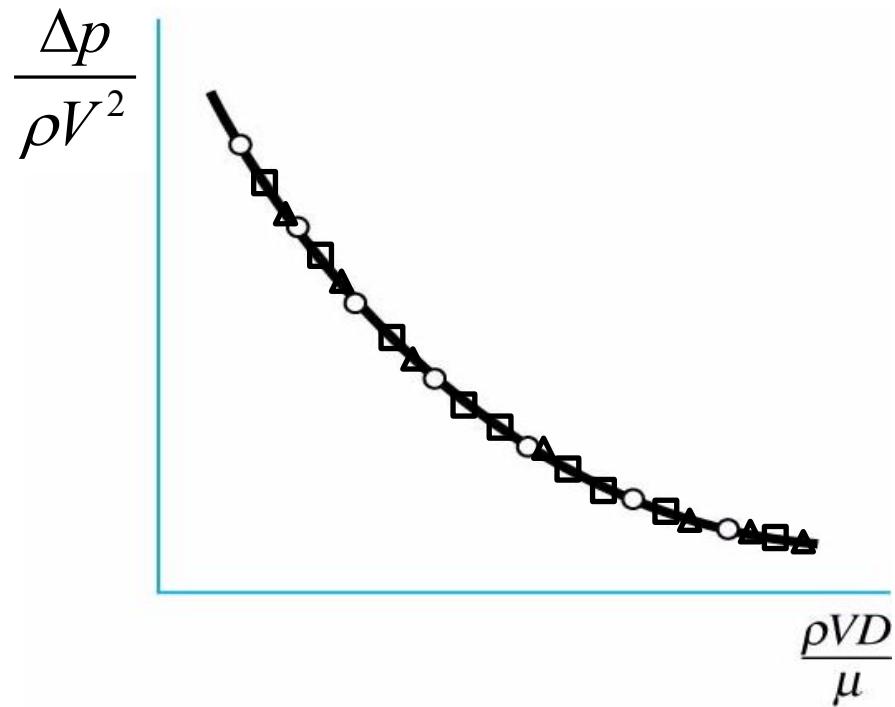
Dimensional Analysis

Example: Pressure drop in pipe flow

$$\Delta p_l = f(D, \rho, \mu, V)$$



$$\frac{\Delta p}{\rho V^2} = \Phi\left(\frac{\rho V D}{\mu}\right)$$

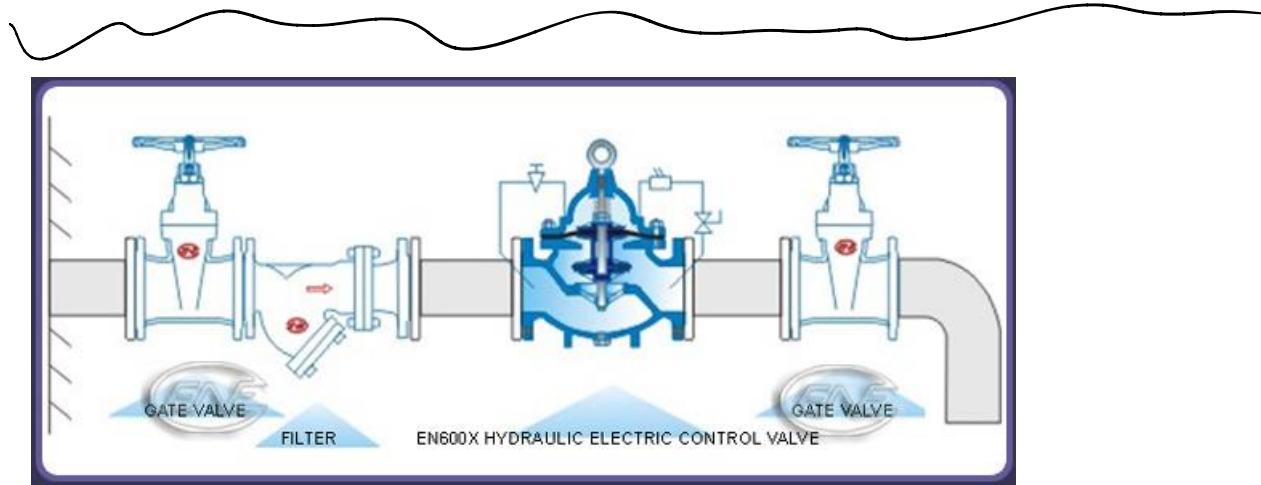


Buckingham π - Theorem

- **Step 1:** List all the variables that are involved in the problem (k).
- **Step 2:** Express each of the variables in terms of basic dimensions.
 - Basic dimension: M, L, T
 - Force - $F = MLT^{-2}$, density - $\rho = ML^{-3}$
- **Step 3:** Select repeating variables.
 - No dependent variable.
 - Should contain all r dimensions (M, L and T).
 - No dimensionless variable
 - Pick simple parameters over complex parameters whenever possible.
- **Step 4:** The number of π -parameters is $k-r$.
- **Step 5:** Write the π -terms by combining the repeating variables with each of the remaining variables.
- **Step 6:** Solve the equations from step 5.
- **Step 7:** Write the functional relationship.
$$\Pi_1 = \Phi(\Pi_2, \Pi_3, \dots, \Pi_{k-r})$$

Buckingham π - Theorem

- **Step 1: List all the variables that are involved in the problem (k).**



