

Solution: Given $\Delta p = \text{fcn}(\rho, V, d/D)$, then by dimensional analysis $\Delta p/(\rho V^2) = \text{fcn}(d/D)$. For water at 20°C, take $\rho = 998 \text{ kg/m}^3$. For gasoline at 20°C, take $\rho = 680 \text{ kg/m}^3$. Then, using the water ‘model’ data to obtain the function “ $\text{fcn}(d/D)$ ”, we calculate

$$\frac{\Delta p_m}{\rho_m V_m^2} = \frac{5000}{(998)(4.0)^2} = 0.313 = \frac{\Delta p_p}{\rho_p V_p^2} = \frac{15000}{(680)V_p^2}, \quad \text{solve for } V_p \approx 8.39 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$

$$\text{Given } Q = \frac{9}{60} \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{s}} = V_p A_p = (8.39) \frac{\pi}{4} D_p^2, \quad \text{solve for best } D_p \approx \mathbf{0.151 \text{ m}} \quad \text{Ans.}$$

5.72 A one-fifteenth-scale model of a parachute has a drag of 450 lbf when tested at 20 ft/s in a water tunnel. If Reynolds-number effects are negligible, estimate the terminal fall velocity at 5000-ft standard altitude of a parachutist using the prototype if chute and chutist together weigh 160 lbf. Neglect the drag coefficient of the woman.

Solution: For water at 20°C, take $\rho = 1.94 \text{ kg/m}^3$. For air at 5000-ft standard altitude (Table A-6) take $\rho = 0.00205 \text{ kg/m}^3$. If Reynolds number is unimportant, then the two cases have the same drag-force coefficient:

$$C_{Dm} = \frac{F_m}{\rho_m V_m^2 D_m^2} = \frac{450}{1.94(20)^2 (D_p/15)^2} = C_{Dp} = \frac{160}{0.00205 V_p^2 D_p^2},$$

$$\text{solve } V_p \approx \mathbf{24.5 \frac{ft}{s}} \quad \text{Ans.}$$

5.73 The power P generated by a certain windmill design depends upon its diameter D , the air density ρ , the wind velocity V , the rotation rate Ω , and the number of blades n . (a) Write this relationship in dimensionless form. A model windmill, of diameter 50 cm, develops 2.7 kW at sea level when $V = 40 \text{ m/s}$ and when rotating at 4800 rev/min. (b) What power will be developed by a geometrically and dynamically similar prototype, of diameter 5 m, in winds of 12 m/s at 2000 m standard altitude? (c) What is the appropriate rotation rate of the prototype?

Solution: (a) For the function $P = \text{fcn}(D, \rho, V, \Omega, n)$ the appropriate dimensions are $\{P\} = \{\text{ML}^2\text{T}^{-3}\}$, $\{D\} = \{\text{L}\}$, $\{\rho\} = \{\text{ML}^{-3}\}$, $\{V\} = \{\text{L/T}\}$, $\{\Omega\} = \{\text{T}^{-1}\}$, and $\{n\} = \{1\}$. Using (D, ρ, V) as repeating variables, we obtain the desired dimensionless function:

$$\frac{P}{\rho D^2 V^3} = \text{fcn}\left(\frac{\Omega D}{V}, n\right) \quad \text{Ans. (a)}$$