

# Dimensional Analysis

These numbers tell us about the relative importance of the terms they precede in the governing equations.

Dimensionless numbers from the **Equations of Change** (*microscopic balances*)

momentum

Non-dimensional Navier-Stokes Equation

$$\left( \frac{\partial v_z^*}{\partial t^*} + \underline{v}^* \cdot \nabla^* v_z^* \right) = - \frac{\partial P^*}{\partial z^*} + \frac{1}{\text{Re}} (\nabla^{*2} v_z^*) + \frac{1}{\text{Fr}} g^*$$

Re – Reynolds  
Fr – Froude

energy

Non-dimensional Energy Equation

$$\left( \frac{\partial T^*}{\partial t^*} + \underline{v}^* \cdot \nabla^* T^* \right) = \frac{1}{\text{RePr}} (\nabla^{*2} T^*) + S^*$$

Pe – Péclet<sub>h</sub> = RePr  
Pr – Prandtl

mass

Non-dimensional Continuity Equation (species A)

$$\left( \frac{\partial x_A^*}{\partial t^*} + \underline{v}^* \cdot \nabla^* x_A^* \right) = \frac{1}{\text{ReSc}} (\nabla^{*2} x_A^*)$$

Pe – Péclet<sub>m</sub> = ReSc  
Sc – Schmidt

**Oops! This is dimensionless  $\underline{v}$ , NOT molar average velocity; sorry!**

# Dimensionless Numbers

Dimensionless numbers from the  
**Equations of Change**

$$\text{Re} - \text{Reynolds} = \frac{\rho V D}{\mu} = \frac{V D}{\nu}$$

$$\text{Fr} - \text{Froude} = \frac{V^2}{g D}$$

$$\text{Pe} - \text{Péclet}_h = \text{RePr} = \frac{\hat{C}_p \rho V D}{k} = \frac{V D}{\alpha}$$

$$\text{Pe} - \text{Péclet}_m = \text{ReSc} = \frac{V D}{\mathcal{D}_{AB}}$$

$$\text{Pr} - \text{Prandtl} = \frac{\hat{C}_p \mu}{k} = \frac{\nu}{\alpha}$$

$$\text{Sc} - \text{Schmidt} = \text{LePr} = \frac{\mu}{\rho \mathcal{D}_{AB}} = \frac{\nu}{\mathcal{D}_{AB}}$$

$$\text{Le} - \text{Lewis} = \frac{\alpha}{\mathcal{D}_{AB}}$$

These numbers tell us about the **relative importance of the terms** they precede in the microscopic balances (*scenario properties*).

These numbers compare the **magnitudes of the diffusive transport coefficients**  $\nu, \alpha, \mathcal{D}_{AB}$  (*material properties*).

**Transport coefficients**

# Dimensional Analysis

Dimensionless numbers from the **Engineering Quantities of Interest**

These numbers are defined to help us build **transport data correlations** based on the fewest number of grouped (dimensionless) variables (*scenario property*).

momentum

Dimensionless Force on the Wall (Drag)

$$f = \frac{1}{\pi L \text{Re}} \int_0^{\frac{L}{D}} \int_0^{2\pi} \left( \frac{\partial v_z^*}{\partial r^*} \right) \Big|_{r^*=\frac{1}{2}} d\theta dz^*$$

$f$  — Friction Factor  
 $\frac{L}{D}$  — Aspect Ratio

$$f = \frac{\mathcal{F}_{drag}}{\left( \frac{1}{2} \rho V^2 \right) A_c}$$

energy

Newton's Law of Cooling

$$Nu = \frac{1}{2\pi L / D} \int_0^{\frac{2\pi L}{D}} \int_0^{2\pi} \left( -\frac{\partial T^*}{\partial r^*} \right) \Big|_{r^*=\frac{1}{2}} dz^* d\theta$$

$Nu$  — Nusselt  
 $\frac{L}{D}$  — Aspect Ratio

$$Nu = \frac{hD}{k}$$

$$St_h = \frac{h}{\rho V \hat{C}_p} = \frac{Nu}{\text{RePr}}$$

mass xfer

Dimensionless Mass Transfer Coefficient

$$Sh = \frac{1}{2\pi L} \int_0^{\frac{L}{D}} \int_0^{2\pi} \left( -\frac{\partial x_A^*}{\partial r^*} \right) \Big|_{r^*=\frac{1}{2}} d\theta dz^*$$

$Sh$  — Sherwood  
 $\frac{L}{D}$  — Aspect Ratio

$$Sh = \frac{k_c D}{\mathcal{D}_{AB}}$$

$$St_m = \frac{k_c}{V} = \frac{Sh}{\text{ReSc}}$$

$St$  — Stanton

momentum  
energy  
mass

# Dimensionless Numbers

$$\text{Re} - \text{Reynolds} = \frac{\rho VD}{\mu} = \frac{VD}{\nu}$$

$$\text{Fr} - \text{Froude} = \frac{V^2}{gD}$$

$$\text{Pe} - \text{Péclet}_h = \text{RePr} = \frac{\hat{C}_p \rho VD}{k} = \frac{VD}{\alpha}$$

$$\text{Pe} - \text{Péclet}_m = \text{ReSc} = \frac{VD}{D_{AB}}$$

These numbers from the governing equations tell us about the relative importance of the terms they precede in the microscopic balances (**scenario properties**).

$$\text{Pr} - \text{Prandtl} = \frac{\hat{C}_p \mu}{k} = \frac{\nu}{\alpha}$$

$$\text{Sc} - \text{Schmidt} = \text{LePr} = \frac{\mu}{\rho D_{AB}} = \frac{\nu}{D_{AB}}$$

$$\text{Le} - \text{Lewis} = \frac{\alpha}{D_{AB}}$$

These numbers compare the magnitudes of the diffusive transport coefficients  $\nu$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $D_{AB}$  (**material properties**).

$$f - \text{Friction Factor} = \frac{F_{drag}}{\left(\frac{1}{2}\rho V^2\right)A_c}$$

$$\text{Nu} - \text{Nusselt} = \frac{hD}{k}$$

$$\text{Sh} - \text{Sherwood} = \frac{k_c D}{D_{AB}}$$

These numbers are defined to help us build transport data correlations based on the fewest number of grouped (dimensionless) variables (**scenario properties**).

$$\text{St}_h = \text{Nu}/\text{Pe}_h, \text{St}_m = \text{Sh}/\text{Pe}_m - \text{Stanton}$$