## MEBS6000 Utility Services

http://www.hku.hk/mech/msc-courses/MEBS6000/index.html


## Design of Cold and Hot Water Systems



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- Design principles
- Water demand
- Water storage
- Pipe sizing
- Pipe materials
- Pump systems
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## Design principles

- Common water supply systems

Cold water system

- Potable/fresh water
- Flushing (salt water in HK)
- Cleansing water

We will - Fire service
focus on these

- Swimming pool filtration
- Irrigation (e.g. for landscape)
- Fountain circulation
- Air-conditioning water, etc.


Hot water system (e.g. in hotels \& hospitals)

## Design principles

- Major tasks of water systems design:
- 1. Assessment \& estimation of demands
- 2. Supply scheme \& schematic
- 3. Water storage requirements
- 4. Piping layout
- 5. Pipe sizing
- 6. Pump system design
- The systems must comply with Water Authority (WSD) requirements


## Design principles

- General principles for installing plumbing works (from WSD Plumbing Installation Handbook)
- All water fittings and pipework shall comply with the relevant Waterworks Regulations
- All plumbing works shall be carried out in accordance with the Hong Kong Waterworks Requirements
- All plumbing works shall be carried out by a licensed plumber
- System main pipes should preferably not be run through the individual premises
- Also, Building (Standards of Sanitary Fitments, Plumbing, Drainage Works and Latrine) Regulations


## Design principles

- Plumbing proposal (vetted by WSD)
- A block plan in a scale of 1:1000 showing the location and boundary of the development
- The locations should be marked with datum level
- A plan showing the alignment and size of the proposed connection pipes from the main to the development
- A plan showing the proposed alignment and size of the internal underground water pipes to be laid in the development
- Vertical plumbing line diagrams


(Source: http://www.arch.hku.hk/teaching/project/f-pl.htm)


## Design principles

- Plumbing proposal (cont'd)
- A schedule containing the following items :-
- (a) number of flats/units in each block of the building
- (b) address of each premise needs individually metered water supply
- (c) number of draw-off points and sanitary fittings in each unit
- (d) estimated daily consumption for all trade purposes
- Meters arranged in meter rooms \& fittings at the meter positions
- The relevant standards for the pipe materials to be used
- Capacities of the water storage tanks e.g. roof storage tanks


## Water demand

- Water demand depends on:
- Type of building \& its function
- Number of occupants, permanent or transitional
- Requirement for fire protection systems
- Landscape \& water features
- Typical appliances using the cold water
- WC cistern, wash basin, bath, shower, sink
- Washing machine, dishwasher
- Urinal flushing cistern



## Water demand

- Theoretical framework: Probability Theory
- Based on statistics \& a binomial distribution

$$
P_{m}=\left(\frac{n!}{m!(n-m)!}\right) \times P^{m}(1-P)^{n-m}
$$

- $P_{m}=$ probability of occurrence; $n$ is the total number of fittings having the same probability and $m$ is number of fitting in use at any one time
- Probability factor of a particular no. of draw off's occurring at any one time is:
- $\mathrm{P}=(\mathrm{t}$ - time of appliance filling) $/(\mathrm{T}-$ time between successive usage of the appliance)



## Water demand

- Simultaneous demand
- Most fittings are used only at irregular intervals
- It is unlikely that all the appliances will be used simultaneously
- No need to size pipework on continuous max.
- Key factors to consider:
- Capacity of appliance (litres)
- Draw-off flow rate (l/s)
- Draw-off period, or time taken to fill appliance (sec)
- Use frequency, time between each use (sec)


## Water demand

- Loading Unit (L.U.)
- A factor given to an appliance relating the flow rate at its terminal fitting to
- Length of time in use
- Frequency of use for a particular type
- Use of building
- Evaluate the 'probable maximum'
- Relates the flow rate to the probable usage
- Also, consider design $\&$ minimum flow rates

