

# MECHANICAL TEST

Total Points: 50 | Questions: 10 | Date: February 02, 2026

*AI-generated undergraduate-level mechanical assignment. Contains 10 questions covering key concepts.*

## Question 1

A U-tube three-fluid manometer contains mercury in the bottom, water in the left leg above the mercury, and oil ( $\rho_o = 800 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ) in the right leg above the mercury. The right leg is open to the atmosphere. The height of the water column above the water–mercury interface in the left leg is  $h_w = 0.30 \text{ m}$ . The height of the oil column above the oil–mercury interface in the right leg is  $h_o = 0.20 \text{ m}$ . The mercury–upper-fluid interface in the right leg is  $\Delta z = 0.05 \text{ m}$  higher than that in the left leg. The top of the left leg is connected to a tank at pressure  $p_A$  (unknown). Find  $p_A$  (gauge).

## Question 2

In a similar setup, the right leg is open to atmosphere and contains oil of unknown density  $\rho_o$ . The left leg (water) is connected to a chamber at  $p_A = 3.0 \text{ kPa}$  (gauge). Measured heights:  $h_w = 0.30 \text{ m}$  (water above mercury on the left),  $h_o = 0.35 \text{ m}$  (oil above mercury on the right). The mercury–upper-fluid interface on the right is  $\Delta z = 0.02 \text{ m}$  higher than that on the left. Determine the oil density  $\rho_o$ .

## Question 3

A three-fluid manometer has the left leg (water) connected to a vessel at sub-atmospheric pressure  $p_A = -1.2 \text{ kPa}$  (gauge). The right leg contains oil with  $\rho_o = 820 \text{ kg/m}^3$  and is open to atmosphere. Measured column heights are  $h_w = 0.25 \text{ m}$  (left) and  $h_o = 0.12 \text{ m}$  (right). Find the mercury interface height difference  $\Delta z$  (right interface height minus left interface height). State whether the right interface is higher or lower.

## Question 4

Both legs of a three-fluid manometer are connected to pressurized tanks: left leg (water) to tank A, right leg (oil,  $\rho_o = 850 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ) to tank B. Heights above mercury are  $h_w = 0.18 \text{ m}$  (left) and  $h_o = 0.25 \text{ m}$  (right). The right mercury interface is  $\Delta z = 0.06 \text{ m}$  higher than the left. Find  $p_A - p_B$  (gauge difference).

## Question 5

In a three-fluid manometer (water–mercury–oil), explain: (a) why mercury is placed in the bottom segment, (b) how the sign of  $\Delta z$  (right mercury interface relative to left) relates to which side has higher pressure, and (c) why immiscibility and clean interfaces are critical for accuracy.

## Question 6

Sensitivity analysis. For a three-fluid manometer with  $\rho_o = 850 \text{ kg/m}^3$ , compute the sensitivity of indicated gauge pressure  $p_g$  to small changes in each measured height:  $\partial p_g / \partial h_o$ ,  $\partial p_g / \partial h_w$ , and  $\partial p_g / \partial \Delta z$ , using  $p_g = \rho_o g h_o - \rho_w g h_w + \rho_{Hg} g \Delta z$ . Also report the change in  $p_g$  for a 1.0 mm change in each height taken individually.

### Question 7

You have an unknown oil used in a water–mercury–oil manometer. Propose a procedure to determine the oil's density using only the manometer, atmospheric reference, and a regulated gauge pressure source. Specify the measurements to take and the equation used to compute  $\rho_o$ .

### Question 8

Temperature effect. A manometer at  $20^\circ\text{C}$  has  $\rho_o = 850 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ,  $\rho_w = 1000 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ,  $\rho_{Hg} = 13600 \text{ kg/m}^3$ , with  $h_o = 0.20 \text{ m}$ ,  $h_w = 0.25 \text{ m}$ ,  $\Delta z = 0.04 \text{ m}$ . The indicated gauge pressure at  $20^\circ\text{C}$  is  $p_{20}$ . The temperature rises to  $50^\circ\text{C}$ ; assume densities change approximately as  $\rho(T) \approx \rho_{20}[1 - \beta\Delta T]$ , with  $\beta_o = 7.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ ,  $\beta_w = 2.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ ,  $\beta_{Hg} = 1.2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ . If the column heights remain the same, estimate the change in indicated pressure  $\Delta p = p_{50} - p_{20}$  and the percent change relative to  $p_{20}$ .

### Question 9

Uncertainty propagation. For the configuration in Question 1 ( $h_w = 0.30 \text{ m}$ ,  $h_o = 0.20 \text{ m}$ ,  $\Delta z = 0.05 \text{ m}$ ;  $\rho_o = 800 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ), suppose each height is measured with an independent standard uncertainty of  $\pm 1.0 \text{ mm}$  ( $1\sigma$ ). Estimate the standard uncertainty in the indicated pressure  $u_p$  using linear propagation, and report it and its percentage of the measured pressure.

### Question 10

Given a three-fluid manometer with  $\rho_o = 790 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ,  $h_o = 0.25 \text{ m}$ ,  $h_w = 0.20 \text{ m}$ , and a known applied gauge pressure  $p_A = 4.0 \text{ kPa}$  on the left (right leg open to atmosphere), compute the required mercury interface height difference  $\Delta z$  (right relative to left, positive if right is higher).