



### Refrigeration and Air conditioning Engineering. 3<sup>rd</sup> year – refrigeration and Air conditioning Course

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## **Pumps selection part 2**

#### Lecture -13 -

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# Pumps operated in series:



- Centrifugal pumps are <u>rarely</u> connected in serial, but a multi-stage pump can be considered as a serial connection of single-stage pumps.
- However, single stages in multistage pumps cannot be uncoupled. If one of the pumps in a serial connection is not operating, it causes a considerable resistance to the system.
- To avoid this, a bypass with a non-return valve could be build-in, see figure 8. The head at a given flow for a serial-connected pump is found by adding the single heads vertically.



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Graph 1







### **Pump laws**

 Various pump laws show the relationships between pressure, flow rate, efficiency and power. These can be used to calculate each factor:







- Where:
- Q = volume flow rate (m<sup>3</sup>/s) rpm= revolution speed (r P = pressure developed (Pa.) W = power (W) D = diameter of the impeller (m) p = density. (kg/m<sup>3</sup>)







- Key design inputs:
- Details of fluid, for example water, glycol solution or oil.
- Design flow and return temperatures (°C)
- System mass flow rates (kg/s)
- System pressure drops (Pa)
- Ambient conditions including the surrounding air temperature (°C)





### **Design outputs:**

- Schematic of pump layout installation, mounting and pipework connections
- Schedule of pump types, flow rates, pressure and efficiencies including motor requirements, drive type and adjustment, speed control and stand by provision
- Media details, such as water/refrigerant, and temperature.
- A schedule of electricity supply requirements



# **Calculation procedure:**



- **Step I.** Calculate the index run pressure drop and total system mass flow rate.
- Step 2. Convert mass flow rate to volume flow rate in 1/s.
- Step 3. Determine system equations constant R. This can be done by substituting the required  $\Delta p$  and Q into the equation  $\Delta p = R \cdot Q^2$  and then solving for R.
- Step 4 Select a pump that will operate within the required parameters and plot the system and pump characteristics on the same graph.
- **Step 5.** Determine the operating point. Identify operating pressure and flow rate.
- **Step 6.** Calculate pump speed to achieve required values or select another pump.





- **Design tip:** With belt-driven pumps it is easy to vary the speed by changing the pulleys. If the pump is inverter- driven this can be done automatically.
- **Design tip:** If you use an additional margin with the required pressure drop to allow for differences between design pipe work layout and physical installations on site, do so carefully, as over sizing a pump will only result in excess energy usage.



Example



 A system has a volume flow rate requirement of 1 lit/s with an index run Δp = 30kPa. Find an appropriate pump from the A manufacturer's catalogue gives the following information for a centrifugal pump operating at 12 rev/s:







- Step 1 and step 2: Pressure drop and volume flow rate are available in the units required.
  Step 3. The constant R in the system characteristic curve equation can be calculated as shown below:
- $\Delta p = R.Q^2$
- $30 = R.1^2$
- R=30
- Then rewrite the equation above.
- $\Delta p = 30.Q^2$



$\Delta p = 30.Q^2$
$\Delta p = 30. \times 0.25^2 = 1.875$
$\Delta p = 30 \times 0.5^2 = 7.5$
$\Delta p = 30 \times 0.75^2 = 16.875$
$\Delta p = 30 \times 1^2 \text{=} 30$
$\Delta p = 30 \times 1.25^2 = 46.875$
$\Delta p = 30 \times 1.5^2 = 67.5$
$\Delta p = 30.1.75^2 = 91.875$

Q	$\Delta p = 30. Q^2$
0.25	1.875
0.5	7.5
0.75	16.875
1	30
1.25	46.875
1.5	67.5
1.75	91.875



 draw the pump characteristic curve using manufacturer's catalogue

Р	49.38	47·5	44·38	40	34.38	27·5	19·38
Q	0·25	0.2	0.75		I-25	I·5	l·75



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• Then on the same graph, draw the system characteristic curve, as shown bellows:



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- The intersection between the two curves gives the operating points of the system and pump.
- The operating point occurs when the two curves intersect, 1.12 lit/s at 37.5 kPa
- As 1.12 1/s is too high, the pump will need to be slowed down in order to achieve the required flow rate.





 Alternatively, a different pump may give a closer value. This is worth considering when comparing the efficiency of different pumps at different speeds and pressures.





- Required  $Q_2 = 1$  lit/s,  $\Delta p_2 = 30$  kPa
- Results  $Q_1 = 1.12 \ l/s$ ,  $\Delta p_1 = 37.5$ ,  $rpm_1 = 12$
- $\frac{Q_2}{Q_1} = \frac{rpm_2}{rpm_1}$
- $rpm_2 = rpm_1 \cdot \frac{Q_2}{Q_1} = 12 \times \frac{1}{1.12} = 10.7 rps$
- This can also be achieved by using equation (5-8) for example
- $\frac{p_2}{p_1} = \left(\frac{rpm_2}{rpm_1}\right)^2$
- $rpm_2 = rpm_1 \cdot \left(\frac{p_2}{p_1}\right)^{0.5} = 12 \times \left(\frac{30}{37.5}\right)^{0.5} = 10.7 \ rps$
- Then to get  $Q_2 = 1$  lit/s,  $\Delta p_2 = 30$  kPa, the rps should be 10.7 rps







 A functioning pump will have operating losses such belt or drive losses. The pump and system performance curves do not take this into account.







- The use of inverters to control the speed of the pump is the most efficient method of controlling and restricting the flow.
- The cost and maintenance requirements of the inverter need to be considered.
- An alternate method is to adjust a globe valve on the pump discharge side to achieve the required flow.
- However the latter method is wasteful of energy and only works if all other parameters remain constant