Design flow rates and loading units

| Outlet fitting | Design flow rate <br> (l/s) | Minimum <br> flow rate (l/s) | Loading <br> units |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| WC flushing cistern single or dual flush (to <br> fill in 2 min.) | 0.13 | 0.05 | 2 |
| WC trough cistern | 0.15 per WC | 0.10 | 2 |
| Wash basin tap size $1 / 2$-DN 15 | 0.15 per tap | 0.10 | $1.5-3.0$ |
| Spray tap or spray mixer | 0.05 per tap | 0.30 | --- |
| Bidet | 0.2 per tap | 0.10 | 1 |
| Bath tap, 3/4-DN 20 | 0.30 | 0.20 | 10 |
| Bath tap, 1-DN 25 | 0.60 | 0.40 | 22 |
| Shower head (will vary with type of head) | 0.2 hot or cold | 0.10 | 3 |
| Sink tap, 1 ²-DN 15 | 0.20 | 0.10 | 3 |
| Sink tap, 3/4-DN 20 | 0.30 | 0.20 | 5 |
| Washing machine size - DN 15 | 0.2 hot or cold | 0.15 | --- |
| Dishwasher size - DN 15 | 0.15 | 0.10 | 3 |
| Urinal flushing cistern | 0.004 per position | 0.002 | --- |

(Source: Garrett, R. H., 2008. Hot and Cold Water Supply)

## Water demand

- Apply probability theory, with caution
- Assume random usage with fittings (is this true?)
- Determine max. frequencies of use
- Estimate average water usage rates \& time
- The theory is valid with large nos. of fittings
- Often expect to be exceeded at $1 \%$ time only
- Reliability and risk management (what is the consequence)
- Need to understand the context/circumstance
- Is it similar to average/typical? (* adjust data if needed)
- Any foreseeable special requirements?


## Water demand

- Design flow considerations
- A small increase in demand over design level will cause a slight reduction in pressure/flow (unlikely to be noticed by users)
- Exceptional cases, such as:
- Cleaners’ sinks (depends on one's behaviour)
- Urinal flushing cisterns (constant small flow)
- Team changing rooms at sport clubs (high demand)
- Special events (ad hoc demand)


## Water storage

- Purposes of water storage
- Provide for an interruption of supply
- Accommodate peak demand
- Provide a pressure (head) for gravity supplies
- Design factors
- Type and number of fittings
- Frequency and pattern of use
- Likelihood and frequency of breakdown of supply (often design for 12- or 24-hour reserve capacity)

Recommended minimum storage of cold and hot water systems

| Type of building | Minimum cold water <br> storage (litres) | Minimum hot water <br> storage (litres) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Hostel | 90 per bed space | 32 per bed space |
| Hotel | 200 per bed space | 45 per bed space |
| Office premises: |  |  |
| - with canteen facilities |  |  |
| - without canteen facilities | 45 per employee | 4.5 per employee |
| Restaurant | 40 per employee | 4.0 per employee |
| Day school: | 7 per meal | 3.5 per meal |
| - nursery or primary | 15 per pupil | 4.5 per pupil |
| - secondary or technical | 20 per pupil | 5.0 per pupil |
| Boarding school | 90 per pupil | 23 per pupil |
| Children's home or residential nursery | 135 per bed space | 25 per bed space |
| Nurses' home | 120 per bed space | 45 per bed space |
| Nursing or convalescent home | 135 per bed space | 45 per bed space |

Note: Minimum cold water storage shown includes that used to supply hot water outlets.

Estimation of cold water storage per occupant

| Type of building | Storage per occupant (litres) |
| :---: | :---: |
| Factories (no process) | 10 |
| Hospitals, per bed | 135 |
| Hospitals, per staff on duty | 45 |
| Hostels | 90 |
| Hotels | 135 |
| Houses and flats | 135 |
| Offices with canteens | 45 |
| Offices without canteens | 35 |
| Restaurant (* per meal) | 7 |
| Schools, boarding | 90 |
| Schools, day | 30 |

Estimation of hot water consumption

| Type of building | Consumption <br> per occupant <br> (litres/day) | Peak demand <br> per occupant <br> (litres/hr) | Storage per <br> occupant <br> (litres) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Factories (no process) | $22-45$ | 9 | 5 |
| Hospitals, general | 160 | 30 | 27 |
| Hospitals, mental | 110 | 22 | 27 |
| Hostels | 90 | 45 | 30 |
| Hotels | $90-160$ | 45 | 30 |
| Houses and flats | $90-160$ | 45 | 30 |
| Offices | 22 | 9 | 5 |
| Schools, boarding | 115 | 20 | 25 |
| Schools, day | 15 | 9 | 5 |

