

ENGR 292 Fluids and Thermodynamics

Design a Pump and Pipe System Step 5

Supporting Docs

Feb.03, 2017

Step 5

- **Determine the Reynolds Number**
 - The behavior of a fluid, particularly with regard to energy losses, is quite dependent on whether the flow is laminar or turbulent
 - For this reason, we need a means of predicting the type of flow without actually observing it.

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Step 5

- **Determine the Reynolds Number**
 - **Laminar flow:** the flow has fairly uniform diameter and there is little or no evidence of mixing of the various parts of the flow. Smooth, Steady.
 - **Turbulent flow:** The elements of flow appear to be mixing chaotically within the flow.

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- **Determine the Reynolds Number**

Reference: <http://www-history.mcs.st-and.ac.uk/Biographies/Reynolds.html>

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- **Reynolds Number – Circular Sections:**

- Dimensionless:

$$N_R = \frac{vD\rho}{\eta} = \frac{vD}{\nu}$$

- **Dimensional analysis**

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Step 5

- **Reynolds Number – Circular Sections:**

$$N_R = \frac{vD\rho}{\eta} = \frac{vD}{\nu}$$

- Flows having large Reynolds number, typically because of high velocity and/or low viscosity, tend to be turbulent.
- Those fluids having high viscosity and/or moving at low velocities will have low Reynolds number, and will tend to be laminar.

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Step 5

- **Quantitative data to predict whether a given flow is laminar or turbulent**

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Step 5

- **Critical Reynolds Numbers (for circular cross section only)**

N_R	
$N_R < 2000$	Laminar
$2000 < N_R < 4000$	Critical region
$N_R > 4000$	Turbulent

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