

Today, we will:

- Discuss dimensional analysis of turbines
- Do an example problem – dimensional analysis with turbines
- Discuss piping networks – how to deal with pipes in series or in parallel

b. Dimensionless parameters in turbine performance

We perform exactly the same dimensional analysis for turbines as we did for pumps. Result:

$$\text{Dimensionless Parameters: } C_Q = \frac{\dot{V}}{\omega D^3} \quad C_H = \frac{gH}{\omega^2 D^2} \quad C_P = \frac{bhp}{\rho \omega^3 D^5}$$

Capacity coefficient Head coefficient Power coefficient

Example: Scaling up a hydroturbine

Given: An existing hydroturbine (A): Fluid is water at 20°C, $D_A = 1.95$ m, $\dot{n}_A = 120$ rpm, $bhp_A = 220$ MW, and $\dot{V}_A = 335$ m³/s at $H_A = 72.4$ m. We are designing a new turbine (B) that is geometrically similar, still uses water at 20°C, and $\dot{n}_B = 120$ rpm, but $H_B = 97.4$ m. [Dam B has a higher gross head available than Dam A.]

To do: (a) Calculate D_B and \dot{V}_B for operation of turbine B at a homologous point.
(b) Calculate bhp_B and estimate the turbine efficiency of both turbines.

Solution:

(a) At homologous points, the two turbines are dynamically similar. Apply the affinity laws:

$$C_{H,A} = \frac{gH_A}{\omega_A^2 D_A^2} = C_{H,B} = \frac{gH_B}{\omega_B^2 D_B^2} \rightarrow \text{solve for } D_B = D_A \left(\frac{\omega_A}{\omega_B} \right) \sqrt{\frac{H_B}{H_A}} = D_A \left(\frac{\dot{n}_A}{\dot{n}_B} \right) \sqrt{\frac{H_B}{H_A}}$$

Plug in numbers:

$$\text{Similarly, } C_{Q,A} = \frac{\dot{V}_A}{\omega_A D_A^3} = C_{Q,B} = \frac{\dot{V}_B}{\omega_B D_B^3} \rightarrow \dot{V}_B = \dot{V}_A \left(\frac{\omega_B}{\omega_A} \right) \left(\frac{D_B}{D_A} \right)^3 = \dot{V}_A \left(\frac{\dot{n}_B}{\dot{n}_A} \right) \left(\frac{D_B}{D_A} \right)^3$$

Plug in numbers:

$$\text{(b) Similarly, } C_{P,A} = \frac{bhp_A}{\rho_A \omega_A^3 D_A^5} = C_{P,B} = \frac{bhp_B}{\rho_B \omega_B^3 D_B^5} \rightarrow bhp_B = bhp_A \left(\frac{\rho_B}{\rho_A} \right) \left(\frac{\dot{n}_B}{\dot{n}_A} \right)^3 \left(\frac{D_B}{D_A} \right)^5$$

Plug in numbers:

Finally, the efficiency is calculated for each turbine:

$$\eta_{\text{turbine},A} = \frac{bhp_A}{\rho_A g H_A \dot{V}_A} = \frac{220,000,000 \text{ W}}{\left(1000 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3}\right) \left(9.81 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}\right) 72.4 \text{ m} \left(335 \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{s}}\right)} \left(\frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}}{\text{W} \cdot \text{s}}\right) \left(\frac{\text{kg} \cdot \text{m}}{\text{s}^2 \cdot \text{N}}\right) =$$

$$\eta_{\text{turbine},B} = \frac{bhp_B}{\rho_B g H_B \dot{V}_B} = \frac{461,820,979 \text{ W}}{\left(1000 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3}\right) \left(9.81 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}\right) 97.4 \text{ m} \left(522.728 \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{s}}\right)} \left(\frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}}{\text{W} \cdot \text{s}}\right) \left(\frac{\text{kg} \cdot \text{m}}{\text{s}^2 \cdot \text{N}}\right) =$$