Fixtures water requirements (demand at individual water outlets)

| Type of fixture | Flow rate <br> (litres/min) | Minimum supply <br> pressure (kPa) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bathtub faucet | 19 | 55 |
| Bidet | 7.5 | 28 |
| Laundry machine | 15 | 55 |
| Lavatory faucet, ordinary | 7.5 | 55 |
| Lavatory faucet, self closing | 10 | 55 |
| Shower head | 19 | 55 |
| Shower, temperature controlled | 10 | 138 |
| Sink 3/8", 1/2" | 17 | 55 |
| Sink 3/4" | 23 | 55 |
| Urinal flush valve | 56 | 110 |
| Water closet with flush valve | 132 | 170 |
| Water closet with gravity tank | 10 | 55 |

Fixtures, cold water storage, hot water consumption \& flow rate

| Type of fixture | Cold water <br> storage capacity <br> (litres) | Hot water <br> consumption <br> (litre/hr) | Hot water <br> flow rate <br> (litre/s) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Basin (private) | 90 | 14 | 0.08 |
| Basin (public) | 90 | 45 | 0.08 |
| Bath | 900 | $90-180$ | 0.15 |
| Garden water tap | 180 | --- | --- |
| Shower | $450-900$ | 180 | $0.5-0.6$ |
| Sink | 90 | $45-90$ | 0.15 |
| Urinal | 180 | --- | --- |
| WC | 180 | --- | --- |

## Quantity of flushing water required

| User | Average demand |
| :---: | :---: |
| Domestic buildings | 450 litres per number of <br> required soil fitment <br> per day |
| Offices, factories, department stores, <br> shops, public buildings and other <br> nondomestic buildings of a like nature | 450 litres per number of <br> required soil fitment <br> per day |
| Restaurants | 13.5 litres per seat per day |
| Cinemas | 4.5 litres per seat per day |
| Schools | 18 litres per head per day |
| Hotels and boarding houses | 90 litres per room per day |

## Water storage

- Minimum hot water storage capacities for dwelling (from BS6700)
- 35-45 litre per occupant (unless the heat source provides a quick recovery rate)
- 100 litres for systems heated by solid fuel boilers
- 100 litres for systems heated by off-peak electricity


## Water storage

- Recovery rate and hot water storage
- Recovery period = time to heat up the stored water
- Too high a storage volume: unnecessary costs
- Inadequate storage: loads not met
- Need to consider the following factors:
- Pattern of use
- Rate of heat input to the stored water
- Recovery period for the hot water storage vessel
- Any stratification of the stored water

Typical heat input values

| Appliance | Heat input (kW) |
| :--- | :---: |
| Electric immersion heater | 3 |
| Gas-fired circulator | 3 |
| Small boiler and direct cylinder | 6 |
| Medium boiler and indirect cylinder | 10 |
| Directly gas-fired storage hot water heater (domestic type) | 10 |
| Large domestic boiler and indirect cylinder | 15 |


(a) Bottom entry heater

(b) Top entry heater Effects of stratification

(c) Twin entry heater

## Water storage

- Formula to calculate recovery period
- $M=V T /(14.3 P)$
- $M=$ time to heat the water (min.)
- $V=$ volume of water heated (litres)
- $T=$ temperature rise $\left({ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$
- $P=$ rate of heat input to the water ( kW )
- It can be applied to any pattern of use
- It ignores heat losses from storage vessel

Example: A small dwelling with one bath. Maximum requirement: 1 bath ( 60 litre at $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}+40$ litre cold water) plus 10 litre hot water at $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for kitchen use, followed by a second bath fill after 25 min . Thus, a draw-off of 70 litre at $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ is required, followed after 25 min by 100 litre at $40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, which may be achieved by mixing hot at $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ with cold at $10^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

## Answer:

1) Assume good stratification (by heating $\mathrm{w} / \mathrm{a}$ top entry heater)