$$\Delta p_l = f(D, \rho, \mu, V)$$

$$k = 5$$

Buckingham π - Theorem

- **Step 1: List all the variables that are involved in the problem (k).**

$$\Delta p_l = f(D, \rho, \mu, V)$$

$$k = 5$$

- **Step 2: Express each of the variables in terms of basic dimensions.**

– **Basic dimension:** M, L, T

– **Force - $F = MLT^{-2}$, density - $\rho = ML^{-3}$**

$$D: [L]$$

$$\mu: [ML^{-1}T^{-1}]$$

$$P: [ML^{-3}]$$

$$\Delta P: [ML^{-1}T^{-2}]$$

$$V: [LT^{-1}]$$

$$[r=3]$$

Buckingham π - Theorem

- **Step 1: List all the variables that are involved in the problem (k).**

$$\Delta p_l = f(D, \rho, \mu, V)$$

$$k = 5$$

- **Step 2: Express each of the variables in terms of basic dimensions.**

$$r = 3$$

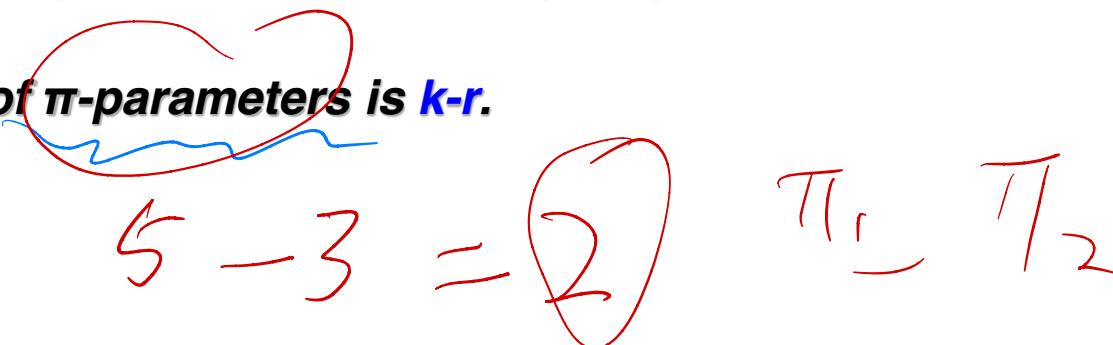
- **Step 3: Select repeating variables.**

- **No dependent variable.**
- **Should contain all r dimensions (M , L and T).**
- **No dimensionless variable**
- **Pick simple parameters over complex parameters whenever possible.**

$$\Delta p_l = [ML^{-1}T^{-2}]$$
$$V = [LT^{-1}]$$
$$D = [L]$$
$$\rho = [ML^{-3}]$$
$$\mu = [ML^{-1}T^{-1}]$$

