

Cracow University of Technology Institute of Thermal and Process Engineering Division of Fluid Mechanics		Name and surname:	Number of classes: 16
Subject of classes: Identification of the fluid flow rate			Accademic year:
Date of execution:	Date of evaluation:	Mark:	Remarks:

1. Measurements of air flow rate using Venturi tube

Volume flow rate can be calculated using following formula:

$$Q_z = \frac{C}{\sqrt{1-\beta^4}} \cdot \varepsilon_1 \cdot \frac{\pi}{4} \cdot d^2 \cdot \sqrt{\frac{2 \cdot \Delta p_z}{\rho}} \quad (1)$$

where:

$\beta = d/D$ – Venturi tube modulus,

p_1 – total static pressure of flow in front of Venturi tube; $p_1 = p_b + p_{w1}$,

p_b – barometric pressure [Pa],

ρ – density of air – dependent on thermodynamic conditions of flow $\rho = \rho(p_1, T)$.

$$\varepsilon_1 = 1 - \left(0,41 + 0,35 \cdot \beta^4\right) \frac{\Delta p_z}{1,4 p_1} \quad (2)$$

Air density in flow conditions can be assign by application of the ideal gas equation of state – the Clapeyron equation:

$$\rho = \frac{p_1}{RT} \quad (3)$$

where:

$R = 287$ [J/kgK]- individual gas constant for air,

T – absolute temperature of air [K].

Flow correction factor $C = C(\beta, Re)$ can be assigned using Stolz formula:

$$C = 0,5959 + 0,0312 \cdot \beta^{2,1} - 0,184 \cdot \beta^8 + 0,0029 \cdot \beta^{2,5} \left(\frac{10^6}{Re}\right)^{0,75} + \\ + 0,09 \cdot \frac{25,4mm}{D} \cdot \beta^4 \cdot (1-\beta^4)^{-1} - 0,0337 \cdot \frac{25,4mm}{D} \cdot \beta^3 \quad (4)$$

Due to the fact that Reynolds number is unknown, coefficient C must be assigned using iteration method. In first iteration in this method value of C is calculated for some arbitrary chosen value of Reynolds number $Re = 50\,000$. For self-check – approximated value C in laboratory measurement condition is equal to $C = 0,628$. Reynolds number value in further iterations shall be assign using well known formula:

$$Re = \frac{4Q_z \rho}{\pi D \eta} \quad (5)$$

Dynamic viscosity of air η is a function of temperature and can be assign using Sutherland's viscosity law for the ideal gas:

$$\eta = \eta_0 \frac{273,15 + C_s}{T + C_s} \left(\frac{T}{273,15}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \quad (6)$$

where:

η_0 – dynamic viscosity in temperature equal to 273 K (for air $\eta_0 = 17,08 \cdot 10^{-6}$ [Pa·s])

C_s – Sutherland constant (for air $C_s = 112$)

Table 1. Measurement results obtained using Venturi tube

p _b = [Pa]			d = 35·mm			D = 46·mm		β =		
No.	Fan frequency	p _{w1} [mmH ₂ O]	Δp _z [mbar]	t [°C]	ρ [kg/m ³]	η [N·s/m ²]	ε ₁	Re	C	Q _z [m ³ /s]
1	.....Hz									
2	.....Hz									
3	.....Hz									
4	.....Hz									
5	.....Hz									

2. Measurements of air flow rate using elbow flowmeter (centrifugal-head flowmeter)

Shift a [mm]	Height			b = h ₂ - h ₁ [mm]	c = h ₃ - h ₁ [mm]	Measured radius R [mm]	Real radius R [mm]
	h ₁ [mm]	h ₂ [mm]	h ₃ [mm]				
20							93,5±3

The elbow bending radius R can be assign using equation (7):

$$R = \frac{\sqrt{(4 \cdot a^2 + c^2)(a^2 + b^2)(a^2 + c^2 - 2 \cdot c \cdot b + b^2)}}{2 \cdot a \cdot (c - 2 \cdot b)} - \frac{D_z}{2} \quad (7)$$

where: D_z = 50 mm – outer pipe diameter .

