

where  $\dot{Q}$  = heat flow, J/s  
 $A$  = surface area, m<sup>2</sup>  
 $\Delta T$  = temperature difference, K

The dimensionless form of  $h$ , called the *Stanton number*, is a combination of  $h$ , fluid density  $\rho$ , specific heat  $c_p$ , and flow velocity  $V$ . Derive the Stanton number if it is proportional to  $h$ .

**Solution:** If  $\{\dot{Q}\} = \{hA\Delta T\}$ , then  $\left\{\frac{ML^2}{T^3}\right\} = \{h\} \{L^2\} \{\Theta\}$ , or:  $\{h\} = \left\{\frac{M}{\Theta T^3}\right\}$

$$\text{Then } \{\text{Stanton No.}\} = \{h^1 \rho^b c_p^c V^d\} = \left\{\frac{M}{\Theta T^3}\right\} \left\{\frac{M}{L^3}\right\}^b \left\{\frac{L^2}{T^2 \Theta}\right\}^c \left\{\frac{L}{T}\right\}^d = M^0 L^0 T^0 \Theta^0$$

Solve for  $b = -1$ ,  $c = -1$ , and  $d = -1$ .

$$\text{Thus, finally, Stanton Number} = h\rho^{-1}c_p^{-1}V^{-1} = \frac{h}{\rho V c_p} \quad \text{Ans.}$$

**5.17** The pressure drop per unit length  $\Delta p/L$  in a porous, rotating duct (Really! See Ref. 35) depends upon average velocity  $V$ , density  $\rho$ , viscosity  $\mu$ , duct height  $h$ , wall injection velocity  $v_w$ , and rotation rate  $\Omega$ . Using  $(\rho, V, h)$  as repeating variables, rewrite this relationship in dimensionless form.

**Solution:** The relevant dimensions are  $\{\Delta p/L\} = \{ML^{-2}T^{-2}\}$ ,  $\{V\} = \{LT^{-1}\}$ ,  $\{\rho\} = \{ML^{-3}\}$ ,  $\{\mu\} = \{ML^{-1}T^{-1}\}$ ,  $\{h\} = \{L\}$ ,  $\{v_w\} = \{LT^{-1}\}$ , and  $\{\Omega\} = \{T^{-1}\}$ . With  $n = 7$  and  $j = 3$ , we expect  $n - j = k = 4$  pi groups: They are found, as specified, using  $(\rho, V, h)$  as repeating variables:

$$\Pi_1 = \rho^a V^b h^c \frac{\Delta p}{L} = \left\{\frac{M}{L^3}\right\}^a \left\{\frac{L}{T}\right\}^b \{L\}^c \left\{\frac{M}{L^2 T^2}\right\} = M^0 L^0 T^0, \quad \text{solve } a = -1, b = -2, c = 1$$

$$\Pi_2 = \rho^a V^b h^c \mu^{-1} = \left\{\frac{M}{L^3}\right\}^a \left\{\frac{L}{T}\right\}^b \{L\}^c \left\{\frac{M}{LT}\right\}^{-1} = M^0 L^0 T^0, \quad \text{solve } a = 1, b = 1, c = 1$$

$$\Pi_3 = \rho^a V^b h^c \Omega = \left\{\frac{M}{L^3}\right\}^a \left\{\frac{L}{T}\right\}^b \{L\}^c \left\{\frac{1}{T}\right\} = M^0 L^0 T^0, \quad \text{solve } a = 0, b = -1, c = 1$$

$$\Pi_4 = \rho^a V^b h^c v_w = \left\{\frac{M}{L^3}\right\}^a \left\{\frac{L}{T}\right\}^b \{L\}^c \left\{\frac{L}{T}\right\} = M^0 L^0 T^0, \quad \text{solve } a = 0, b = -1, c = 0$$

The final dimensionless function then is given by:

$$\Pi_1 = \text{fcn}(\Pi_2, \Pi_3, \Pi_4), \quad \text{or:} \quad \frac{\Delta p}{L} \frac{h}{\rho V^2} = \text{fcn} \left( \frac{\rho V h}{\mu}, \frac{\Omega h}{V}, \frac{v_w}{V} \right) \quad \text{Ans.}$$


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**5.18** Under laminar conditions, the volume flow  $Q$  through a small triangular-section pore of side length  $b$  and length  $L$  is a function of viscosity  $\mu$ , pressure drop per unit length  $\Delta p/L$ , and  $b$ . Using the pi theorem, rewrite this relation in dimensionless form. How does the volume flow change if the pore size  $b$  is doubled?

**Solution:** Establish the variables and their dimensions:

$$Q = \text{fcn}(\Delta p/L, \mu, b)$$

$$\{L^3/T\} \quad \{M/L^2T^2\} \quad \{M/LT\} \quad \{L\}$$

Then  $n = 4$  and  $j = 3$ , hence we expect  $n - j = 4 - 3 = 1$  Pi group, found as follows:

$$\Pi_1 = (\Delta p/L)^a (\mu)^b (b)^c Q^1 = \{M/L^2T^2\}^a \{M/LT\}^b \{L\}^c \{L^3/T\}^1 = M^0 L^0 T^0$$

$$M: a + b = 0; \quad L: -2a - b + c + 3 = 0; \quad T: -2a - b - 1 = 0,$$

$$\text{solve } a = -1, b = +1, c = -4$$

$$\Pi_1 = \frac{Q\mu}{(\Delta p/L)b^4} = \text{constant} \quad \text{Ans.}$$

Clearly, if  $b$  is doubled, the flow rate  $Q$  increases by a factor of **16**. *Ans.*

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**5.19** The period of oscillation  $T$  of a water surface wave is assumed to be a function of density  $\rho$ , wavelength  $\lambda$ , depth  $h$ , gravity  $g$ , and surface tension  $Y$ . Rewrite this relationship in dimensionless form. What results if  $Y$  is negligible?

**Solution:** Establish the variables and their dimensions:

$$T = \text{fcn}(\rho, \lambda, h, g, Y)$$

$$\{T\} \quad \{M/L^3\} \quad \{L\} \quad \{L\} \quad \{L/T^2\} \quad \{M/T^2\}$$

Then  $n = 6$  and  $j = 3$ , hence we expect  $n - j = 6 - 3 = 3$  Pi groups, capable of various arrangements and selected by myself as follows:

$$\text{Typical final result: } T(g/\lambda)^{1/2} = \text{fcn} \left( \frac{h}{\lambda}, \frac{Y}{\rho g \lambda^2} \right) \quad \text{Ans.}$$