Buckingham π - Theorem

- **Step 1:** List all the variables that are involved in the problem (k).
- **Step 2:** Express each of the variables in terms of basic dimensions.
 - Basic dimension: M, L, T
 - Force - $F = MLT^{-2}$, density - $\rho = ML^{-3}$
- **Step 3:** Select repeating variables.
 - No dependent variable.
 - Should contain all r dimensions (M, L and T).
 - No dimensionless variable
 - Pick simple parameters over complex parameters whenever possible.
- **Step 4:** The number of π -parameters is $k-r$.



A handwritten note showing the calculation $5 - 3 = 2$. The number 5 is circled in red, and the result 2 is circled in red. To the right of the equals sign, there are two Greek letters π_1 and π_2 , also circled in red.

Buckingham π - Theorem

- **Step 1:** List all the variables that are involved in the problem (**k**).
- **Step 2:** Express each of the variables in terms of basic dimensions.
 - Basic dimension: M, L, T
 - Force - $F = MLT^{-2}$, density - $\rho = ML^{-3}$
- **Step 3:** Select repeating variables.
 - No dependent variable.
 - Should contain all **r** dimensions (M, L and T).
 - No dimensionless variable
 - Pick simple parameters over complex parameters whenever possible.
- **Step 4:** The number of π -parameters is **k-r**.
- **Step 5:** Write the π -terms by combining the repeating variables with each of the remaining variables.

$$\pi_1 = P^{a_1} V^{b_1} D^{c_1} \cdot \Delta P, \quad \pi_2 = P^{a_2} V^{b_2} D^{c_2} \cdot \mu$$

P V D

Buckingham π - Theorem

-
- Step 4: The number of π -parameters is $k-r$.**
- Step 5: Write the π -terms by combining the repeating variables with each of the remaining variables.**
- Step 6: Solve the equations from step 5.**

$$\pi_1 = \rho^{a_1} V^{b_1} D^{c_1} \Delta P , \quad \pi_2 = \rho^{a_2} V^{b_2} D^{c_2} \mu$$

$$\pi_1 = \underbrace{[ML^{-3}]^{a_1}}_{\begin{cases} a_1 + 1 = 0 \\ -3a_1 + b_1 + c_1 - 1 = 0 \\ -b_1 - 2 = 0 \end{cases}} [LT^{-1}]^{b_1} [L]^{c_1} [MET^{-1}] = M^0 L^0 T^0$$

$$\begin{cases} a_1 + 1 = 0 \\ -3a_1 + b_1 + c_1 - 1 = 0 \\ -b_1 - 2 = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a_1 = -1 \\ b_1 = -2 \\ c_1 = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \pi_1 = \rho^{-1} V^{-2} \Delta P$$

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

Buckingham π - Theorem

-
- **Step 4: The number of π -parameters is $k-r$.**
- **Step 5: Write the π -terms by combining the repeating variables with each of the remaining variables.**
- **Step 6: Solve the equations from step 5.**

$$\pi_2 = [ML^{-3}]^{a_2} [LT^{-1}]^{b_2} [L]^{c_2} [MET^{-1}] = M^0 L^0 T^0$$

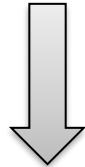
$$\begin{cases} a_2 + 1 = 0 \\ -3a_2 + b_2 + c_2 - 1 = 0 \\ -b_2 - 1 = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a_2 = -1 \\ b_2 = -1 \\ c_2 = -1 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \pi_2 = P^{-1} V^{-1} D^{-1} \mu = \frac{\mu}{PVD} = \frac{1}{Re}$$