With 3kW heat input, the time to heat the 60 litre for the second bath from $10^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ :

$$
M=V T /(14.3 P)=(60 \times 50) /(14.3 \times 3)=70 \mathrm{~min} .
$$

The second bath is required after 25 min ., thus it has to be form storage. But in the 25 min . the volume of water heated to $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ is:

$$
V=M(14.3) / T=(25 \times 14.3 \times 3) / 50=21 \text { litre }
$$

Therefore, the minimum required storage capacity is:
$70+60-21=\underline{109 \text { litre }}$

## Example: (Cont'd)

2) Assume good mixing of the stored water (by a primary coil in an indirect cylinder)

After the first bath \& kitchen use, the heat energy in the 70 litre replacement at $10^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ equals the heat energy of the water in the full cylinder. If $V$ is the min. size of the storage and $T$ is the water temperature in the cylinder after refilling:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& (V-70) \times 60+(70 \times 10)=V T \\
& T=(60 V-4200+700) / V \quad \text { or } \quad T=60-3500 / V
\end{aligned}
$$

The second bath is required after 25 min . With 3 kW heat input:

$$
25=V T /(14.3 \times 3)
$$

and temperature rise $T=(25 \times 14.3 \times 3) / V=1072.5 / V$
A temperature of at least $40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ is required to run the second bath. Therefore the water temperature of the refilled cylinder after the first draw-off, plus the temperature rise after 25 min., must be at $40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, or:

$$
\begin{gathered}
(60-3500 / V)+(1072.5 V)=40(\text { or more }) \\
60-2427.5 / V=40
\end{gathered}
$$

(Source: Garrett, R. H., 2008. Hot and Cold Water Supply)

$$
V=\underline{122 \text { litre }}
$$

Hot water storage vessel - minimum capacities

| Heat input <br> for water <br> (kW) | Dwelling with 1 bath |  | Dwelling with 2 baths* |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | With <br> stratification <br> litres | With <br> mixing <br> litres | With <br> stratification <br> litres | With <br> mixing <br> litres |
| 3 | 109 | 122 | 165 | 260 |
| 6 | 88 | 88 | 140 | 200 |
| 10 | 70 | 70 | 130 | 130 |
| 15 | 70 | 70 | 120 | 130 |

Note: * Maximum requirement of 150 litre drawn off at $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}(2$ baths plus 10 litre for kitchen use) followed by a further bath (100 litre at $40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ) after 30 min .

## Pipe sizing

## 而

- Correct pipe sizes will ensure adequate flow rates at appliances and avoid problems, e.g.
- Oversizing
- Additional \& unnecessary installation costs
- Delays in obtaining hot water at outlets
- Increased heat losses from hot water pipes
- Undersizing
- Inadequate delivery from outlets
- Some variation in temperature \& pressure at outlets (e.g. showers and other mixers)
- Some increase in noise levels
- For small, simple installations, pipes are often sized based on experience \& convention


## 1 m head $=9.81 \mathrm{kPa}$ <br> $=98.1 \mathrm{mbar}$

Available head (from cistern) = vertical distance in metres from water line in cistern to point under consideration

Available head (mains supply) = head at main minus height above main
$=20 \mathrm{~m}-4 \mathrm{~m}$
$=16 \mathrm{~m}$ head

- at the water main
- from the storage cistern
- at point of delivery


(b) available head (pressure)
e.g. 20 m head

- through pipe under consideration
- at point of delivery
(c) resistance to flow through pipes, valves and fittings


## Pipe sizing

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- Pipe sizing procedure
- (a) Assume a pipe diameter
- (b) Determine the flow rate:
- 1) by using loading units
- 2) for continuous flow
-3) obtain the design flow rate by adding 1 ) and 2 )
- (c) Determine the effective pipe length:
- 4) work out the measured pipe length
-5) work out the equivalent pipe length for fittings
-6) work out the equivalent pipe length for draw-offs
- 7) obtain the effective pipe length by adding 4), 5) \& 6)


## Pipe sizing



- Pipe sizing procedure (cont’d)
- (d) Calculate the permissible loss of head:
- 8) determine the available head
- 9) determine the head loss per metre run through pipes
- 10) determine the head loss through fittings
- 11) calculate the permissible head loss
- (e) Determine the pipe diameter:
- 12) decide whether the assumed pipe size will give the design flow rate in 3) without exceeding the permissible head loss in 11)
- Usually, flow velocities shall be $<3 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{s}$


Example of use of loading units

Assumed pipe diameter 20 mm .


