

Problem 1. Determine the capillary depression of mercury in a 4 mm ID glass

Tube. Assume surface tension as 0.45 N/m and $\beta = 115^\circ$.

The specific weight of mercury = $13550 \times 9.81 \text{ N/m}^3$, Equating the surface force and the pressure force, $[h \times \gamma \times \pi D^2/4] = [\pi \times D \times \sigma \times \cos \beta]$, Solving for h ,

$$h = \{4 \times \sigma \times \cos \beta\} / \{\gamma \times D\} = [4 \times 0.45 \times \cos 115] / [13550 \times 9.81 \times 0.004]$$

$$= -1.431 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m or } -1.431 \text{ mm, (depression)}$$

Problem 2. *A glass tube of 8 mm ID is immersed in a liquid at 20°C. The specific weight of the liquid is 20601 N/m³. The contact angle is 60°. Surface tension is 0.15 N/m.*

Calculate the capillary rise and also the radius of curvature of the meniscus.

$$\text{Capillary rise, } h = \{4 \times \sigma \times \cos \beta\} / \{\gamma \times D\} = \{4 \times 0.15 \times \cos 60\} / \{20601 \times 0.008\}$$

$$= 1.82 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m or } 1.82 \text{ mm.}$$

The meniscus is a doubly curved surface with **equal radius** as the section is circular

$$P_i - P_o = \sigma \times \left\{ \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right\} = 2 \sigma / R$$

$$R = 2\sigma / (P_i - P_o), (P_i - P_o) = \text{specific weight} \times h$$

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$$\text{So, } R = [2 \times 0.15] / [1.82 \times 10^{-3} \times 2060] = 8 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m or } 8 \text{ mm.}$$

Problem 3. *A mercury column is used to measure the atmospheric pressure. The height of column above the mercury well surface is 762 mm. The tube is 3 mm in dia. The contact angle is 140°. Determine the true pressure in mm of mercury if surface tension is 0.51 N/m. The space above the column may be considered as vacuum. In this case capillary depression is involved and so the true pressure = mercury column + capillary depression.*

The specific weight of mercury = $13550 \times 9.81 \text{ N/m}^3$, equating forces,

$$[h \times \gamma \times \pi D^2/4] = [\pi \times D \times \sigma \times \cos \beta].$$

So

$$h = \{4 \times \sigma \times \cos \beta\} / \{\gamma \times D\}$$

$$h = (4 \times 0.51) \times \cos 140 / [13550 \times 9.81 \times 0.003]$$

$$= -3.92 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m or } -3.92 \text{ mm, (depression)}$$

Hence actual pressure indicated = $762 + 3.92 = 765.92 \text{ mm}$ of mercury.

Problem 4. A hollow cylinder of 150 mm OD with its weight equal to the buoyant forces is to be kept floating vertically in a liquid with a surface tension of 0.45 N/m^2 . The contact angle is 60° . Determine the additional force required due to surface tension.

In this case a capillary rise will occur and this requires an additional force to keep the cylinder floating.

$$\text{Capillary rise, } h = \{4 \times \sigma \times \cos \beta\} / \{\gamma \times D\}.$$

As

$$(P_i - P_o) = h \times \text{specific weight, } (P_i - P_o) = \{4 \times \sigma \times \cos \beta\} / D$$

$$(P_i - P_o) = \{4 \times 0.45 \times \cos 60\} / \{0.15\} = 6.0 \text{ N/m}^2$$

$$\text{Force} = \text{Area} \times (P_i - P_o) = \{\pi \times 0.15^2 / 4\} \times 6 = 0.106 \text{ N}$$

As the immersion leads to additional buoyant force the force required to keep the cylinder floating will be double this value.

$$\text{So the additional force} = 2 \times 0.106 = \mathbf{0.212 \text{ N.}}$$