

A few useful relations for fluidics

Send an email to jonas.tegenfeldt@ftf.lth.se if you find any errors!

Einstein relation (for sphere, radius a):
$$D = \frac{k_B T}{f} = \frac{k_B T}{6\pi\eta a}$$

At room temperature we have
$$k_B T = 4 \cdot 10^{-21} \text{ J}$$

$$\eta = 10^{-3} \text{ kg m}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$D = \frac{k_B T}{f} = \frac{k_B T}{6\pi\eta a} = 2.12 \cdot 10^{-13} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1} \frac{1 \mu\text{m}}{a}$$

For n-dimensional diffusion we have
$$\langle r^2 \rangle = 2nDt$$

Object	Diffusion coefficient [$\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$]	Time to diffuse in 1D		
		1 μm	1 mm	1 m
Water molecule	2.4 10^{-9}	0.2 ms	200 s	7 yrs
10nm radius bead	2.1 10^{-11}	20 ms	6 hrs	700 yrs
100nm radius bead	2.1 10^{-12}	0.2 s	60 hrs	7000 yrs
1 μm radius bead	2.1 10^{-13}	2 s	1 month	70000 yrs

Pressure driven flow
$$Q = \frac{\Delta p}{R}, \quad v = \frac{\Delta p}{A R}$$

Flow resistance for a shallow slot with $w \gg h$
$$R = \frac{12\eta L}{wh^3}$$

Flow resistance for a cylinder
$$R = \frac{8\eta L}{\pi r^4}$$

So that for a cylinder and a shallow slot the velocities are

$$v_{\text{cylinder}} = \frac{\Delta p}{8\eta L} r^2, \quad v_{\text{slot}} = \frac{\Delta p}{12\eta L} h^2$$

A few examples for water at room temperature $T=25^\circ\text{C}$ in a cylinder that is $L=1\text{mm}$ long.

Radius	VELOCITY [length/time]			FLOW [volume/time]		
	10mBar	100mBar	1Bar	10mBar	100mBar	1Bar
10nm	10nm/s	100nm/s	1 μm /s	0.2 aL/min	2 aL/min	20 aL/min
100nm	1 μm /s	10 μm /s	100 μm /s	2 fL/min	20 fL/min	0.2 pL/min
1 μm	100 μm /s	1mm/s	10mm/s	20 pL/min	0.2 nL/min	2 nL/min
10 μm	10mm/s	100mm/s	1m/s	0.2 μL /min	2 μL /min	20 μL /min
100 μm	1m/s	10m/s	100m/s	2 mL/min	20mL/min	0.2 L/min

The Reynolds number is the ratio between inertial forces and viscous forces.

$$\text{Re} = \frac{v\rho L}{\eta}$$

The Reynolds for water at room temperature $T=25^\circ\text{C}$

Velocity	Channel diameter			
	1 μm	10 μm	100 μm	1mm
100 $\mu\text{m/s}$	10^{-4}	10^{-3}	0.01	0.1
1mm/s	10^{-3}	0.01	0.1	1
10mm/s	0.01	0.1	1	10
100mm/s	0.1	1	10	100
1m/s	1	10	100	1000

Inertia dominates for $\text{Re} \gg 1$ and viscosity dominates for $\text{Re} \ll 1$

As of rule of thumb we have the following, although the exact limits are debated:

Laminar flow for $\text{Re} < 30$

Turbulent flow for $\text{Re} > 2000$