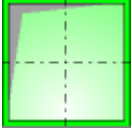




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## General Head Drop Formulations for Steady State and Incompressible Fluid Rectangular Cross-Section



### Model description:

This component model brings together the main formulas relating to the calculation of pressure drops for incompressible fluids. These formulas apply to pipes of rectangular section and for stabilized flows.

### Model formulation:

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Cross-section area (m<sup>2</sup>):

$$S = a \cdot b$$

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Cross-section perimeter (m):

$$P = 2 \cdot (a + b)$$

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Hydraulic diameter (m):

$$d_h = \frac{4 \cdot S}{P}$$

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Mean velocity (m/s):

$$V = \frac{Q_v}{S}$$

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Mass flow rate (kg/s):

$$Q_m = Q_v \cdot \rho$$

---

Reynolds number:

$$Re = \frac{V \cdot d_h}{\nu}$$

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Flow coefficient  $A_v$  (m<sup>2</sup>):

$$A_v = Q_v \cdot \sqrt{\frac{\rho}{\Delta P}}$$

or:

$$A_v = S \cdot \sqrt{\frac{2}{\zeta}}$$

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Flow coefficient  $C_v$  (gal/min US):

$$C_v = 41650 \cdot A_v$$

or:

$$C_v = Q_v_{[gpm\ US]} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{G_{[-]}}{\Delta P_{[psi]}}}$$

where:

$Q_v$  Volume flow rate (gal/min US)

$\Delta P$  Pressure loss (psi)

$G$  Specific gravity of fluid (1 for water at 60°F)

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Flow coefficient  $K_v$  (m<sup>3</sup>/h):

$$K_v = 36023 \cdot A_v$$

or:

$$K_v = Q_v_{[m^3/h]} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{G_{[-]}}{\Delta P_{[bar]}}}$$

where:

$Q_v$  Volume flow rate (m<sup>3</sup>/h)

$\Delta P$  Pressure loss (bar)

$G$  Specific gravity of fluid (1 for water at 15°C)

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Pressure loss coefficient ( $\zeta$ ):

$$\zeta = \lambda \cdot \frac{L}{d_h}$$

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Pressure loss (Pa):

$$\Delta P = \zeta \cdot \frac{\rho \cdot V^2}{2}$$

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Head loss of fluid (m):

$$\Delta h = \zeta \cdot \frac{V^2}{2 \cdot g}$$

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Hydraulic power loss (W):

$$W_h = \Delta P \cdot Q_v$$

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**Symbols, Definitions, SI Units:**

a Rectangular cross-section width (m)

b Rectangular cross-section height (m)

$d_h$	Pipe hydraulic diameter (m)
$S$	Cross-sectional perimeter (m)
$S$	Cross-sectional area (m <sup>2</sup> )
$Q_v$	Volume flow rate (m <sup>3</sup> /s)
$Q_m$	Mass flow rate (kg/s)
$V$	Mean velocity (m/s)
$Re$	Reynolds number ( )
$A_v$	Flow coefficient (m <sup>2</sup> )
$C_v$	Flow coefficient (USG/min)
$K_v$	Flow coefficient (m <sup>3</sup> /h)
$\zeta$	Pressure loss coefficient ( )
$\lambda$	Friction factor ( )
$L$	Straight length (m)
$\Delta P$	Pressure loss (Pa)
$\Delta h$	Head loss of fluid (m)
$W_h$	Hydraulic power loss (W)
$\rho$	Fluid density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )
$\nu$	Fluid kinematic viscosity (m <sup>2</sup> /s)
$g$	Gravitational acceleration (m/s <sup>2</sup> )

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**Validity range:**

- Equations for the flow coefficients  $A_v$ ,  $C_v$  and  $K_v$  are valid only for turbulent flows.

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**Example of input data and results:**

HydrauCalc 2016a - [General Head Drop Formulas]

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Fluid Mechanics - Fundamentals Applications - Cengel Cimbala (2006) - Problem 8-41 - page 388

**Fluid characteristics**

Fluid : Dry Air @ 1 atm [HC]

Ref.: P.T. Tsilingiris

Temperature : 35 °C

Pressure : 101300 Pa

Density : 1.145825 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

Dynamic viscosity : 1.89275E-05 N.s/m<sup>2</sup>

Kinematic viscosity : 1.65187E-05 m<sup>2</sup>/s

Density  Dyn. Visc.  Kin. Visc.

Divers

**General Head Drop Formulas**  
for Steady State and Incompressible Fluid

Formulation

$$\Delta P = 1/2 \cdot \zeta \cdot \rho \cdot V^2$$

$$\zeta = \lambda \cdot L / dh$$

$$Q_v = V \cdot S$$

$$S = a \cdot b$$

$$P = 2 \cdot (a + b)$$

$$dh = 4 \cdot S / P$$

$$Q_m = \rho \cdot Q_v$$

$$Re = V \cdot dh / \nu$$

$$A_v = Q_v \cdot (\rho / \Delta P)$$

$$C_v = 41650 \cdot A_v$$

$$K_v = 36023 \cdot A_v$$

$$C_v = 1.15620 \cdot K_v$$

$$\zeta = 2 \cdot S^2 / A_v^2$$

$$\Delta h = \Delta P / (\rho \cdot g)$$

$$Wh = \Delta P \cdot Q_v$$

$$\nu = \mu / \rho$$

Numerical application

- $\Delta P$  = 23.38326 Pa
- $\zeta$  = 0.8365216
- $\lambda$  = 0.02048625
- $L$  = 7 m
- $V$  = 6.985055 m/s
- $Q_v$  = 0.2095516 m<sup>3</sup>/s
- $a$  = 15 cm
- $b$  = 20 cm
- $P$  = 69.99998 cm
- $S$  = 300 cm<sup>2</sup>
- $dh$  = 17.14286 cm
- $Q_m$  = 0.2401094 kg/s
- $Re$  = 72490
- $A_v$  = 0.04638713 m<sup>2</sup>
- $C_v$  = 1932.032 USG/min
- $K_v$  = 1671.006 m<sup>3</sup>/h
- $\Delta h$  = 2.080971 m of fluid
- $Wh$  = 4.9 W

HydrauCalc

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