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## Unit 5 - POWER TRANSMITTING TURBO MACHINES

### Application and general theory

A fluid machine is a device which converts the energy stored by a fluid into mechanical energy or *vice versa*. The energy stored by a fluid mass appears in the form of potential, kinetic and intermolecular energy. The mechanical energy, on the other hand, is usually transmitted by a rotating shaft. Machines using liquid (mainly water, for almost all practical purposes) are termed as hydraulic machines. In this chapter we shall discuss, in general, the basic fluid mechanical principle governing the energy transfer in a fluid machine and also a brief description of different kinds of hydraulic machines along with their performances. Discussion on machines using air or other gases is beyond the scope of the chapter.

### CLASSIFICATION OF FLUID MACHINES

The fluid machines may be classified under different categories as follows:

#### Classification Based on Direction of Energy Conversion.

The device in which the kinetic, potential or intermolecular energy held by the fluid is converted in the form of mechanical energy of a rotating member is known as a *turbine*. The machines, on the other hand, where the mechanical energy from moving parts is transferred to a fluid to increase its stored energy by increasing either its pressure or velocity are known as *pumps, compressors, fans or blowers*.

#### Classification Based on Principle of Operation

The machines whose functioning depend essentially on the change of volume of a certain amount of fluid within the machine are known as *positive displacement machines*. The word positive displacement comes from the fact that there is a physical displacement of the boundary of a certain fluid mass as a closed system. This principle is utilized in practice by the reciprocating motion of a piston within a cylinder while entrapping a certain amount of fluid in it. Therefore, the word reciprocating is commonly used with the name of the machines of this kind. The machine producing mechanical energy is known as reciprocating engine while the machine developing energy of the fluid from the mechanical energy is known as reciprocating pump or reciprocating compressor.

The machines, functioning of which depend basically on the principle of fluid dynamics, are known as *rotodynamic machines*. They are distinguished from positive displacement machines in requiring relative motion between the fluid and the moving part of the machine. The rotating element of the machine usually consisting of a number of vanes or blades is known as rotor or impeller while the fixed part is known as stator. Impeller is the heart of rotodynamic machines, within which a change of angular momentum of fluid occurs imparting torque to the rotating member.

For turbines, the work is done by the fluid on the rotor, while, in case of pump, compressor, fan or blower, the work is done by the rotor on the fluid element. Depending upon the main direction of fluid path in the rotor, the machine is termed as *radial flow or axial flow machine*. In radial flow machine, the main direction of flow in the rotor is radial while in axial flow machine, it is axial. For radial flow turbines, the flow is towards the centre of the rotor, while, for pumps and compressors, the flow is away from the centre. Therefore, radial flow turbines are sometimes referred to as *radially inward flow machines* and radial flow pumps as *radially outward flow machines*. Examples of such machines are the Francis turbines and the centrifugal pumps or compressors. The examples of axial flow machines are Kaplan turbines and axial flow compressors. If the flow is partly radial and partly axial, the term *mixed-flow machine* is used. Figure 5.1 (a) (b) and (c) are the schematic diagrams of various types of impellers based on the flow direction.

