

Solution to Problem 274A

The pipe has an internal diameter $d = 5 \text{ cm}$, flow rate $Q = 0.05 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ and roughness ranging from $\epsilon = 0.05 \text{ mm}$ to $\epsilon = 1.0 \text{ mm}$. Water has a kinematic viscosity of $\nu = 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$. The average velocity of flow through the pipe,

$$U = \frac{Q}{\pi(d/2)^2} = \frac{0.05 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}}{\pi(0.025 \text{ m})^2} = 25.5 \text{ m/s} \quad (1)$$

The Reynolds number of the flow is

$$\text{Re} = \frac{dU}{\nu} = \frac{(0.05 \text{ m})(25.5 \text{ m/s})}{10^{-6} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}} = 1.27 \times 10^6 \quad (2)$$

The relative roughness of the new pipe

$$\frac{\epsilon}{d} = \frac{5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}}{0.05 \text{ m}} = 0.001 \quad (3)$$

From the Moody friction factor chart at $\frac{\epsilon}{d} = 0.001$ and $\text{Re} = 1.27 \times 10^6$, the friction factor $f = 0.02$. The relative roughness of the old pipe

$$\frac{\epsilon}{d} = \frac{0.001 \text{ m}}{0.05 \text{ m}} = 0.02 \quad (4)$$

From the Moody friction factor chart at $\frac{\epsilon}{d} = 0.02$ and $\text{Re} = 1.27 \times 10^6$, the friction factor $f \approx 0.048$. Since the pressure difference is linearly related to the friction factor,

$$\frac{p_{\text{old}}}{p_{\text{new}}} = \frac{0.048}{0.02} = 2.4 \quad (5)$$