Note There is no need to consider both branch pipes to taps.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Measured pipe length }=4.75 \mathrm{~m} \\
& \text { Equivalent pipe lengths: } \\
& \text { elbows } 2 \times 0.8=1.6 \mathrm{~m} \\
& \text { tee } 1 \times 1.0=1.0 \mathrm{~m} \\
& \text { stopvalve } 1 \times 7.0=7.0 \mathrm{~m} \\
& \text { taps } \\
& \text { check valves } 2 \times 3.7=7.4 \mathrm{~m} \\
& \text { Effective pipe length }=8.6 \mathrm{~m} \\
& \hline \text { E.35 m }
\end{aligned}
$$

Equivalent pipe lengths (copper, stainless steel and plastics)

(Source: Garrett, R. H., 2008. Hot and Cold Water Supply)

Pressure at taps 45 m head


Flow rate for 2 taps $0.4 \mathrm{l} / \mathrm{s}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
\text { Permissible head loss } & =\frac{\text { available head }(45 \mathrm{~m})}{\text { effective pipe length }(30.55 \mathrm{~m})} \\
& =1.48 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{m} \text { run }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Example of permissible head loss


$j$ is hydraulic gradient

Maximum recommended flow velocities

| Water temperature <br> $\left({ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ | Flow velocity (m/s) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Pipes readily <br> accessible | Pipes not readily <br> accessible |
| 10 | 3.0 | 2.0 |
| 50 | 3.0 | 1.5 |
| 70 | 2.5 | 1.3 |
| 90 | 2.0 | 1.0 |

Note: Flow velocities should be limited to reduce system noise.

## Pipe sizing

Pipe sizing \& design using tabular methods

- Systematic way to design
- Can also be done using spreadsheet or computer

Table D. 4 Example of pipe sizing calculations for cold water services

| Pipe reference | Flow rate |  | Pipe | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Velocity } \\ & v \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Head } \\ & \text { loss } R \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Drop + } \\ & \text { Rise - } \end{aligned}$ | Availablehead$(7+14)$ | Pipe length |  | Head loss |  |  | Residual |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | Design |  |  |  |  |  | Actual | Effective | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Pipe } \\ & (10 \times 6) \end{aligned}$ | Valves ${ }^{\text {A) }}$ | Total $(11+12)$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Available } \\ & (8-13) \end{aligned}$ | Fitting type | Required | Surplus |
| m | LU | 1/s | DN | m/s | kPa/m | kPa | kPa | m | m | kPa | kPa | kPa | kPa |  | kPa | kPa |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| Main service pipe - for this example the minimum head in main $=300 \mathrm{kPa}$ ( 3 bar ) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 to 2 | $9+$ list | $\begin{aligned} & 0.6+0.3 \\ & 0.9 \end{aligned}$ | 28 | 1.7 | 1.4 | -50 | 250 | 25 | 35 | 49 | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \mathrm{SV} \\ & =21 \end{aligned}$ | 70 | 180 |  |  |  |
| 2 to 3 | $6+$ list | $\begin{aligned} & 0.4+0.2 \\ & 0.6 \end{aligned}$ | 22 | 2.0 | 2.5 | -30 | 150 | 3 | 4.2 | 11 |  | 11 | 139 |  |  |  |
| 3 to 4 | $3+$ list | $\begin{aligned} & 0.2+0.1 \\ & 0.3 \end{aligned}$ | 15 | 2.2 | 5 | -30 | 109 | 3 | 4.2 | 21 |  | 21 | 88 |  |  |  |
| 4to 5 | $3+$ list | 0.3 | 15 | 2.2 | 5 | +10 | 98 | 1 | 1.4 | 7 | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{SV}= \\ & 18 \end{aligned}$ | 25 | 73 |  |  |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & 5 \text { to } 6 \\ & 5 \text { to } 7 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 0.2 \\ & 0.1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 15 \\ & 15 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1.5 \\ & 0.75 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.3 \\ & 0.6 \end{aligned}$ | +10 -5 | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 83 \\ & 68 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 6 \\ & 1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 8.4 \\ & 1.4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 20 \\ 1 \end{array}$ |  | $\begin{array}{r} 20 \\ 1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 63 \\ & 67 \end{aligned}$ | sink float valve ( $5 \mathrm{~mm} \phi$ ) | 5 30 | $\begin{aligned} & 58 \\ & 37 \end{aligned}$ |