Volumetric flow rate of air inside the pipeline can be assigned using formula (8):

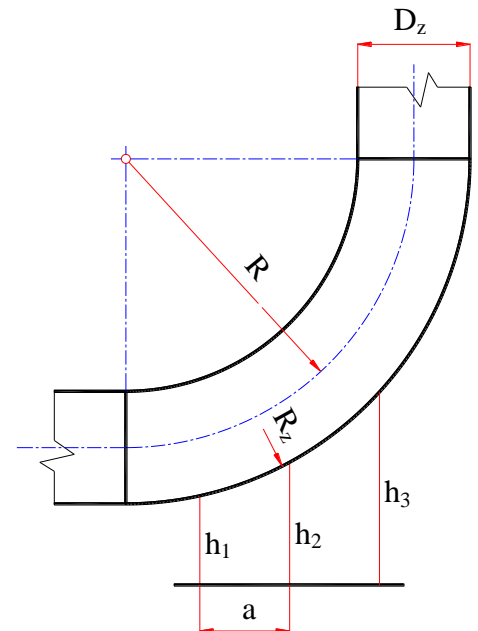
$$Q_e = KA \sqrt{\frac{R}{D} \frac{\Delta p_e}{\rho}} \quad (8)$$

where:

$$K = 1 - \frac{6,5}{\sqrt{Re}} \text{ - flow correction factor} \quad (9)$$

$$A = \frac{\pi D^2}{4} \quad (10)$$

$$Re = \frac{4Q_e \rho}{\pi D \eta} \quad (11)$$



In first iteration value of K is calculated for some arbitrary chosen value of Reynolds number, e.g. Re = 50 000. Then, Reynolds number value in further iterations shall be assign using formula (11).

Table 2. Measurement results obtained using elbow flowmeter

No.	Fan frequency	Δp _e [mbar]	Δp _e [Pa]	Re	K	Q _e [m ³ /s]
1	.....Hz					
2	.....Hz					
3	.....Hz					
4	.....Hz					
5	.....Hz					

3. Measurements of air flow rate using impact tube (Prandtl tube)

Table 3. Local flow velocity measure using Prandtl impact tube

No.	Fan frequency	v [m/s]			v _{av} [m/s]
		0,032 D =..... [mm]	0,135 D =..... [mm]	0,321 D =.....[mm]	
1	..... Hz				
2	..... Hz				
3	..... Hz				
4	..... Hz				
5	..... Hz				

Average velocity of air for each measurement series are calculated using eq. (12):

$$v_{av} = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{i=1}^3 v_i \quad (12)$$

Value of flow rate Q_p and Reynolds number Re are described by following formulas:

$$Q_p = v_{av} \frac{\pi D^2}{4} \quad (13)$$

$$Re = \frac{D \rho v_{av}}{\eta} \quad (14)$$

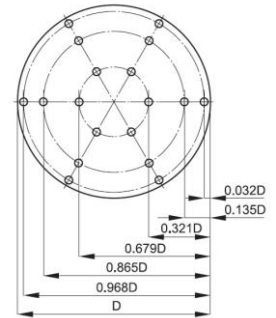


Table 4. Measurement results obtained using Prandtl impact tube

No.	Fan frequency	v _{av} [m/s]	Re	Q _p [m ³ /s]
1	.....Hz			
2	.....Hz			
3	.....Hz			
4	.....Hz			
5	.....Hz			

4. Comparison of flow rate measurement results

Assuming, that volumetric flow rate measurement performed by Venturi tube is a reference result, assign appropriate relative deviation for elbow flowmeter and Prandtl tube using eq. (15) and (16):

$$\delta Q_k = \frac{Q_z - Q_e}{Q_z} \cdot 100 [\%] \quad (15)$$

$$\delta Q_p = \frac{Q_z - Q_p}{Q_z} \cdot 100 [\%] \quad (16)$$

Table 5. Comparison study results

No.	Fan frequency	δQ_e [%]	δQ_p [%]
1	.....Hz		
2	.....Hz		
3	.....Hz		
4	.....Hz		
5	.....Hz		