# 7.3 Bernoulli and flow measurement

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 16 marks**

**KEY WORDS** Bernoulli • streamline • discharge coefficient

## Objective

Apply Bernoulli along a streamline, and turn a measured pressure difference into a flow or a speed with a venturi, an orifice and a pitot tube.

## 1 Key knowledge and worked examples

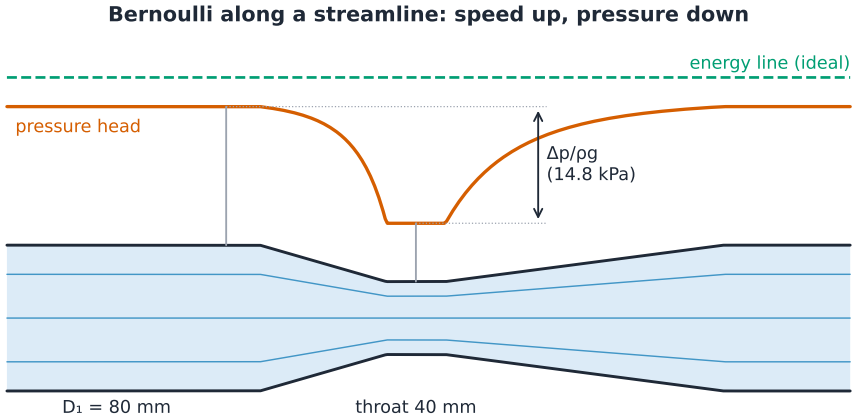
### One equation, four conditions

- **Bernoulli** along a **streamline** : $p/\rho g + V^2/2g + z$ is constant, for steady, incompressible, frictionless flow with no pump or turbine between the points.
- Venturi or orifice: $Q = C_d A_2 \sqrt{2\Delta p/(\rho(1-\beta^4))}$, $\beta = D_2/D_1$.
- The **discharge coefficient** : about 0.98 for a venturi, 0.61 for a sharp orifice.
- Pitot tube: $V = \sqrt{2\Delta p/\rho}$.

### Worked example. The venturi

80 mm pipe, 40 mm throat ($\beta = 0.5$, $1-\beta^4 = 0.9375$), $\Delta p = 14.8$ kPa.

- Throat area $A_2 = 1.257 \times 10^{-3}$ m$^2$.
- Ideal: $Q_i = A_2\sqrt{2\Delta p/(\rho(1-\beta^4))} = 1.257 \times 10^{-3}\sqrt{2 \times 14\,803/(998 \times 0.9375)} = 7.07$ L/s.
- Real: $Q = C_d Q_i = 0.98 \times 7.07 = \mathbf{6.93}$ L/s.




## 2 Practice

Water $\rho = 998$ kg/m$^3$, air $\rho = 1.204$ kg/m$^3$, $g = 9.81$ m/s$^2$.

**2.1** An open tank drains through a sharp 20 mm orifice 2.0 m below the surface. Find the ideal jet speed (two decimals, m/s) and the flow with $C_d = 0.61$ (two decimals, L/s). [4]

**2.2** A pitot-static tube in an air duct reads 300 Pa. Find the air speed (one decimal, m/s). [3]

**2.3** A venturi narrows a 100 mm pipe to a 50 mm throat and reads $\Delta p = 20$ kPa. Find the ideal flow and the real flow with $C_d = 0.98$ (two decimals, L/s). [4]

## 3 Exam-style questions

**3.1** An orifice plate with the same $\beta = 0.5$ and the same 20 kPa reading replaces the venturi of 2.3. Find its flow with $C_d = 0.61$ (two decimals, L/s). Explain in two sentences why the same reading means less flow, and why the orifice is still often chosen. [5]