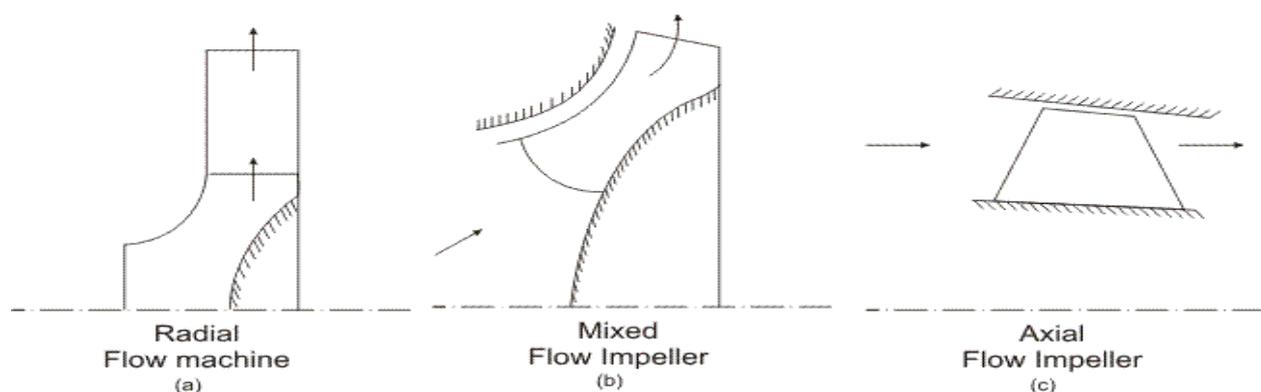


Fig. 5.1 Schematic of different types of impellers

### Classification Based on Fluid Used

The fluid machines use either liquid or gas as the working fluid depending upon the purpose. The machine transferring mechanical energy of rotor to the energy of fluid is termed as a pump when it uses liquid, and is termed as a compressor or a fan or a blower, when it uses gas. The compressor is a machine where the main objective is to increase the static pressure of a gas. Therefore, the mechanical energy held by the fluid is mainly in the form of pressure energy. Fans or blowers, on the other hand, mainly cause a high flow of gas, and hence utilize the mechanical energy of the rotor to increase mostly the kinetic energy of the fluid. In these machines, the change in static pressure is quite small.

For all practical purposes, liquid used by the turbines producing power is water, and therefore, they are termed *as water turbines or hydraulic turbines*. Turbines handling gases in practical fields are usually referred to as *steam turbine, gas turbine, and air turbine* depending upon whether they use steam, gas (the mixture of air and products of burnt fuel in air) or air.

### **Torque ratio, speed ratio, slip and efficiency**

### **ROTODYNAMIC MACHINES**

In this section, we shall discuss the basic principle of rotodynamic machines and the performance of different kinds of those machines. The important element of a rotodynamic machine, in general, is a rotor consisting of a number of vanes or blades. There always exists a relative motion between the rotor vanes and the fluid. The fluid has a component of velocity and hence of momentum in a direction tangential to the rotor. While flowing through the rotor, tangential velocity and hence the momentum changes.

The rate at which this tangential momentum changes corresponds to a tangential force on the rotor. In a turbine, the tangential momentum of the fluid is reduced and therefore work is done by the fluid to the moving rotor. But in case of pumps and compressors there is an increase in the tangential momentum of the fluid and therefore work is absorbed by the fluid from the moving rotor.

### **FLUID COUPLING AND TORQUE CONVERTER,**

### **Impulse and Reaction Machines**

For an impulse machine  $R = 0$ , because there is no change in static pressure in the rotor. It is difficult to obtain a radial flow impulse machine, since the change in centrifugal head is obvious there. Nevertheless, an impulse machine of radial flow type can be conceived by having a change in static head in one direction contributed by the centrifugal effect and an equal change in the other direction contributed by the change in relative velocity. However, this has not been established in practice. Thus for an axial flow impulse machine. For an impulse machine, the rotor can be made open, that is, the velocity  $V_1$  can represent an open jet of fluid flowing through the rotor, which needs no casing. A very simple example of an impulse machine is a paddle wheel rotated by the impingement of water from a stationary nozzle as shown in Fig.2.1a.

