

(b) If we swing the pendulum on the moon at the same 20°, we may use similarity:

$$T_1 \left( \frac{g_1}{L_1} \right)^{1/2} = (2.04 \text{ s}) \left( \frac{9.81 \text{ m/s}^2}{1.0 \text{ m}} \right)^{1/2} = 6.39 = T_2 \left( \frac{1.62 \text{ m/s}^2}{0.3 \text{ m}} \right)^{1/2},$$

or:  $T_2 = 2.75 \text{ s}$  *Ans. (b)*

**5.27** In studying sand transport by ocean waves, A. Shields in 1936 postulated that the bottom shear stress  $\tau$  required to move particles depends upon gravity  $g$ , particle size  $d$  and density  $\rho_p$ , and water density  $\rho$  and viscosity  $\mu$ . Rewrite this in terms of dimensionless groups (which led to the *Shields Diagram* in 1936).

**Solution:** There are six variables ( $\tau, g, d, \rho_p, \rho, \mu$ ) and three dimensions (M, L, T), hence we expect  $n - j = 6 - 3 = 3$  Pi groups. The author used  $(\rho, g, d)$  as repeating variables:

$$\frac{\tau}{\rho g d} = \text{fcn} \left( \frac{\rho g^{1/2} d^{3/2}}{\mu}, \frac{\rho_p}{\rho} \right) \quad \text{Ans.}$$

The shear parameter used by Shields himself was based on *net weight*:  $\tau/[(\rho_p - \rho)gd]$ .

**5.28** A simply supported beam of diameter  $D$ , length  $L$ , and modulus of elasticity  $E$  is subjected to a fluid crossflow of velocity  $V$ , density  $\rho$ , and viscosity  $\mu$ . Its center deflection  $\delta$  is assumed to be a function of all these variables. (a) Rewrite this proposed function in dimensionless form. (b) Suppose it is known that  $\delta$  is independent of  $\mu$ , inversely proportional to  $E$ , and dependent only upon  $\rho V^2$ , not  $\rho$  and  $V$  separately. Simplify the dimensionless function accordingly.

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

$$\delta = \text{fcn}(\rho, D, L, E, V, \mu)$$

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

Then  $n = 7$  and  $j = 3$ , hence we expect  $n - j = 7 - 3 = 4$  Pi groups, capable of various arrangements and selected by myself, as follows (a):

$$\text{Well-posed final result: } \frac{\delta}{L} = \text{fcn} \left( \frac{L}{D}, \frac{\rho V D}{\mu}, \frac{E}{\rho V^2} \right) \quad \text{Ans. (a)}$$

(b) If  $\mu$  is unimportant, then the Reynolds number  $(\rho V D / \mu)$  drops out, and we have already cleverly combined  $E$  with  $\rho V^2$ , which we can now slip out upside down:

Chapter 5 • Dimensional Analysis and Similarity  
 If  $\mu$  drops out and  $\delta \propto \frac{1}{E}$ , then  $\frac{\delta}{L} = \frac{\rho V}{E} \text{fcn}\left(\frac{L}{D}\right)$ ,

385

$$\text{or: } \frac{\delta E}{\rho V^2 L} = \text{fcn}\left(\frac{L}{D}\right) \quad \text{Ans. (b)}$$

**5.29** When fluid in a pipe is accelerated linearly from rest, it begins as laminar flow and then undergoes transition to turbulence at a time  $t_{tr}$  which depends upon the pipe diameter  $D$ , fluid acceleration  $a$ , density  $\rho$ , and viscosity  $\mu$ . Arrange this into a dimensionless relation between  $t_{tr}$  and  $D$ .

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

$$t_{tr} = \text{fcn}(\rho, D, a, \mu)$$

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

Then  $n = 5$  and  $j = 3$ , hence we expect  $n - j = 5 - 3 = 2$  Pi groups, capable of various arrangements and selected by myself, as required, to isolate  $t_{tr}$  versus  $D$ :

$$t_{tr} \left( \frac{\rho a^2}{\mu} \right)^{1/3} = \text{fcn} \left[ D \left( \frac{\rho^2 a}{\mu^2} \right)^{1/3} \right] \quad \text{Ans.}$$

**5.30** The wall shear stress  $\tau_w$  for flow in a narrow annular gap between a fixed and a rotating cylinder is a function of density  $\rho$ , viscosity  $\mu$ , angular velocity  $\Omega$ , outer radius  $R$ , and gap width  $\Delta r$ . Using  $(\rho, \Omega, R)$  as repeating variables, rewrite this relation in dimensionless form.

**Solution:** The relevant dimensions are  $\{\tau_w\} = \{ML^{-1}T^{-2}\}$ ,  $\{\rho\} = \{ML^{-3}\}$ ,  $\{\mu\} = \{ML^{-1}T^{-1}\}$ ,  $\{\Omega\} = \{T^{-1}\}$ ,  $\{R\} = \{L\}$ , and  $\{\Delta r\} = \{L\}$ . With  $n = 6$  and  $j = 3$ , we expect  $n - j = k = 3$  pi groups. They are found, as specified, using  $(\rho, \Omega, R)$  as repeating variables:

$$\Pi_1 = \rho^a \Omega^b R^c \tau_w = \left\{ \frac{M}{L^3} \right\}^a \left\{ \frac{1}{T} \right\}^b \{L\}^c \left\{ \frac{M}{LT^2} \right\} = M^0 L^0 T^0, \quad \text{solve } a = -1, b = -2, c = -2$$

$$\Pi_2 = \rho^a \Omega^b R^c \mu^{-1} = \left\{ \frac{M}{L^3} \right\}^a \left\{ \frac{1}{T} \right\}^b \{L\}^c \left\{ \frac{M}{LT} \right\}^{-1} = M^0 L^0 T^0, \quad \text{solve } a = 1, b = 1, c = 2$$

$$\Pi = \rho^a \Omega^b R^c \Delta r = \left\{ \frac{M}{L^3} \right\}^a \left\{ \frac{1}{T} \right\}^b \{L\}^c \{L\} = M^0 L^0 T^0, \quad \text{solve } a = 0, b = 0, c = -1$$

The final dimensionless function has the form:

$$\Pi_1 = \text{fcn}(\Pi_2, \Pi_3), \quad \text{or: } \frac{\tau_{wall}}{\rho \Omega^2 R^2} = \text{fcn}\left(\frac{\rho \Omega R^2}{\mu}, \frac{\Delta r}{R}\right) \quad \text{Ans.}$$