## Pipe sizing

- Pipe sizing for hot water systems
- The same as cold water, except cold feed pipe must also be considered
- Useful formulae for pipes:
- Thomas Box formula

$$
q=\sqrt{\frac{d^{5} \times H}{25 \times L \times 10^{5}}}
$$

- See example
- Relative discharging power
- See example

$$
N=\sqrt{\left(\frac{D}{d}\right)^{5}}
$$

Example: Determine the pipe size using Thomas Box formula.


$$
q=\sqrt{\frac{d^{5} \times H}{25 \times L \times 10^{5}}}
$$

where $d=$ pipe diameter (mm)
$q=$ flow rate (l/s)
$H=$ head or pressure (m)
$L=$ effective length of pipe (actual length + allowance for bends, tees, etc.)

Answer: Using Thomas Box formula,

$$
d=\sqrt[5]{\frac{(1)^{2} \times 25 \times 20 \times 10^{5}}{3}}=\underline{\mathbf{2 7 . 8 3} \mathrm{mm}}
$$

Hence, the nearest commercial size is 32 mm bore steel or 35 mm outside diameter copper.

## Example: Relative discharge of pipes

$$
N=\sqrt{\left(\frac{D}{d}\right)^{5} \quad \begin{aligned}
\text { where } \mathrm{N} & =\text { number of short branch pipes } \\
D & =\text { diameter of main pipe (mm) } \\
d & =\text { diameter of short branch pipes (mm) }
\end{aligned}}
$$

(a) The number of 32 mm short branch that can be served from 150 mm main.

Answer: $\quad N=\sqrt{\left(\frac{150}{32}\right)^{5}}=47$
(b) The size of water main required to supply 15 nos. 20 mm short branch pipes.

Answer:

$$
D=d \times \sqrt[5]{N^{2}}=20 \times \sqrt[5]{15^{2}}=59
$$

Hence, the nearest commercial size is 65 mm .

## Pipe materials

Design \& selection factors:

- Effect on water quality
- Cost, service life and maintenance needs
- For metallic pipes, internal and external corrosion
- Compatibility of materials
- Ageing, fatigue and temperature effects, especially in plastics
- Mechanical properties and durability
- Vibration, stress or settlement
- Internal water pressure


## Pipe materials

- Commonly used pipe materials, such as:
- Copper (BS EN 1057)
- Galvanised iron (GI) with PVC-C lining (BS 1387)
- PVC, unplasticized PVC, PB, PE, PE-X
- Stainless steel (BS 4127)
- Ductile iron (BS EN 545) (for pipe dia. > 80 mm )
- Mild steel (for pipe dia. > 600 mm )
-     * Plastic material generally will degrade on prolonged exposure to ultra-voilet light


Copper pipe


Polyethylene pipe


Lined galvanized steel pipe


Rusty unlined galvanized steel pipe

Common pipe materials in fresh water plumbing systems

| Pipe Material | Cold <br> Water | Hot <br> Water | Standards |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :--- |
| Copper | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | BS EN 1057 |
| Ductile iron | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | BS EN 545 |
| Galvanised iron (GI) with PVC-C lining | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | BS 1387 |
| GI with PVC-U/PE lining | $\checkmark$ | X | BS 1387 |
| Polybutylene (PB)* | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | BS 7291 |
| Polyethylene (PE)* | $\checkmark$ | X | BS 6572 (below <br> ground) |
|  | $\checkmark$ | X | BS 6730 (above <br> ground) |
|  | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | BS 7291 |
| Unplasticized polyvinyl chloride (PVC- <br> U) | $\checkmark$ | X | BS 3505 Class D or <br> above |
| Crosslinked polyethylene (PE-X) | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | BS 7291 |
| Stainless steel | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | BS 4127 |

(Source: Water Supplies Department, www.wsd.gov.hk)