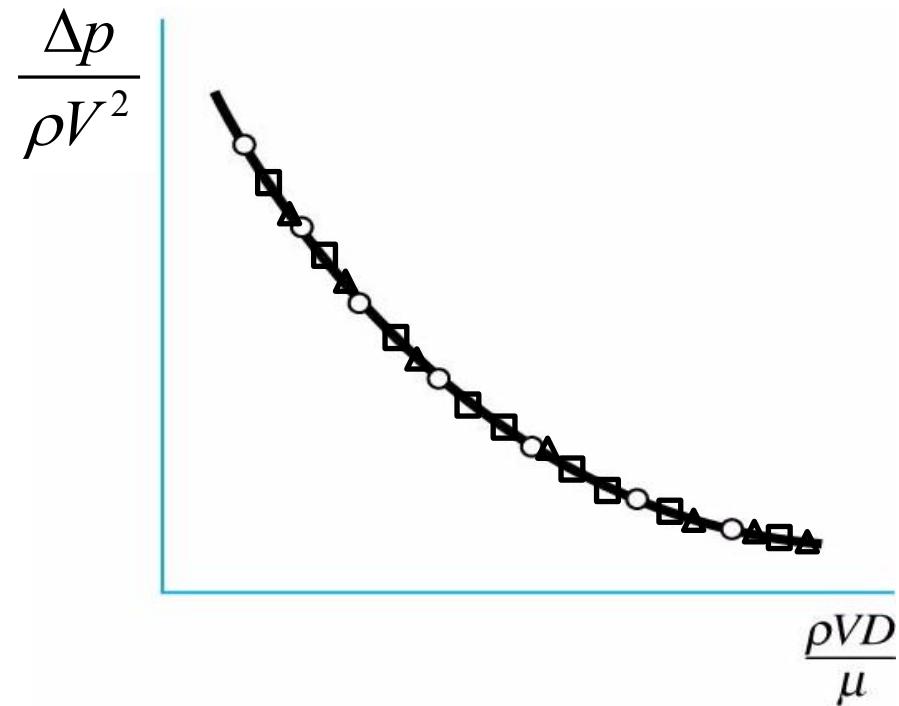
Dimensional Analysis

Example: Pressure drop in pipe flow

$$\Delta p_l = f(D, \rho, \mu, V)$$

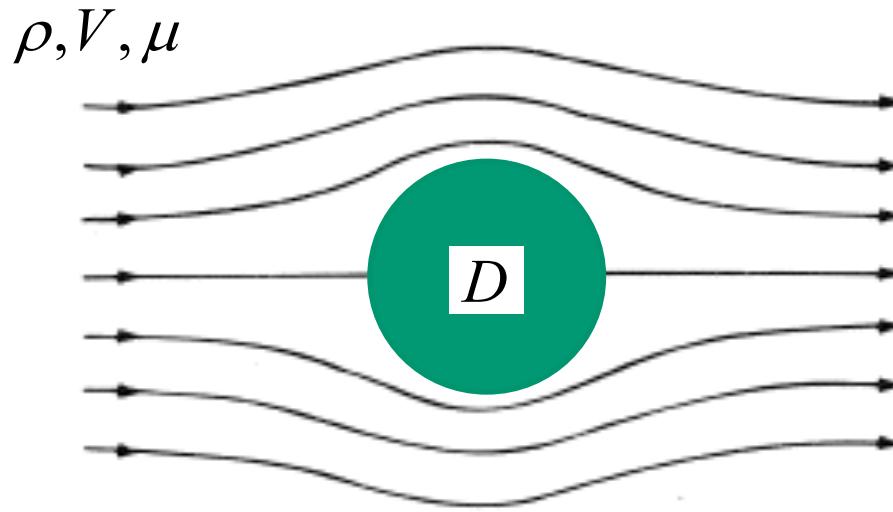


$$\frac{\Delta p}{\rho V^2} = \Phi\left(\frac{\rho V D}{\mu}\right)$$



Dimensional Analysis

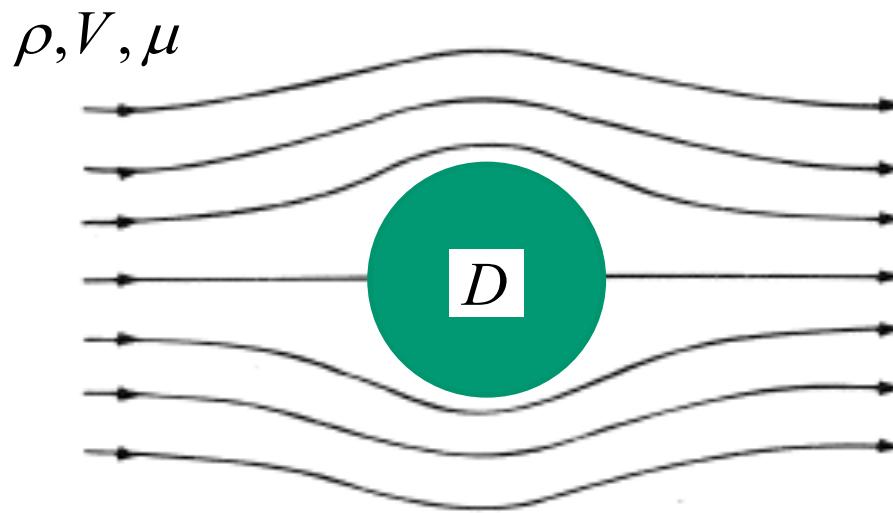
Practice: Drag of a cylinder in airflow



$$F_D = f(D, \rho, V, \mu)$$

Buckingham π - Theorem

- **Step 1: List all the variables that are involved in the problem (k).**



$$F_D = f(D, \rho, V, \mu)$$

$k = 5$

Buckingham π - Theorem

- **Step 1: List all the variables that are involved in the problem (k).**

$$\Delta p_l = f(D, \rho, \mu, V)$$

$$k = 5$$

- **Step 2: Express each of the variables in terms of basic dimensions.**
 - **Basic dimension:** M, L, T
 - **Force - $F=MLT^{-2}$, density - $\rho=ML^{-3}$**

$$F_d = [MLT^{-2}] \quad D = [L]$$

$$\rho = [ML^{-3}] \quad \mu = [ML^{-1}T^{-1}]$$

$$V = [LT^{-1}]$$

$$r = 3$$

Buckingham π - Theorem

- **Step 1: List all the variables that are involved in the problem (k).**

$$F_D = f(D, \rho, V, \mu)$$

$$k = 5$$

- **Step 2: Express each of the variables in terms of basic dimensions.**

