

Packed Bed Solution for compressible fluids (gases)

Assume

Flow is top down from $x=0$ to $x=L$

M = mass flow rate, given as 95 kg/s

P_o = inlet pressure at $x=0$ is 1.4×10^5 Pa

P_L = outlet pressure at $x=L$, find

ρ = density of incoming gas, given as 0.5 kg/m^3

T = constant gas temperature in K, given as 800 K

A = Unrestricted cross-sectional bed area, given as $\pi \cdot 3^2 \text{ m}^2$

R = Gas Constant $0.08205/101325 \text{ Pa} \cdot \text{m}^3 / (\text{kgmol} \cdot \text{K})$

MW = Molecular weight in kg/kg mole = $\rho_o RT / P_o = 23.754 \text{ kg/kgmole}$

Solution

From equation 3.49

$$\frac{\Delta P}{L} = \frac{150\eta V_o (1-\varpi)^2}{D_p^2 \varpi^3} + \frac{1.75 \rho V_o^2 (1-\varpi)}{D_p \varpi^3}$$

note: no ρ in first term

where

$$\rho = \frac{n \cdot MW}{V} = \frac{P \cdot MW}{RT}$$

$$V_o = \frac{M}{A \cdot \rho} = \frac{MRT}{A \cdot P \cdot MW}$$

Also,

$$P' = P + \rho g(L - x)$$

$$\frac{\Delta P}{L} = -\frac{dP'}{dx} = -\left(\frac{dP}{dx} - \rho g\right)$$

so,

$$-\left(\frac{dP}{dx} - \rho g\right) = \frac{150\eta V_o(1-\varpi)^2}{D_p^2 \omega^3} + \frac{1.75\rho V_o^2(1-\varpi)}{D_p \omega^3}$$

Substituting in for ρ and V_o

$$\frac{dP}{dx} = \frac{A}{P} + BP$$

where

$$A = \left[\frac{150\eta(1-\varpi)^2 RTM}{D_p^2 \omega^3 A^* MW} + \frac{1.75(1-\varpi)M^2 RT}{D_p \omega^3 A^2 * MW} \right] \text{ (for Prob 3.10 } = 1.515 \times 10^{10} \text{ kg}^2 \cdot \text{m}^{-3} \cdot \text{s}^{-4}\text{)}$$

$$B = \frac{MW}{RT} g \quad \text{(for prob 3.10 } = -4.839 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^{-1}\text{)}$$

Therefore,

$$-\frac{dP}{\frac{A}{P} + BP} = dx$$

Integrating from $x=0$ to $x=L$ gives

Note: Use Wolfram Integrator

$$\frac{1}{2B} \ln\left(\frac{A + BP_o^2}{A + BP_L^2}\right) = L$$

Solve using Goal Seek in Excel using

$$f(P_o) = \frac{1}{2B} \ln\left(\frac{A + BP_o^2}{A + BP_L^2}\right) - L$$