## Pipe materials

- Classification of pipe materials
- Metallic
- Copper
- Stainless steel
- Thermoplastics
- PVC-U, PVC-C
- Polyethylene (PE)
- Medium Density Polyethylene (MDPE)
- High Density Polyethylene (HDPE)
- Crosslinked Polyethylene (PEX)


## Pipe materials

- Classification of pipe materials (cont’d)
- Thermoplastics (cont'd)
- Polybutylene (PB)
- Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (ABS)
- Composite
- Lined galvanised steel
- Crosslinked Polyethylene/Aluminium/Crosslinked Polyethylene Composite Pressure Pipe (PEX-AL-PEX)
- High Density Polyethylene/Alumnium/ High Density Polyethylene (HDPE-AL-HDPE)


## Pipe materials

- Copper pipes (BS EN 1057)
- Advantages:
- High pressure capability
- Good formability
- Good corrosion resistance
- High strength \& durability to withstand external loading
- Ease of jointing (compression \& capillary joints)
- Smooth surface: low resistance to water flow
- Suitable for conveying hot water
- Disadvantages:
- Soft water can cause internal corrosion attack (give rise to 'blue’ water)


## Pipe materials

- Stainless steel (BS 4127)
- Advantages:
- High pressure capability
- Good corrosion resistance
- High strength \& durability
- Ease of jointing
- Good resistance to accidental damage
- Suitable for conveying hot water
- Disadvantage:
- More expensive than copper


## Pipe materials

- Lined galvanised steel
- PVC-U/PVC-C/Polyethylene or epoxy resin lined
- Advantages:
- Good resistance to internal corrosion \& encrustation
- Smooth surface: lower resistance to water flow
- Can be used in vulnerable conditions e.g. exposure to direct sunlight \& traffic loads
- Readily compatible with existing commonly used unlined steel pipe
- Disadvantages:
- Heavy weight
- Susceptible to impact damage (great care in handling)
- Higher skills required for cutting, threading, jointing


## Pipe materials

- PVC-U (BS 3505 Class D)
- Advantages:
- Good corrosion resistance
- Light weight, low cost
- Ease of jointing
- Smooth surface: low resistance to water flow
- Not a conductor of electricity (no galvanic/oxidative corrosion)
- Disadvantages:
- Brittle, susceptible to impact damage
- Long drying time of solvent cement in jointing
- Low abrasion resistance
- Permeation/degradation by certain organic contaminants
- UV degradation on prolonged exposure to sunlight
- Not suitable for hot water supply


## Pipe materials

- PVC-C (BS 7291)
- Advantages:
- Suitable for conveying hot water
- Good corrosion resistance \& chemical resistance
- Light weight
- Smooth surface: low resistance to water flow
- Not a conductor of electricity (no galvanic/oxidative corrosion)
- Can be connected to other materials easily
- Disadvantages:
- Brittle, susceptible to impact damage
- Long drying time of solvent cement in jointing
- Can be flammable
- Reduction in strength \& rigidity with increase of temperature
- Permeation/degradation by certain organic contaminants
- Can be attacked by detergents \& oxidizing agents
- UV degradation on prolonged exposure to sunlight


## Pipe materials

- MDPE (BS 7291)
- Advantages:
- Good corrosion resistance
- Good formability
- Light weight
- Fusion \& mechanical joint available
- Smooth surface: low resistance to water flow
- Strong \& tough
- Flexible \& durable, light \& easy to handle
- Good resistance to impact
- Disadvantages:
- Fusion jointing requires skilled installers \& special equipment
- Subject to creep
- Strength decrease with time (at a very slow rate)
- UV degradation on prolonged exposure to sunlight
- Permeation/degradation by certain inorganic \& organic contaminants


## Pipe materials

- Jointing of pipes
- Copper pipes
- Capillary solder or brazed joints
- Autogenous welding
- Compression, push, press/crimp fittings
- Steel pipes
- Screwed joints, with pipe threads
- Flange joints (screwed or welded flanges)
- Stainless steel pipes
- Compression, capillary, push, press/crimp fittings (but not joined by soft soldering)