$$r = 3$$

- **Step 3: Select repeating variables.**

- **No dependent variable.**

- **Should contain all r dimensions (M , L and T).**

- **No dimensionless variable**

$$F_d = [MLT^{-2}]$$

$$D = [L]$$

$$\rho = [ML^{-3}]$$

$$V = [LT^{-1}]$$

Buckingham π - Theorem

- **Step 1:** List all the variables that are involved in the problem (k).
- **Step 2:** Express each of the variables in terms of basic dimensions.
 - Basic dimension: M, L, T
 - Force - $F = MLT^{-2}$, density - $\rho = ML^{-3}$
- **Step 3:** Select repeating variables.
 - No dependent variable.
 - Should contain all r dimensions (M, L and T).
 - No dimensionless variable
- **Step 4:** The number of π -parameters is $k-r$.
- **Step 5:** Write the π -terms by combining the repeating variables with each of the remaining variables.

$$\Pi_1 = \rho^a V^b D^c F_d$$

$$k - r = 2$$

$$\Pi_2 = \rho^a V^b D^c \mu$$

Buckingham π - Theorem

-
- **Step 4: The number of π -parameters is $k-r$.**
- **Step 5: Write the π -terms by combining the repeating variables with each of the remaining variables.**
- **Step 6: Solve the equations from step 5.**