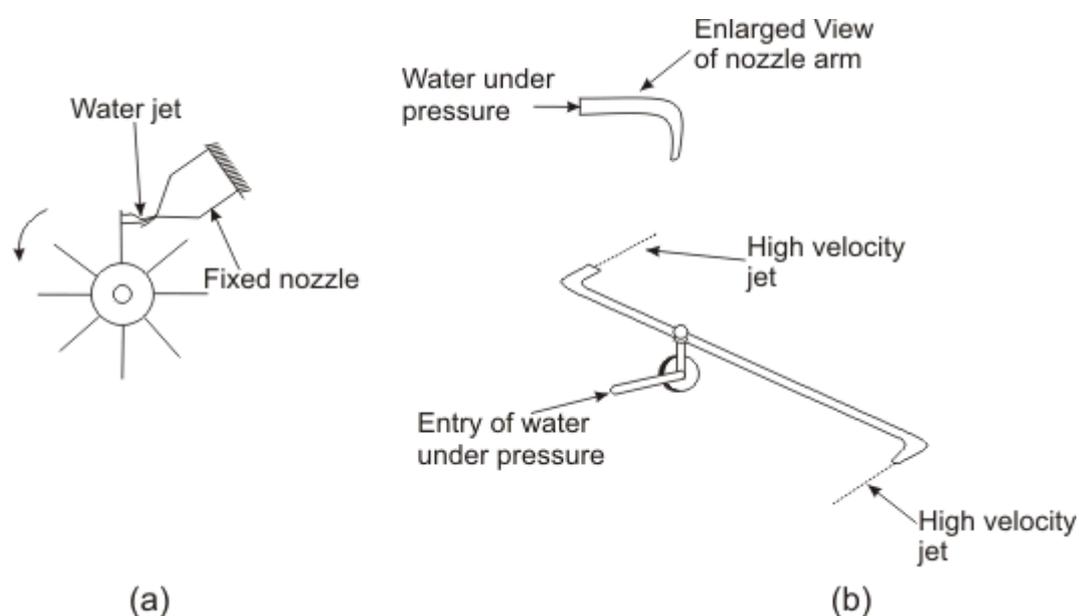


Fig 5.2 (a) Paddle wheel as an example of impulse turbine

(b) Lawn sprinkler as an example of reaction turbine

A machine with any degree of reaction must have an enclosed rotor so that the fluid cannot expand freely in all direction. A simple example of a reaction machine can be shown by the familiar lawn sprinkler, in which water comes out (Fig. 5.2b) at a high velocity from the rotor in a tangential direction. The essential feature of the rotor is that water enters at high pressure and this pressure energy is transformed into kinetic energy by a nozzle which is a part of the rotor itself.

In the earlier example of impulse machine (Fig. 5.2a), the nozzle is stationary and its function is only to transform pressure energy to kinetic energy and finally this kinetic energy is

transferred to the rotor by pure impulse action. The change in momentum of the fluid in the nozzle gives rise to a reaction force but as the nozzle is held stationary, no energy is transferred by it. In the case of lawn sprinkler (Fig. 5.2b), the nozzle, being a part of the rotor, is free to move and, in fact, rotates due to the reaction force caused by the change in momentum of the fluid and hence the word **reaction machine** follows.

### Hydrostatic systems

The concept of efficiency of any machine comes from the consideration of energy transfer and is defined, in general, as the ratio of useful energy delivered to the energy supplied. Two efficiencies are usually considered for fluid machines-- the hydraulic efficiency concerning the energy transfer between the fluid and the rotor, and the overall efficiency concerning the energy transfer between the fluid and the shaft. The difference between the two represents the energy absorbed by bearings, glands, couplings, etc. or, in general, by pure mechanical effects which occur between the rotors itself and the point of actual power input or output.

Therefore, for a pump or compressor,

$$\eta_{\text{hydraulic}} = \eta_h = \frac{\text{useful energy gained by the fluid at final discharge}}{\text{mechanical energy supplied to rotor}} \quad (5.1a)$$

$$\eta_{\text{overall}} = \frac{\text{useful energy gained by the fluid at final discharge}}{\text{mechanical energy supplied to shaft at coupling}} \quad (5.1b)$$

For a turbine,

$$\eta_n = \frac{\text{mechanical energy delivered by the rotor}}{\text{energy available from the fluid}} \quad (5.2a)$$

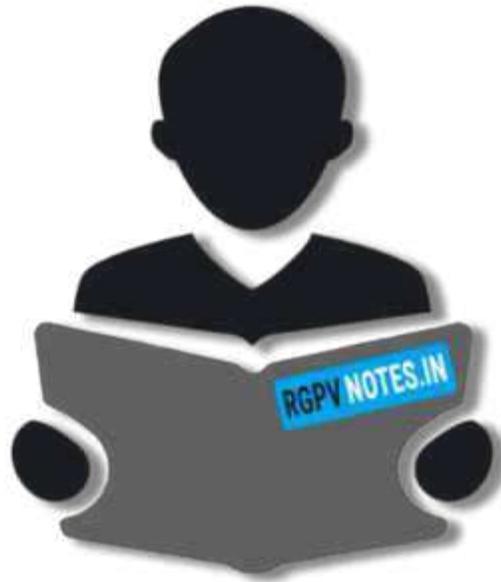
$$\eta_{\text{overall}} = \frac{\text{mechanical energy in output shaft at coupling}}{\text{energy available from the fluid}} \quad (5.2b)$$

The ratio of rotor and shaft energy is represented by mechanical efficiency.

Therefore

$$\eta_m = \frac{\eta_{overall}}{\eta_h} \quad (5.3)$$





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