## Pipe materials

- Jointing of pipes (cont'd)
- Unplasticized PVC pipes
- Mechanical joints
- Compression joints
- Solvent cement welded joints
- Flange joints
- Polyethylene (PE) \& polybutylene (PB) pipes
- Mechanical joints (e.g. push-fit), thermal fusion
- Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (ABS) pipes
- Similar to PVC-U pipes


## Pump systems

- Centrifugal pumps are commonly used
- Vertical and horizontal
- Single \& multiple stages
- Two types of systems:
- Closed systems
- Recirculation
- Open systems
- Open to atmosphere


Main characteristics of centrifugal \& positive displacement pumps

## Centrifugal pumps $\quad$ Positive displacement pumps

- Capacity varies with head
- Capacity proportional to pump speed
- Head proportional to the square of pump speed
- Non self-priming
- Suitable for low-viscosity liquid
- Capacity substantially independent of head
- Capacity proportional to
speed
- Self-priming
- Suitable for various liquids
(reduced speeds usually necessary for high viscosity


Pump pressure effects in an open system

## Pump systems

- Pump considerations
- Practical suction lift is 5 m maximum
- Also known as net positive suction head (NPSH)
- Pump location is important for both closed and open systems
- Open system: not excessive to avoid cavitation
- Close system: Influence water level of open vent pipe \& the magnitude of antiflash margin (temp. difference between water \& its saturation temp.)
- 'Self-priming' to evacuate air from suction line


## Pump systems

- Pump characteristics
- Characteristics curves (e.g. from catalogue):
- Total head
- Power
- efficiency
- No-flow conditions (flow = zero)
- Close valve pressure
- Need to prevent over-heat
- Pump power (W) = flow (L/s) x pressure (kPa)

Maximum generated head, closed valve position


## Pump

 characteristics curves (centrifugal)
(Source: ASHRAE HVAC Systems and Equipment Handbook 2004)


Characteristic curves for pump models
(Source: Fundamentals of Water System Design)


Selected pump pressure-capacity curve
(Source: Fundamentals of Water System Design)

## Pump systems

- Pump characteristics (cont’d)
- Pumps with steep characteristics
- Change in pressure -> small change in flow rate
- Useful where pipes tend to scale up
- Pumps with flat characteristics
- Change in flow -> small change in pressure
- Useful where extensive hydraulic balancing is needed



## Pump systems

- Pump characteristics (cont’d)
- Pumps with constant speed cannot respond to changes in load
- Require a bypass to ensure constant flow
- Variable speed pumps
- Provides for savings in pumping costs during partial load
- Pump materials to suit the environment, e.g. stainless steel pumps for salt water system


## Other considerations

- Noise \& vibration
- Pipe noise
- Pipe should not be fixed rigidly to lightweight panels
- Flow noise
- Keep velocities under control
- Pump noise
- Use rubber hose isolators, resilient inserts, acoustic filters


## Other considerations

- Water hammer
- Such as when a valve is closed rapidly
- Pulsating type of noise by shock waves
- Preventive measures:
- Prevent sudden closing of the valve
- Absorb pressure peaks (e.g. by pneumatic vessels)
- Increase the attenuation of pressure waves when transmitted through the pipework
- Design the pipework to avoid long straight pipe runs
- Restrict water velocities (e.g. to a maximum of $3 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{s}$ )


## Other considerations

- Back siphonage
- Occur when water mains pressure reduce greatly
- Contamination of water may happen
- Contamination might also occur due to gravity \& backpressure backflow
- Anti-siphonage device and design precautions


## Other considerations

- Water economy \& energy conservation
- Economy of water
- A key factor in the design (to conserve water)
- Measures:
- Detect water leakage
- Reduce water consumption
- Reuse or recycle water
- Energy conservation
- Insulation of hot water pipe, fittings \& vessels
- Use of fresh water for cooling tower make-up


## Other considerations

- Water efficiency labelling scheme will be launched in HK soon
- Water saving devices
- Low-flow showerheads
- Taps with flow restrictors

- Flow control valves
- Washing machines \& dish-washers with high water efficiency
- Water plugs, self-closing taps, spray taps, aerators, etc.


## Other considerations

- Water conservation (flushing water)
- Low-water and pressure flushing cisterns
- Dual-flush toilet cisterns
- Urinal controls
- Water reuse and recycling
- Rainwater reuse/recycling
- Grey water recycling