$$\Pi_1 = \rho^a V^b D^c F_d$$

$$\Pi_2 = \rho^a V^b D^c \mu$$

$$\rho = [ML^{-3}]$$

$$V = [LT^{-1}]$$

$$D = [L]$$

$$F_d = [MLT^{-2}]$$

$$\mu = [ML^{-1}T^{-1}]$$

$$\begin{cases} a+1=0 \\ -3a+b+c+1=0 \\ -b-2=0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a=-1 \\ b=-2 \\ c=-2 \end{cases}$$

$$\Pi_1 = \rho^{-1} V^{-2} D^{-2} F_d = \frac{F_d}{\rho V^2 D^2}$$

- **Drag coefficient C_D**
Department of Mechanical Engineering

Buckingham π - Theorem

-
- **Step 4: The number of π -parameters is $k-r$.**
- **Step 5: Write the π -terms by combining the repeating variables with each of the remaining variables.**
- **Step 6: Solve the equations from step 5.**

$$\Pi_1 = \rho^a V^b D^c F_d$$

$$\Pi_2 = \rho^a V^b D^c \mu$$

$$\rho = [ML^{-3}]$$

$$V = [LT^{-1}]$$

$$D = [L]$$

$$\Delta p = [ML^{-1}T^{-2}]$$

$$\mu = [ML^{-1}T^{-1}]$$

$$\begin{cases} a+1=0 \\ -3a+b+c-1=0 \\ -b-1=0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a=-1 \\ b=-1 \\ c=-1 \end{cases}$$

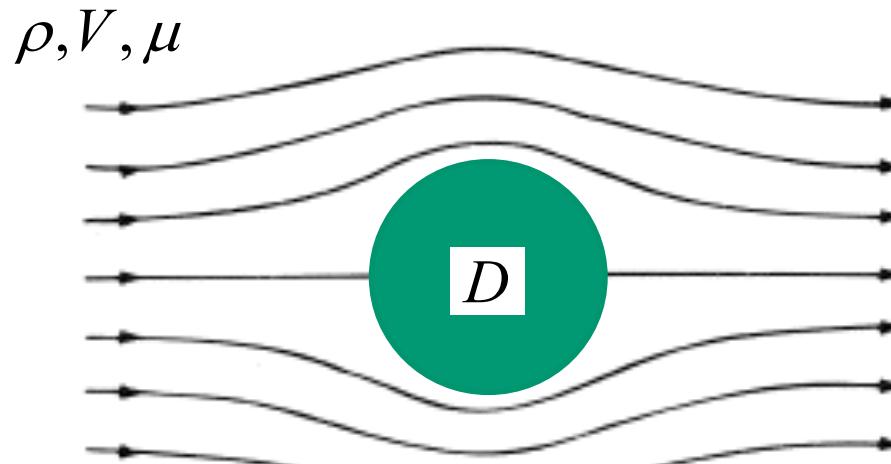
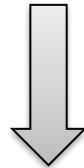
$$\Pi_2 = \rho^{-1} V^{-1} D^{-1} \mu = \frac{\mu}{\rho V D}$$

$$\Pi_2 = \frac{\mu}{\rho V D} = \frac{1}{Re}$$

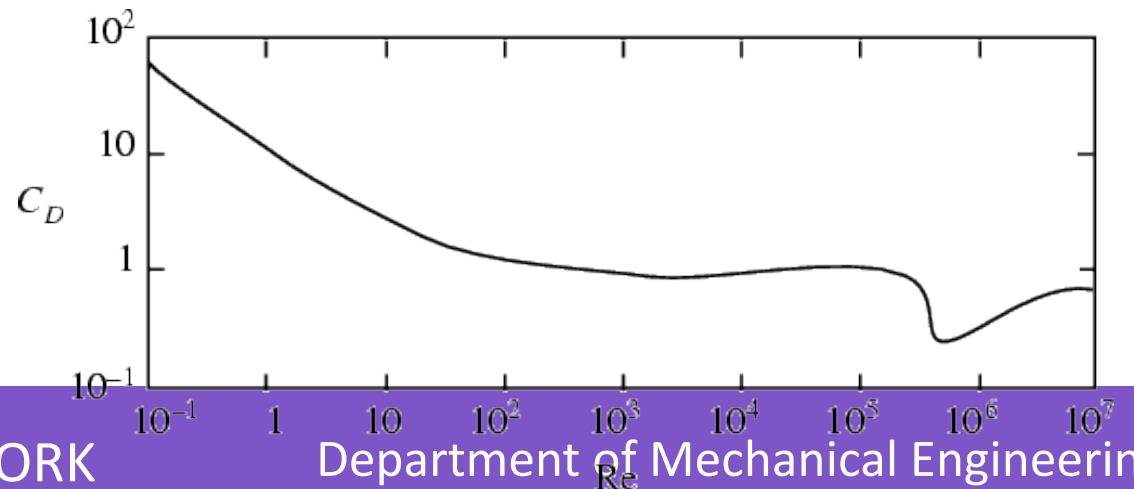
Dimensional Analysis

Practice: Drag of a cylinder in airflow

$$F_D = f(D, \rho, V, \mu)$$



$$C_D = \Phi(\text{Re})$$



Similitude

$$\text{Mach Number, } M = \frac{V}{c} \propto \frac{\text{inertial force}}{\text{compressibility force}}$$

$$\text{Reynolds number, } Re = \frac{\rho V L}{\mu} \propto \frac{\text{inertial force}}{\text{viscous force}}$$

$$\text{Euler number, } Eu = \frac{\Delta p}{\frac{1}{2} \rho V^2} \propto \frac{\text{pressure force}}{\text{inertial force}}$$

$$\text{Drag Coefficient: } C_D = \frac{D}{\frac{1}{2} \rho V^2} = \frac{\text{Drag}}{\text{inertial force}}$$

$$\text{Lift Coefficient: } C_L = \frac{L}{\frac{1}{2} \rho V^2} = \frac{\text{Lift}}{\text{inertial force}}$$

$$\text{Prandtl Number: } Pr = \frac{V}{\gamma} = \frac{\text{momentum diffusion}}{\text{heat diffusion}}$$

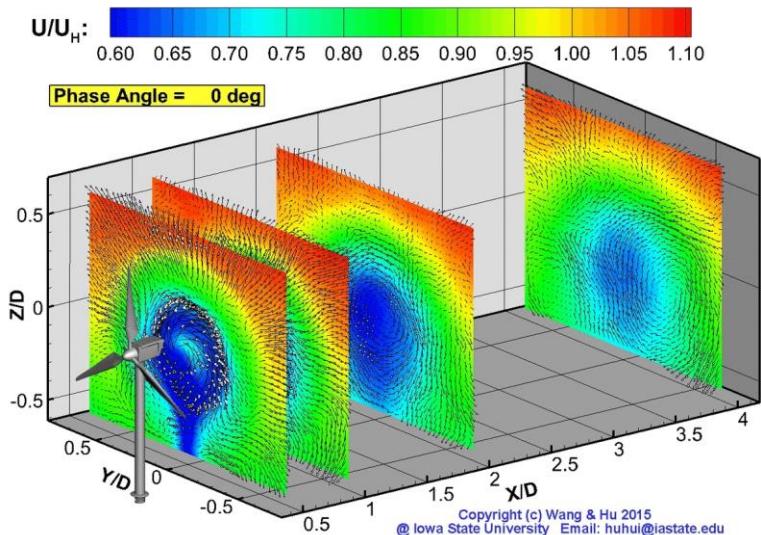
$$\text{Schmidt Number: } Sc = \frac{U}{\gamma_c} = \frac{\text{momentum}}{\text{mass}}$$

$$\text{Froude Number, } Fr = \frac{V}{\sqrt{lg}} \propto \frac{\text{inertial force}}{\text{gravity force}}$$

$$\text{Strohal Number, } Str = \frac{l\omega}{V} \propto \frac{\text{centrifugal force}}{\text{inertial force}}$$

$$\text{Weber Number, } We = \frac{V^2 l \rho}{\sigma} \propto \frac{\text{inertial force}}{\text{surface tension force}}$$

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In-Class Quiz